

Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (373JA.4)

Please note these are the 2026 details for this course

Domestic students

Selection rank	80 Note: The selection rank is the minimum ATAR plus adjustment factors required for admission to the program in the previous year. This is an indicative guide only as ranks change each year depending on demand.
Delivery mode	On campus
Location	Bruce, Canberra
Duration	4.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Health
Discipline	Discipline of Occupational Therapy
UAC code	365107
English language requirements	<p>There are non-standard English language requirements for this course. To be eligible you must have an overall IELTS Academic score (or equivalent) of 7.0, with no band score below 7.0. For alternate/equivalent ways of meeting the English requirements for this course please view the English Proficiency Requirements document on the university website.</p> <p>View IELTS equivalences</p>

International students

Academic entry

requirements	<p>To study at UC, you'll need to meet our academic entry requirements and any admission requirements specific to your course. Please read your course admission requirements below. To find out whether you meet UC's academic entry requirements, visit our academic entry requirements page.</p> <p>View UC's academic entry requirements</p>
Delivery mode	On campus
Location	Bruce, Canberra
Duration	4.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Health
Discipline	Discipline of Occupational Therapy
CRICOS code	095232J
English language requirements	<p>There are non-standard English language requirements for this course. To be eligible you must have an overall IELTS Academic score (or equivalent) of 7.0, with no band score below 7.0. For alternate/equivalent ways of meeting the English requirements for this course please view the English Proficiency Requirements document on the university website.</p> <p>View IELTS equivalences</p>

About this course

Manage the occupational needs of an evolving nation

Discover the science, strategies, and theories behind a profession dedicated to helping people live full and meaningful lives regardless of age, disability, or limitations - with the UC Bachelor of Occupational Therapy degree.

In this course, you will learn to assess a person's unique issues to offer better, more tailored recovery solutions based on a wholistic and comprehensive look at an individual's physical, psychosocial and environmental needs.

Successful completion of this course will give you a deeper understanding and appreciation of health issues in Australia, and the skills to help individuals, groups, and communities engage in the occupations they need to, want to or are expected to do.

This course also prepares you for further study opportunities and the chance to gain the additional skills to move into senior, more researched based positions.

Study a Bachelor of Occupational Therapy at UC and you will:

- obtain a broad and coherent understanding of critical values, theories, perspectives and concepts that underpin the occupational therapy profession
- be able to use your knowledge, skill and professional awareness to add value to the assessment, intervention and therapeutic process
- communicate clearly and coherently in a range of occupational therapy settings to a variety of stakeholders
- be able to read, critique and evaluate evidence from research into the practices of occupational therapy.

Work Integrated Learning (WIL)

WIL is an integral part of this course, giving you an invaluable opportunity to gain practical experience and form strong relationships with industry stakeholders and professionals before graduating.

Over four years, you'll participate in 1000 hours of practical education in places such as hospitals, health clinics, community organisations, school and aged care facilities both locally or nationally.

Placements are full-time basis and will require interstate travel. Accommodation and transport costs are the student's responsibility. For further information on WIL please visit <https://www.canberra.edu.au/current-students/canberra-students/work-integrated-learning>.

Career opportunities

Graduates of the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy will be able to seek employment within public, private and or voluntary sector settings, as well as provide services in diverse environments such as homes, schools, workplaces, health centres, supported accommodation, housing for seniors, rehabilitation centres, hospitals and forensic centres.

Course-specific information

High achieving students with a passion for research may be invited to transfer into the Honours stream of the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy.

The Bachelor of Occupational Therapy and the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (with Honours) are designed to meet the entry-level standards required by the Occupational Therapy Council of Australia and the World Federation of Occupational Therapists.

Professional accreditation

The Bachelor of Occupational Therapy has been granted accreditation by the Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Ltd (OTC) and approved by the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia (OTBA). Graduates will be eligible to apply for registration as an occupational therapist with the OTBA. The program is also approved by the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT). Minimum Standards for Entry Level Education.

Admission requirements

Admission to this course is based on an entrance rank. A rank can be achieved by the following means:

- Year 12 ATAR
- other Australian Qualification
- work experience
- overseas qualification

We also offer a number of entry initiatives that give you the opportunity to gain entry to the University via alternate pathway programs and admissions schemes.

More information is available on our Alternative Entry page: <http://www.canberra.edu.au/future-students/applications/apply-now/alternative-entry>

Admission to this course is competitive. Applications will be assessed on the basis of academic merit and the number of available places. Domestic applications will open on the 1st September. First offer round applications must be received by 30th November with offers being released mid-December. Applications remain open while vacancies exist for ongoing consideration of offers.

Applications from international students are accepted on an ongoing basis while vacancies exist. Please refer to the key dates (<https://www.canberra.edu.au/future-students/apply-to-uc/key-dates>) for further information.

Additional admission requirements

Clinical practice is a key component of the program and is assessed. Students may be required to complete this component outside of teaching time. Prior to commencing clinical practice, all students need to present a complete immunisation schedule, and First Aid certificates including CPR, as a requirement of the ACT and NSW health departments. All students are required to undergo a 'working with vulnerable people' check, and Australian Federal Police Record Check prior to undertaking clinical experience.

Assumed knowledge

None.

Periods course is open for new admissions

Year	Location	Teaching period	Teaching start date	Domestic	International
2026	Bruce, Canberra	Semester 1	16 February 2026	✓	✓
2027	Bruce, Canberra	Semester 1	15 February 2027	✓	✓

Credit arrangements

There are currently no formal credit transfer arrangements for entry to this course. Any previous study or work experience will only be considered as part of the application process in accordance with current [course rules](#) and [university policy](#).

Course requirements

Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (373JA) | 96 credit points

Required - 87 credit points as follows

[Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

Core Major in Allied Health (CM0023) | 24 credit points

Required - Must pass 12 credit points as follows

Systemic Anatomy and Physiology (6529) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Regional Anatomy and Physiology (9808) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Introduction to Research in the Health Sciences (11398) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Understanding People and Behaviour (11399) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Restricted Choice - 12 credit points as follows

Bachelor of Sport and Exercise Science - Must pass 12 credit points as follows

Required - Must pass 3 credit points as follows

Professional Orientation (Health) (11400) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Restricted Choice - Must select 1 of the following

Option A - Must pass 9 credit points from the following

Research and Professional Practice Part A (6cp) (9813) | 0 credit points – Level 3

Research and Professional Practice Part B (9814) | 9 credit points – Level 3

Option B - Must pass 9 credit points from the following

Exercise Programming and Prescription for Health (12135) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Exercise Science Practicum 1 (12137) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Exercise Science Capstone (12139) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Note:

- From Sem 1, 2025, students must complete Option B (12135 + 12137 + 12139) instead of Option A (9813 + 9814)

Bachelor of Physiotherapy - 12 credit points as follows

**Bachelor of Physiotherapy (students commenced 2026 onwards) -
Must pass 12 credit points as follows**

Required - Must pass 9 credit points as follows

Biomechanics 1 (6834) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Advanced Functional Anatomy (8279) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Professional Orientation (Health) (11400) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Restricted Choice - Must pass 3 credit points from the following

Evidence Based Practice (Honours) (8987) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Evidence Based Practice (8988) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Note:

- Students who commence their degree from 2026 onwards are to follow these requirements.

**Bachelor of Physiotherapy (students commenced 2025 & prior) - Must
pass 12 credit points as follows**

Restricted Choice - Must pass 3 credit points from the following

Evidence Based Practice (Honours) (8987) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Evidence Based Practice (8988) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Required - Must pass 9 credit points as follows

Professional Orientation (Health) (11400) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Clinical Physiotherapy 1 (11536) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Clinical Physiotherapy 2 (11537) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Note:

- Students who commenced their degree in 2025 and prior are to continue to follow these requirements.

Bachelor of Pharmacy - Must pass 12 credit points as follows

Pharmacy Practice 3 (9011) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Professional Orientation (Pharmacy) (11125) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Dispensary Practice (11127) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Pharmacy Practice 5 (11501) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Bachelor of Exercise Physiology and Rehabilitation - Must pass 12 credit points as follows

Required - Must pass 3 credit points as follows

Professional Orientation (Health) (11400) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Restricted Choice - Must select 1 of the following

Option A - Must pass 9 credit points from the following

Research and Professional Practice Part A (6cp) (9813) | 0 credit points – Level 3

Research and Professional Practice Part B (9814) | 9 credit points – Level 3

Option B - Must pass 9 credit points from the following

Exercise Programming and Prescription for Health (12135) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Exercise Science Practicum 1 (12137) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Exercise Science Capstone (12139) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Note:

- From Sem 1, 2025, students must complete Option B (12135 + 12137 + 12139) instead of Option A (9813 + 9814)

Bachelor of Occupational Therapy - Must pass 12 credit points as follows

Group Work (6853) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Professional Orientation (Health) (11400) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Integrated Physiology (11726) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People's Health Contexts (11852) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Specialist Major in Occupational Therapy Theory (SM0089) | 24 credit points

Required - Must pass 24 credit points as follows

Introduction to Occupational Therapy (10299) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Foundations of Occupational Therapy (10300) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Occupational Therapy Toolbox 1 (10301) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Occupational Therapy Toolbox 2 (10302) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Humans as Occupational Beings 1 (10308) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Occupation in Context (10310) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Humans as Occupational Beings 2 (10311) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Occupational Therapy Skills and Reasoning (11916) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Specialist Major in Occupational Therapy Practice (SM0088) | 24 credit points

Required - Must pass 24 credit points as follows

Readiness for Occupational Therapy Practice (10313) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Professional Reasoning in Occupational Therapy (12257) | 3 credit points – Level 2

OTPP 1: Foundations of Professional Practice (12259) | 6 credit points – Level 2

OTPP 2: Developing Practice Competency (12260) | 6 credit points – Level 3

OTPP 3: Transition to Professional Practice (12261) | 6 credit points – Level 4

Required Units - Must pass 15 credit points as follows

Counselling Communication (5258) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Epidemiology and Principles of Research (8580) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Child Development (11990) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Occupational Therapy and Mental Health (12258) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Contemporary Occupational Therapy Practice (12262) | 3 credit points – Level 4

Open Electives - 9 credit points as follows

- - Must pass 9 credit points from anywhere in the University, as a breadth major, a breadth minor and/or as individual units.

In addition to course requirements, in order to successfully complete your course you must meet the inherent requirements. Please refer to the [inherent requirements statement](#) applicable to your course

Typical study pattern

UC - Canberra, Bruce

Standard Full Time, Semester 1 Commencing

Year 1

Semester 1

Counselling Communication (5258)

Introduction to Occupational Therapy (10299)

Professional Orientation (Health) (11400)

Regional Anatomy and Physiology (9808)

Winter Term

Understanding People and Behaviour (11399)

Semester 2

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People's Health Contexts (11852)

Foundations of Occupational Therapy (10300)

Occupational Therapy Toolbox 1 (10301)

Systemic Anatomy and Physiology (6529)

Year 2

Semester 1

Child Development (11990)

Occupational Therapy and Mental Health (12258)

Professional Reasoning in Occupational Therapy (12257)

Open Elective Unit

Practice Period 6

OTPP 1: Foundations of Professional Practice (12259)

Semester 2

Epidemiology and Principles of Research (8580)

Introduction to Research in the Health Sciences (11398)

Occupation in Context (10310)

Occupational Therapy Toolbox 2 (10302)

Year 3

Semester 1

Group Work (6853)

Humans as Occupational Beings 1 (10308)

Integrated Physiology (11726)

[Occupational Therapy Skills and Reasoning \(11916\)](#)

Semester 2

[Readiness for Occupational Therapy Practice \(10313\)](#)

Practice Period 9

[OTPP 2: Developing Practice Competency \(12260\)](#)

Year 4

Semester 1

[Contemporary Occupational Therapy Practice \(12262\)](#)

[Humans as Occupational Beings 2 \(10311\)](#)

Two Open Elective Units

Practice Period 7

[OTPP 3: Transition to Professional Practice \(12261\)](#)

Course information

Course duration

Standard 4 years full time or part-time equivalent. Maximum 10 years from date of enrolment to date of course completion.

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes	Related graduate attributes
Apply evidence-based occupational therapy service planning, assessment, intervention, and review based on the needs of individuals and communities	<p>UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills; communicate effectively; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict; display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; take pride in their professional and personal integrity.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens: Think globally about issues in their profession; adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures; communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives; behave ethically</p>

	<p>and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners: Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development; be self-aware; adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas; evaluate and adopt new technology.</p> <p>UC graduates are able to demonstrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being and doing: Use local Indigenous histories and traditional ecological knowledge to develop and augment understanding of their discipline; apply their knowledge to working with Indigenous Australians in socially just ways.</p>
Evaluate and apply ethical and culturally responsive occupational therapy, supported by reflective practice.	<p>UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills; communicate effectively; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict; display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; take pride in their professional and personal integrity.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens: Think globally about issues in their profession; adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures; communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives; behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners: Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development; be self-aware; adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas; evaluate and adopt new technology.</p> <p>UC graduates are able to demonstrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being and doing: Use local Indigenous histories and traditional ecological knowledge to develop and augment understanding of their discipline; apply their knowledge to working with Indigenous Australians in socially just ways.</p>
Develop culturally responsive practice and understanding of lived experience and diverse perspectives to work equitably in cross cultural contexts including with	<p>UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills; communicate effectively; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; work collaboratively as</p>

<p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p>	<p>part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict; display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; take pride in their professional and personal integrity.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens: Think globally about issues in their profession; adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures; communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives; behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners: Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development; be self-aware; adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas; evaluate and adopt new technology.</p> <p>UC graduates are able to demonstrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being and doing: Use local Indigenous histories and traditional ecological knowledge to develop and augment understanding of their discipline; communicate and engage with Indigenous Australians in ethical and culturally respectful ways; apply their knowledge to working with Indigenous Australians in socially just ways.</p>
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<p>Develop skills which support active engagement in lifelong learning through application of different systems of knowledge and creative use of technologies.</p>	<p>UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills; communicate effectively; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict; display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; take pride in their professional and personal integrity.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens: Think globally about issues in their profession; adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures; communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives; behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners: Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development; be self-aware; adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas; evaluate and adopt new technology.</p>
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UC graduates are able to demonstrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being and doing: Use local Indigenous histories and traditional ecological knowledge to develop and augment understanding of their discipline; communicate and engage with Indigenous Australians in ethical and culturally respectful ways; apply their knowledge to working with Indigenous Australians in socially just ways.

Communicate in a respectful, responsive, and effective manner to promote the occupational participation of individuals and communities.

UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills; communicate effectively; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict; display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; take pride in their professional and personal integrity.

UC graduates are global citizens: Think globally about issues in their profession; adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures; communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives; behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.

UC graduates are lifelong learners: Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development; be self-aware; adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas; evaluate and adopt new technology.

UC graduates are able to demonstrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being and doing: Use local Indigenous histories and traditional ecological knowledge to develop and augment understanding of their discipline; apply their knowledge to working with Indigenous Australians in socially just ways.

Placements requirements

1000 hours.

Majors

- [Specialist Major in Occupational Therapy Practice \(SM0088\)](#)
- [Core Major in Allied Health \(CM0023\)](#)
- [Specialist Major in Occupational Therapy Theory \(SM0089\)](#)

Awards

Award	Official abbreviation
Bachelor of Occupational Therapy	B OccupationalTherapy

Honours

Students who successfully complete the requirement for the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy with Honours will graduate with an AQF level 8 degree. The level of honours awarded will be specified as First Class Honours (H1); Second Class Honours, Division I (H2A); or Second Class Honours, division 2 (H2B) according to the Honours Courses Policy and Procedures.

A minimum requirement for entry to the Honours degree is a grade point average (GPA) of 5.5 across all the required units in the first 5 semesters of the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy course (72 credit points). GPA is calculated according to the Measures of Academic Achievement Policy and Procedures.

The Bachelor of Occupational Therapy Honours Convenor will select the students to be invited into the honours stream. An honours selection committee will review students' expression of interest for entry into the honours stream and make recommendations on which students are suitable for entry to the honours program. The honours selection committee will comprise i) the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy Honours Convenor or their representative, ii) the Discipline Lead for Occupational Therapy or their representative, ii) at least one other member of occupational therapy staff.

The selection committee will consider the students' GPA, their motivation for enrolling in honours, their potential to maintain their GPA while completing a more demanding course of study, their writing ability, their performance in a selection interview, and any relevant factors as determined by the selection committee.

To remain in the honours stream, students i) must maintain a GPA greater than or equal to 5.0 across all units required for the final 3 semesters of the Honours degree of the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy course, and ii) must not fail any unit required for the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy with Honours stream. Students who do not meet these minimum requirements will revert to the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy professional stream. These students may apply in writing to the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy Honours Convenor to make a case for remaining in the honours stream due to extenuating circumstances. These applications will be considered on their merits and the student informed of the outcome.

Enquiries

Student category	Contact details
Prospective Domestic Students	Email study@canberra.edu.au or Phone 1800 UNI CAN (1800 864 226)
Current and Commencing Students	Email student.centre@canberra.edu.au
Prospective International Students	Email international@canberra.edu.au or Phone +61 2 6201 5342

Download your course guide



Scholarships

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CRICOS 00212K

TEQSA Provider ID: PRV12003 (Australian University)

UC acknowledges the Ngunnawal people, traditional custodians of the lands where Bruce campus is situated. We wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of Canberra and the region. We also acknowledge all other First Nations Peoples on whose lands we gather.