Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 04/12/19 3:55 pm

Viewing: **MS 720EDU : Occupational Therapy**

Last approved: 09/20/18 5:02 pm

Last edit: 08/05/19 3:12 pm

Changes proposed by: ejach

Catalog Pages Using this Program

**Occupational Therapy, M.S.**

Name of the school or college academic planner who you consulted with on this proposal:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Jach - EDU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Proposal Abstract/Summary:

Admission to the MS in Occupational Therapy can be suspended effective Summer 2020, last admit term Spring 2020.

If approved, what term should the proposed change be effective?

Spring 2020 (1204) [Oct. Midcycle]

Select yes if this proposal is only to add, remove, or rearrange curricular requirements, and will change less than 50% of the curriculum.

No

Basic Information

Program State: **Suspend Admissions Active**

Type of Program: **Degree/Major**

Who is the audience?

Graduate or professional

Home Department: **KINESIO**

School/College: **School of Education**

The program will be governed by the home department/academic unit as specified. Will an additional coordinating or oversight committee be established for the program?

No

Is this in the Graduate School?

Yes

Award: Master of Science

SIS Code: MS 720EDU

SIS Description: Occupational Therapy MS

Transcript Title: Occupational Therapy

Named Options:

In Workflow

1. KINESIO Dept. Approver
2. EDU School Admin Reviewer
3. EDU School Approver
4. APIR Admin
5. GFEC Approver
6. UAPC Approver
7. APIR Admin
8. Registrar
9. Publication Ready

Approval Path

1. 04/15/19 8:52 am
   Lisa Capabianca (lcappbianca): Approved for KINESIO Dept. Approver
2. 05/16/19 11:02 am
   Elizabeth A Jach (ejach): Approved for EDU School Admin Reviewer
3. 05/16/19 11:25 am
   Elizabeth A Jach (ejach): Approved for EDU School Approver
4. 08/05/19 3:21 pm
   Nicole Wiessinger (wiessinger): Approved for APIR Admin

History

1. Sep 20, 2018 by clmg-smenda
Suspending and Discontinuation

What is the date by which you will submit a plan to resolve the suspended status, if approved?  
10/1/2021

What is the last term that a student could declare this program?  
Spring 2020 (1204)

What is the timeline and advance communication plan?

The Occupational Therapy faculty respectfully request suspension of admissions to the Masters of Science in Occupational Therapy beginning Summer 2020 to permit the faculty to plan a restructuring and re-organization of the entry-level professional curriculum in response to the Accreditation Council of Occupational Therapy Education's (ACOTE) mandate that entry-level education move to the Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) degree by July 1, 2027. The program is developing two named options for the OTD degree (entry-level [EL] and post-professional [PP]) and anticipate the first class of students will matriculate into the new program in summer 2021. Suspending admission into the current MSOT program beginning summer 2020 will allow a full cohort of students in the MSOT program while also allowing the program time to fully plan the restructuring and re-organization of the entry-level program. Students admitted in summer 2019 will graduate in December 2021. A decision about program discontinuation can be made in the fall of 2021 (likely to go into effect for fall 2022).

Explain the precipitating circumstances or rationale for the proposal.

In August 2017, ACOTE mandated the OTD as the entry-level degree requirement for the occupational therapist by July 1, 2027 and reaffirmed that decision in August 2018. It is the UW-Madison OT Program faculty's opinion that being situated in a very high research university with a strong commitment to doctoral-level education, our mission should include transition to an entry-level named option within the OTD degree.

What is the potential impact on enrolled students?

The current entry-level MS-OT degree program has sustained a strong admissions pool over the course of the past five years with total number of applications consistently exceeding 300 for the 25 available slots. The proposed timeline will enable students enrolling this summer to complete the program. In anticipation of the ACOTE entry-level OTD mandate, the OT Program’s Admissions Coordinator has been notifying prospective students in the pipeline that planning is in progress for transition of the program and that MS-OT admissions will likely be suspended in the near future. We will continue to advise and support prospective students interested in a career in occupational therapy through the transition. We will also ensure that all students enrolled in the MS-OT program as of summer 2019 will be supported to completion of their degree.

What is the potential impact on faculty and staff?

OT Program faculty have agreed to develop the EL-OTD named option within the same Revenue-Generating (131) budget model as the current PP-OTD program. A proposal for development funds from the Division of Continuing Studies to support the creation of a new EL-OTD named option and the revision of the entry-level curriculum is being drafted, including funds to support a transition year from 2020-2021.

Explain and provide evidence of efforts made to confer with and to notify faculty and staff.

OT Program faculty submitted a memo of suspension of admission to the MS-OT degree program to the Department of Kinesiology on 2/15/19 and it was approved at the Kinesiology Department meeting on March 8, 2019.
Explain and provide evidence of efforts made to confer with and to notify current students.

Current MSOT students have been informed through the Student Occupational Therapy Association presidents who have been kept up to date on plans to transitioning from master’s level to doctoral level training. Current MSOT students will again be told about plans to suspend the MSOT program admissions at the scheduled listening sessions run by Program Director Dr. Sharon Gartland on April 22 and April 24, 2019. New MSOT students will be told at their orientation on May 31, 2019.

Explain and provide evidence of efforts made to confer with and to notify alumni and other stakeholders.

Alumni and other stakeholders were informed at the 75th Anniversary Celebration in September 2018 by Dr. Ruth Benedict. The fieldwork sites that accept our students have also been informed by Josh Brown (our fieldwork coordinator) as he communicates with them about future placements. We will also have an article in the next OT Matters newsletter to inform Alumni and Stakeholders of our suspension of MSOT admission and intent to transition to Entry Level OTD.

Teach-out plan - How will program quality be maintained during the suspended period or the teach-out period for discontinued programs?

We will teach out all enrolled students making satisfactory progress toward the degree and will not seek discontinuation of the degree until all MS-OT students are graduated. The MS-OT program is currently accredited until 2025.

Teach-out plan: A) For currently enrolled students, how will required courses, curricular elements, advising and other student services be provided?

Students admitted in summer 2019 will complete the MS OT program in its current form in December 2021. Courses, curricular elements, advising, and student services will be maintained.

Teach-out plan: B) For prospective students in the admissions pipeline, how are any commitments being met or needs to notify them that their program of interest will not be available?

The OT Program’s Admissions Coordinator has been notifying prospective students in the pipeline that planning is in progress for transition of the program and that MS-OT admissions will likely be suspended in the near future. The program will continue to advise and support prospective students interested in a career in occupational therapy through the transition.

Teach-out plan: C) For stopped out students, what provisions are made for their re-entry? What program(s) will they be re-entered into?

The ACOTE standards for accreditation of an EL-OTD program encompass and expand upon the full complement of standards for Masters degree programs so accommodating the curricular needs of any MS-OT students who may need to take a Leave of Absence from the program during the period of transition should be feasible. Another option would be working with the Graduate School to identify a completion route through a special committee master’s degree with a named option in occupational therapy.

Teach-out plan: D) Provide any other information relevant to teach-out planning.

NA

Roles by Responsibility: List one person for each role in the drop down list. Use the green + to create additional boxes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role Type</th>
<th>Name (Last, First)</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department Chair</td>
<td>Diffie, Gary M</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gmdiffie@wisc.edu">gmdiffie@wisc.edu</a></td>
<td>608/262-7732</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Director</td>
<td>Gartland, Sharon G</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sgartland@wisc.edu">sgartland@wisc.edu</a></td>
<td>608/890-3299</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Dean’s Office Contact</td>
<td>Jach, Elizabeth A</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ejach@wisc.edu">ejach@wisc.edu</a></td>
<td>608/262-3389</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

List the departments that have a vested interest in this proposal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Departments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School of Nursing (NURSING)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Med &amp; Pub Hlth ACAF (SMPH ACAF)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Are all program reviews in the home academic unit up to date? Yes
Are all assessment plans in the home academic unit up to date? Yes
Are all assessment reports in the home academic unit up to date? Yes
Mode of Delivery: Face-to-Face (majority face-to-face courses)
Will this program be part of a consortial or collaborative arrangement with another college or university? No
Will instruction take place at a location geographically separate from UW-Madison? No
Will this program have outside accreditation? Yes

Guide Accreditation tab

Accreditation
Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education
Accreditation status: Accreditation. Next accreditation review: 2017–2018

Certification/Licensure
National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of Exam</th>
<th>UW-Madison Graduates: First Attempt</th>
<th>National: First Attempt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>not available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>not available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>not available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The table shows pass rates on the national certification exam. Licenses are awarded at the state level.

Will graduates of this program seek licensure or certification after graduation? No

Faculty and Staff Resources

Confirm that the program advisor(s) or coordinator(s) have been consulted and reviewed this proposal. Yes

Select the Graduate Research Scholars Community for this program.

School of Education Graduate Research Scholars

Curriculum and Requirements

If you are proposing a change to the curriculum, what percentage of the curriculum is changing? No change

Guide Admissions/How to Get In tab

Approved Shared Content from /shared/graduate-school-admissions/

Graduate School Admissions

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic degree programs and the Graduate School. Applicants must meet requirements of both the program(s) and the Graduate School. Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online.
M.S. in Occupational Therapy (Professional)

Admission to the entry-level professional program in occupational therapy requires:
Bachelor’s degree (or equivalent) from a regionally accredited school of higher education by the start of the program
Transcripts from each college, university, or technical college attended showing work completed and in progress
Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores
Documentation of paid or volunteer experience in at least two different settings serving persons across the lifespan with physical, behavioral or mental health disabilities
Direct observation of Registered Occupational Therapists, or Certified Occupational Therapy Assistants, providing services is highly recommended
Minimum of three letters of recommendation
Personal statement responding to prompts provided on the graduate application
At least a "C" or better in the following prerequisite courses or their equivalent:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PREREQUISITE COURSES (UW-Madison or comparable) *</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifespan Development 1 (one of the following): 1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HDFS 362</td>
<td>Development of the Young Child</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ED PSYCH 320</td>
<td>Human Development in Infancy and Childhood</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 460</td>
<td>Child Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifespan Development 2:</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 363</td>
<td>Development from Adolescence to Old Age</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abnormal Psychology:</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 405</td>
<td>Abnormal Psychology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics:</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 210</td>
<td>Basic Statistics for Psychology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy &amp; Physiology: 2</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANAT&amp;PHY 337</td>
<td>Human Anatomy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANAT&amp;PHY 338</td>
<td>Human Anatomy Laboratory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANAT&amp;PHY 335</td>
<td>Physiology (with Lab)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Further guidelines for acceptable prerequisite coursework may be found here.

1Applicants who complete a lifespan/human development course should complete a second course in child or adult development.
2Applicants may complete 6-8 credits (two semesters) of combined anatomy and physiology (with lab) to fulfill both the anatomy and physiology prerequisite.

Approved Shared Content from /shared/graduate-school-admissions/

Graduate School Admissions

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic degree programs and the Graduate School. Applicants must meet requirements of both the program(s) and the Graduate School. Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online.

Those who are not familiar with using the html editor fields may upload a document
with information about the curriculum for use by those who will format and edit the content that will appear in the Guide.

Guide Requirements tab

Approved Shared Content from /shared/graduate-minimum-degree-requirements-and-satisfactory-progress/

Minimum Graduate School Requirements

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements, in addition to the program requirements listed below.

Major Requirements

**MODE OF INSTRUCTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of Instruction</th>
<th>Face to Face</th>
<th>Evening/Weekend</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Accelerated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mode of Instruction Definitions

**Evening/Weekend:** These programs are offered in an evening and/or weekend format to accommodate working schedules. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses and personal connections, while keeping your day job. For more information about the meeting schedule of a specific program, contact the program.

**Online:** These programs are offered primarily online. Many available online programs can be completed almost entirely online with all online programs offering at least 50 percent or more of the program work online. Some online programs have an on-campus component that is often designed to accommodate working schedules. Take advantage of the convenience of online learning while participating in a rich, interactive learning environment. For more information about the online nature of a specific program, contact the program.

**Hybrid:** These programs have innovative curricula that combine on-campus and online formats. Most hybrid programs are completed on-campus with a partial or completely online semester. For more information about the hybrid schedule of a specific program, contact the program.

**Accelerated:** These on-campus programs are offered in an accelerated format that allows you to complete your program in a condensed time-frame. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses with minimal disruption to your career. For more information about the accelerated nature of a specific program, contact the program.

**CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS**

University General Education Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Credit Requirement</td>
<td>61 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Residence Credit Requirement</td>
<td>16 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement</td>
<td>Half of degree coursework (31 credits out of 61 total credits) must be completed graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university's Course Guide (<a href="https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/">https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/</a>).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Graduate GPA Requirement</td>
<td>3.00 GPA required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Grade Requirements</td>
<td>The Graduate School requires students maintain a graduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 (on a 4.00 scale) for courses numbered 300 and above (excluding research) to receive a degree. Conditions for probationary status may require higher grades. Grades of Incomplete are considered to be unsatisfactory if they are not removed during the next enrolled semester.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessments and Examinations</td>
<td>No formal examination specific to the M.S. is required. Curricular requirements (all didactic courses) must be passed, in conformity with GPA and grad requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Requirements</td>
<td>No language requirements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Required COURSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANATOMY 622</td>
<td>Human Anatomy-Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 610</td>
<td>Professional Skills I: Professional Practice in Occupational Therapy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 611</td>
<td>Professional Skills II: Communication &amp; Interpersonal Skills in OT</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 612</td>
<td>Professional Skills III: Organization and Management in OT Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 613</td>
<td>Professional Skills IV: Community-based OT Practice</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 620</td>
<td>Occupational-based Theory and Practice</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 621</td>
<td>Assessment of Occupational Participation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 622</td>
<td>Infant and Childhood Occupations and Therapeutic Interventions</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCC THER 623</td>
<td>Adolescent and Young Adult Occupations and Therapeutic Interventions</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 624</td>
<td>Middle and Late Adulthood Occupations and Therapeutic Interventions</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 625</td>
<td>Level-I Fieldwork: Infants and Children</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 626</td>
<td>Level-I Fieldwork: Adolescents and Young Adults</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCC THER 627</td>
<td>Level-I Fieldwork: Middle and Late Adulthood</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCC THER 629</td>
<td>Medical Lectures for Occupational Therapy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 640</td>
<td>Applied Neuroanatomy for Allied Health Professionals</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 662</td>
<td>Level II Fieldwork A</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 664</td>
<td>Level II Fieldwork B</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 671</td>
<td>Scientific Inquiry in OT I: Evidence-Based Practice.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 672</td>
<td>Scientific Inquiry in Occupational Therapy II: Research Design and Methods</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 673</td>
<td>Scientific Inquiry in OT III: Data Collection and Analysis.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCC THER 674</td>
<td>Scientific Inquiry in OT IV: Scientific Writing for Publication</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The MS-OT has a prescribed curriculum of 61 credits, with potential for electives. See Curriculum on the OT website.

Total credits required:
Approved Shared Content from /shared/graduate-school-policies/

Graduate School Policies

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

Major-Specific Policies

Graduate Program Handbook

The Graduate Program Handbook is the repository for all of the program's policies and requirements.

Prior Coursework

Graduate Work from Other Institutions
With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 15 credits of graduate course work from other institutions. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW–Madison Undergraduate
No credits from a UW–Madison undergraduate degree are allowed to count toward the degree.

UW–Madison University Special
With program approval and payment of the difference in tuition (between special and graduate tuition), students are allowed to count no more than 15 credits of course work numbered 300 or above taken in UW–Madison University Special student status. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

Probation

The Graduate School regularly reviews the record of any student who earned grades of BC, C, D, F, or Incomplete in a graduate course (300 or above), or grade of U in research credits. This review could result in academic probation with a hold on future enrollment or in being suspended from the Graduate School. See Probation on the Graduate School website.

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

All students must have an assigned advisor to meet UW information management needs, and accordingly, and of its own volition, the department assigns an advisor to each student. Assigned advisors in the M. S. in Occupational Therapy (MS–OT) program are graduate research or clinical faculty. To ensure that students are making satisfactory progress toward a degree, the Graduate School expects them to meet with their advisor on a regular basis.

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

15 credits

Time Constraints

Master's degree students who have been absent for five or more consecutive years lose all credits that they have earned before their absence. Individual programs may count the coursework students completed prior to their absence for meeting program requirements; that coursework may not count toward Graduate School credit requirements.

Level II fieldwork must be completed within 24 months of completion of coursework.

Other

n/a

Program Learning Outcomes and Assessment
List the program learning outcomes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes – enter one learning outcome per box. Use the green + to create additional boxes.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summarize the assessment plan.

Approved Assessment Plan:
Commitments

Courses in the curriculum are numbered 300 or higher.

Yes

The program faculty/staff will ensure the program website, Advance Your Career materials if applicable, and other presentations are consistent with the Guide information for this program.

Yes

Supporting Information

List name and department of those who are in support of this proposal.

If those supporting the proposal provided a letter or email of support upload here. A letter is NOT required. Upload any other explanatory information about support from other UW-Madison units.

Additional Information:  

Admissions Table Memo 2019-04-08 Graduate School Approval.pdf  
MS-OT Admit Suspension Memo - 02_17_2019.docx

Approvals

Department Approval - This proposal has been approved by the faculty at the department/academic unit level. The program faculty confirm that the unit has the capacity and resources (financial, physical, instructional, and administrative) to meet the responsibilities associated with offering the program, including offering the necessary courses, advising students, maintaining accurate information about the program in the Guide and elsewhere, conducting student learning assessment and program review, and otherwise attend to all responsibilities related to offering this program.

Enter any notes about approval here:

Entered by: Elizabeth Jac  
Date entered: 5/16/19

School/College Approval - This proposal has been approved at the school/college level and it is submitted with the Dean's support. The Dean and program faculty confirm that the unit has the capacity and resources (financial, physical, instructional, and administrative) to meet the responsibilities associated with offering the program, including offering the necessary courses, advising students, maintaining accurate information about the program in the Guide and elsewhere, conducting student learning assessment and program review, and otherwise attend to all responsibilities related to offering this program.

Enter any notes about approval here:

Entered by and date: Elizabeth Jac  
Date entered: 5/16/19

GFEC Approval - This proposal has been approved by the Graduate Faculty Executive Committee and the Dean of the Graduate School.

Enter any notes about the approval here:

Entered by:  
Date entered:

UAPC Approval - This proposal has been approved by the University Academic Planning Council and the Provost.

Enter any notes about approval here:

Entered by:  
Date entered:
For Administrative Use

Admin Notes:
Guide URL:
Effective date:
Career: Graduate
SIS Program Code: G720
SIS Short Description: Occ Ther
Other plan codes associated with this program:
Diploma Text: Master of Science
Diploma Text 2: OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
Degree: 861
Field of Study: Biological Science
Program Length: 2
National Student Clearing House Classification:
Plan Group: 720
Educational Level: Masters degrees
Award Category: Master's
Enrollment Category: Master's
CIP Code: 51.2306 - Occupational Therapy/Therapist.
STEMOPT:
UWSTEM:
HEALTH: Yes
Educational Innovation Program:
Distance Education Program:
Non Traditional Program:
Special Plan Type:
Added to UW System Crosswalk: Yes

Reviewer Karen E Mittelstadt (mittelstadt) [04/23/19 11:31 am]: No input/concerns from the School of Nursing. Thank you for notification and the opportunity to review. ~Karen Mittelstadt, Assistant
To: Department of Kinesiology, Graduate Studies Committee  
School of Education, Academic Planning Council (APC)  
Provost’s Office  
Graduate Faculty Executive Committee (GFEC)  
University Academic Planning Council

From: Sharon Gartland, OTD, OTR,  
Clinical Professor, Occupational Therapy Program Director  
Ruth Benedict, DrPH, OTR  
Professor, OT Program Faculty

Date: February 15, 2019

RE: Suspension of Admissions to the MS-OT degree program

The Occupational Therapy faculty respectfully request suspension of admissions to the Masters of Science in Occupational Therapy beginning Summer 2020 to permit the faculty to plan a restructuring and re-organization of the entry-level professional curriculum in response to the Accreditation Council of Occupational Therapy Education’s (ACOTE) mandate that entry-level education move to the Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) degree by July 1, 2027. We are currently developing the curriculum for a new entry-level OTD degree and anticipate the first class of students will matriculate into this new program in summer 2021. Suspending admission into the current MSOT program beginning summer 2020 will allow us to provide a full teachout of students in the MSOT program while also allowing the program time to fully plan the restructuring and re-organization of the entry-level program.

Background: In August 2017, ACOTE mandated the OTD as the entry-level degree requirement for the occupational therapist by July 1, 2027 and reaffirmed that decision in August 2018. The following table shows the current status of transition of U.S. occupational therapy programs to accredited entry-level OTD degrees. The Occupational Therapy Program secured approval for a Doctor of Occupational Therapy degree from the UW System Board of Regents on December 11, 2015. It is the UW-Madison OT Program faculty’s opinion that being situated in a very high research university with a strong commitment to doctoral-level education, our mission should include transition to an entry-level named option within the OTD degree.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Status</th>
<th>OT Doctoral</th>
<th>OT Master’s*</th>
<th>OTA Baccalaur.</th>
<th>OTA Associate</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accredited Programs</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>343</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accredited Master’s Programs Transitioning to the Doctoral Level*</td>
<td></td>
<td>74</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Candidate Programs</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicant Programs</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>512</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*NOTE: The total program count does not include the 74 programs that are retaining accreditation for the master’s programs while the transition to the doctoral level is finalized.
The current entry-level MS-OT degree program has sustained a strong admissions pool over the course of the past five years with total number of applications consistently exceeding 300 for the 25 available slots. A recent “360 Degree Program Scalability Analysis for a Doctor of Occupational Therapy Program” conducted by EAB for the Division of Continuing Studies at UW-Madison suggests that while the current labor demand for OTD trained therapists is low, the demand for doctoral-level therapists is anticipated to grow from 2017-2027 as the ACOTE mandate takes effect. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/occupational-therapists.htm) employment of occupational therapists is projected to grow 24 percent from 2016 to 2026, much faster than the average for all occupations.

The OT Program faculty and staff have committed to transitioning the entry-level curriculum and degree from MS to OTD. We are envisioning a review of our current MS curricular requirements, post-professional OTD curricular requirements and anticipate a blending and expansion of these curricula to meet the new ACOTE OTD standards. The new entry-level curriculum will be offered in a face-to-face residential and blended learning format and will include a variety of didactic course work and immersive clinical experiences to prepare students for certification and licensure as occupational therapists. The Program faculty and staff is working with the Department of Kinesiology Chair and Graduate Studies Committee in the development of the new entry-level OTD (EL-OTD) option.

As we anticipate the program will draw a new pool of students, OT Program faculty have agreed to develop the EL-OTD named option within the same Revenue-Generating (131) budget model as the current PP-OTD program. A proposal for development funds from the Division of Continuing Studies to support the creation of a new EL-OTD named option and the revision of the entry-level curriculum is being drafted, including funds to support a transition year from 2020-2021. The OT Program proposes to suspend admissions to the MS-OT beginning with the Fall 2019 admissions cycle. The Program’s proposed timeline for the transition is as follows:

**Proposed Timeline:**

- **Summer 2019**  Last class of MS-OT students matriculate with anticipated graduation in Dec 2021
- **AY 2019-2020**  MS-OT classes of 2020 & 2021 enrolled in didactic coursework; class of 2019 on Fieldwork (fall)
- **Fall 2019**  Suspend MS-OT application process
- **Dec 2019**  MS-OT class of 2019 graduates
- **Summer 2020**  Suspend MS-OT admissions
- **AY 2020-2021**  MS-OT class of 2021 enrolled in didactic coursework; class of 2020 on Fieldwork (fall); Finalize EL-OTD
- **Fall 2020**  Begin admissions process for entry-level OTD
- **Dec 2020**  MS-OT class of 2020 graduates
- **Summer 2021**  EL-OTD class of 2024 matriculates;
- **AY 2021-2022**  MS-OT class of 2021 on Fieldwork (fall); EL-OTD class of 2024 enrolled in didactic coursework
- **Dec 2021**  MS-OT class of 2021 graduates
- **Fall 2022**  Proposal to discontinue MS-OT program

In anticipation of the ACOTE entry-level OTD mandate, the OT Program’s Admissions Coordinator has been notifying prospective students in the pipeline that planning is in progress for transition of the program and that MS-OT admissions will likely be suspended in the near future. We will continue to advise and support prospective students interested in a career in occupational therapy through the
transition. We will also ensure that all students enrolled in the MS-OT program as of Summer 2019, will be supported to completion of their degree.

**Teachout:** We will teach out all enrolled students making satisfactory progress toward the degree and will not seek discontinuation of the degree until all MS-OT students are graduated. The MS-OT program is currently accredited until 2025. The ACOTE standards for accreditation of an EL-OTD program encompass and expand upon the full complement of standards for Masters degree programs so accommodating the curricular needs of any MS-OT students who may need to take a Leave of Absence from the program during the period of transition should be feasible.

The program faculty will submit a proposal to the Office of the Provost to discontinue the MS-OT program within three years of the suspension of admissions to the program (Fall 2022).
MEMORANDUM

Date: March 7, 2019

FROM: Parmesh Ramanathan, Associate Dean, Graduate School

RE: Addition of Admissions Table into Guide/Lumen Programs

The Graduate School has decided to reformat and restructure key admissions content of all degrees and named options that are applicable in the Graduate School eApplication system into a uniform table on Guide pages. The fields in the table are: Fall Deadline, Spring Deadline, Summer Deadline, GRE (Graduate Record Examinations), English Proficiency Test, Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT), and Letters of Recommendation Required. We are using consistent text input across as many of these fields as possible so that we will be able to export data from the table, which will aid us both in making internal processes more efficient and allowing us to more easily monitor admissions trends across our programs.

Information for the table was collected from existing Guide content and from our eApplication system and then distributed to programs for verification. After receiving ACPRAC approval, the table is now being added by the Graduate School in Lumen Programs to every applicable page, to be effective in the Fall 2019 Guide.

This update is in line with other formatting and structure changes in Guide on the Requirements and Policies tab and contributes to our mission to present information to students in a clear, easily accessible way.

Any questions about the admissions table may be directed to Emily Reynolds (emily.reynolds@wisc.edu), Academic Planning Specialist in the Graduate School.

CC: William Karpus, Graduate School
    Judy Bauman, Graduate School
    Emily Reynolds, Graduate School
    Jocelyn Milner, Academic Planning and Institutional Research
    Michelle Young, Academic Planning and Institutional Research
    Melissa Schultz, Academic Planning and Institutional Research
    Will Lipske, Office of the Registrar
Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program’s admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program’s website.

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic degree programs and the Graduate School. **Applicants must meet the minimum requirements of the Graduate School as well as the program(s).** Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, [apply online](https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Deadline</th>
<th>November 15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring Deadline</td>
<td>The program does not admit in the spring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Deadline</td>
<td>The program does not admit in the summer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)**
Not required.

**English Proficiency Test**
Every applicant whose primary language is not English or whose undergraduate instruction was not in English must provide an English proficiency test score and meet the Graduate School minimum requirements ([https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency](https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency)).

| Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT) | n/a |

| Letters of Recommendation Required | 3* |

*Strong letters of recommendation will provide the department with evidence that you will succeed in the study of African languages and expressive cultures at the graduate level.*