Master of Occupational Therapy Practice

The primary goal of occupational therapy is to enable people of all ages and abilities to participate in everyday life activities. With the accelerated Master of Occupational Therapy Practice degree, students will be ready to make an impact in just two years.

Graduates of the Master of Occupational Therapy Practice program at Monash University will have access to a range of career opportunities in health and human services and become part of an international community of occupational therapy practitioners.

Career opportunities

Occupational therapists aim to address barriers that prevent individuals, families and groups from accessing their communities in ways that are important for health and wellbeing. A degree in occupational therapy provides a breadth of employment opportunities; working with individuals, small groups, organisations or communities.

Occupational therapists work in many settings including hospitals, rehabilitation, private practice, community health, early intervention, social services, schools, government agencies, industrial and commercial organisations, mental health services, homes, and supported housing. After gaining relevant workplace experience further career opportunities exist in education, management and research.

Speciality areas include early intervention, education, occupational health and safety, case management, mental health, disability, community-based practice, paediatrics, aged care, vocational employment rehabilitation, assistive technology, equipment services, acute care and many others. Occupational therapists may work individually or as part of a multidisciplinary healthcare team.

Course objectives

The Master of Occupational Therapy Practice (MOTPrac) course at Monash University prepares graduates to practice as entry-level occupational therapy practitioners.

The curriculum focuses on:

- the interrelationships of occupation with health and wellbeing and the nature of occupational performance and participation as the core body of knowledge supporting the practice of occupational therapy;
- practices centred on the client’s expressed occupational desires, wishes, needs and goals; and
- practice that is evidence-based.
Course structure
The Master in Occupational Therapy Practice (MOTPrac) is a full-time course over two years from July to June (mid-year intake). The course is offered over 4 terms per year.
The Master in Occupational Therapy Practice course operates over 72 weeks and include 1000 hours of fieldwork education commensurate with World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) Minimum Standards for the Education of Occupational Therapists (2016).
The course curriculum is centred around Scenario-Based Learning (SBL) and organised into the following units: Foundations of Occupational Therapy, Humans as Occupational Beings, Occupational Performance, Enabling Change in Human Occupation, Transition to Practice, and Advanced Professional Practice.

Admission process
Course prerequisites
To be eligible for the Master of Occupational Therapy Practice (MOTPrac), students must have successful completion of a Bachelor degree. Applicants must have obtained at least 65% high credit average in their most recently completed University Undergraduate Degree. Students must also have completed either:
- Study BMA1901 Human Structure and Function as a single unit enrolment at Monash
- Complete a Human Biology short course via distance education at Monash or equivalent. See med.monash.edu/nursing/professional-development/humanbiology.html
Further information regarding this course can be found at Find a course (www.monash.edu/study/courses/find-a-course). See the Handbook entry for the course structure and description.
Applicants who are already registered Occupational Therapists in Australia or overseas are not eligible to be considered for this course.

International students
The Master of Occupational Therapy Practice is available to international students. (CRICOS code: 079265M).
The Monash University International Call Centre address for international course enquiries is study@monash.edu.au.
For more information, please check the Undergraduate/Postgraduate Course Guide for International Students or visit: monash.edu/study/international
This guide contains important information regarding Australian Government requirements and conditions for study in Australia, living costs, course fees, health insurance, working while you study, work rights for your husband or wife and schooling for your children.
Your application for a student visa will be assessed according to the visa criteria applicable to your assessment level. Your assessment level is determined by the passport you hold and the education sector for which you are seeking a student visa. www.immi.gov.au/students

International applications and requirements
International students must undertake this program on campus on a full time basis to be eligible to apply for an Australian student visa.
International student applicants must have a minimum IELTS test score of 6.5 in all individual band scores of Reading, Listening, Writing and Speaking. A minimum IELTS test score of 7.0 is required for Speaking.

University-wide admissions application procedure
monash.edu.au/admissions

Occupational therapy domestic admissions application procedure
study.monash

Occupational therapy international admissions application procedure
study.monash

Fees
The Master of Occupational Therapy Practice is a full-time full-fee course. The costs vary every year. For further information, please see study.monash.
Unfortunately there are no Scholarships available through the Occupational Therapy Department, however there may be opportunities via Monash’s Scholarships branch (see monash.edu.au/study/scholarships).
As a full fee-paying student, you may be eligible to apply for the optional FEE-HELP to assist you to pay all or part of your tuition fees. Please see study.monash/fees-scholarships/loans-and-assistance for further details.

Health requirements and police checks
Students will be required to comply with the Faculty Immunisation and Infection Risk Policy, recommendations and procedures, to enable them to proceed through the course with an acceptably low-level of risk and meet health service requirements.
It is recommended that all students accept responsibility for having up-to-date immunisations before commencing the course.
Prospective students are provided with detailed written information and, as appropriate, counselling about the effect that HIV or hepatitis B infection may have on the ability of healthcare workers to practice their profession.
Monash University is required to inform placement organisations of the immunisation status of all students. If a student does not satisfy the placement organisation’s immunisation requirements, they must refuse to accept the student for a placement.
A student who is unable to complete all compulsory placements may refuse to accept the student for a placement. A current police check must be completed at the beginning of each year of the course.
Visit monash.edu/medicine/study/student-services/mandatory-compliance for further details

Fieldwork
During fieldwork education, students will develop a range of professional skills under supervision in a variety of authentic settings. Fieldwork within these workplace environments give students the opportunity to practice and refine the theory and skills learned in the classroom, and put them into meaningful context. Participation in fieldwork education is integral to learning and is a requirement of the program. All students are required to complete one of their fieldwork placements in a regional location.
Additional information

Prospective students are advised that there may be additional costs associated with the course for text books and course support material, uniforms for clinical attachments, travel, accommodation, living costs associated with rural fieldwork placements, a Police Check and precautionary procedures (such as immunisations) that are required prior to commencing the course.

Further information

Occupational therapy
Monash University
Peninsula Campus
PO Box 527
Frankston, Victoria 3199 Australia

Telephone: 1800 MONASH (1800 666 274)
Submit an enquiry at:
register.monash.edu.au/enquiry
Web:
med.monash.edu.au/ot

Occupational therapist Kate Garam helps people participate in life to their fullest potential. Kate was seeking a career change and followed her interest in health care by enrolling in the Master of Occupational Therapy Practice, which enabled Kate to qualify as an occupational therapist within two years. Kate’s most valued experiences from her occupational therapy studies were the placements. “One of my standout placements was a collaborative project with Inside School for the Blind and Vision Impaired. I helped develop a resource to facilitate children with a vision impairment to read recipes and locate items within their school fridge, independently. This project extended my knowledge of occupational therapy to support a larger community. It was a very valuable experience and one I was humbled and proud to be a part of.”

“The course is structured to include a diverse range of learning formats including theory, scenario based learning, practical workshops and placement. I have really enjoyed the workshops, where we have learnt lots of practical skills such as making a hand orthosis, learning about manual handling, equipment and home modifications. My favourite assignment was the ‘disability experience’, where we used a wheelchair and vision impaired glasses for a day to access the facilities on campus. This really opened my eyes to the barriers people with a disability face each day, and the importance of looking through the lens of the client, in order to improve our occupational therapy practice.

REBECCA WATSON

Monash University reserves the right to alter information, procedures, fees and regulations contained in this document. Please check the Monash University website for updates (monash.edu). All information reflects prescriptions, policy and practice in force at time of publication. CRICOS Provider: Monash University 00008C. Published May 2019. 19P-0231