

BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy - SC402

1. Introductory Note

The BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy programme is designed to be a four year professional course run by the Department of Health Sciences. The programme encompasses both theoretical and practical (including fieldwork) training which will provide the opportunity for translation of theoretical knowledge into hands-on practice of immediate relevance and will further help students in acquiring professional competence.

As per existing practice, the programme is submitted for approval to the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) at regular intervals to ensure education of an international standard.

Graduates with this degree can either pursue higher studies (MSc, MPhil/PhD) or seek employment locally and internationally.

The programme is a wide-reaching one, open to private candidates as well as in-service trainees from Governmental, Non-Governmental institutions and Private Organisations.

2. Rationale, Aims and Specific Programme Objectives

Occupational Therapy is a health profession whose goal is to help people achieve independence, meaning and satisfaction in all aspects of their lives. The occupational therapists' goal is to provide the client with skills for the job of living, needed to function in the community or in the client's chosen environment. The work of the occupational therapist is essential to ensure a good quality of life of individuals (ranging from children to the elderly) with various disabilities (physical, neurological, psychosocial, sensory, mental, cognitive, and learning among others) and rehabilitation needs and their integration in the community. Occupational therapists use a wide range of skills and interventions ranging from physiologically-based techniques, group-based interventions, psychosocial interventions through use of activities to environmental modifications (among others).

There is an ever-increasing population of physically, cognitive and psychologically impaired/disabled people including elderly, accident survivors, people with psychiatric conditions, and drug abusers. This vulnerable population faces restriction in participation within daily activities as well as societal stigmatization. The impact of such restriction on the economy and quality of life is extensive. This growing population requires Occupational Therapy intervention in order to improve their independence and functioning, and become socially and economically self-reliant individuals.

Occupational therapists are currently employed in hospitals, in schools, in homes for the elderly and disabled, in non-governmental organisations as well as private practice. Occupational therapists have a vital and extensive input in emerging fields like occupational health and safety within business and industry, inclusive education for children with disabilities, work rehabilitation, psychosocial and community-based rehabilitation amongst others to restore independence, productivity and quality of Life.

Occupational therapists are therefore of paramount importance in the effective operation of the health care, social welfare and education systems.

2.1 Aims of the Programme

The specific aim of the occupational therapist is to function as an integral part of a multidisciplinary team to enable those whose abilities in productivity, self-maintenance and play/leisure are restricted or lost due to impairment, developmental delay, ageing or lack of opportunity, become full and productive members of the community.

This programme intends to inculcate in potential students the foremost values, medical, clinical and therapeutic skills and ethics required to become a qualified occupational therapist. The programme provides opportunities for students to learn and use basic or specialist techniques to address any impairment or disability of their clients while working within a rehabilitation team.

The aim of the programme is to produce occupational therapists with clinical and critical reasoning skills that allow them to use and adapt their knowledge to provide highest quality intervention and significantly improve the health of the client population they work with.

2.2 Specific Programme Objectives

- Prepare students to demonstrate and deliver Occupational Therapy related skills in relation to various diagnoses/conditions/diseases encountered in practice.
- Inculcate in students a culture of client-centred practice central to Occupational Therapy.
- Develop students' clinical reasoning skills and reflective techniques for safe and effective Occupational Therapy practice.
- Develop students' knowledge and skills to:
 - Assess, plan, design and administer Occupational Therapy treatment.
 - Foster skills necessary to function as a member of a multidisciplinary team.
 - Enable people to engage in activities of daily living that have personal meaning and value.
 - Develop, improve, sustain, or restore independence to any person who has an injury, illness, disability or psychological dysfunction.
 - Consult with the person and the family or caregivers and, through evaluation and treatment, promote the client's capacity to participate in satisfying daily activities.
 - Address by intervention the person's capacity to perform a meaningful activity or the environment in which it is performed.
 - Critically appraise evidence-based practice for application in Occupational Therapy intervention.
- Integrate knowledge and skills learnt in class to translate in practical cases and intervention.
- Develop professional ethics, leadership and management skills for highest level of practice within the profession and facilitate evidence-based practice.
- Develop critical analytical skills as regards research within Occupational Therapy, and foster a culture of continuous professional development as well as other professional activities.

2.3 Programme outcomes

This programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate:

- i. **Knowledge and understanding**
 - a. The structure and function of the human body
 - b. Pathology, healing and repair
 - c. The common health issues commonly met by Occupational Therapists (OTs) and their signs and symptoms
 - d. Quantitative and qualitative research methods

- e. Importance of effective communication in healthcare
- f. The process of reflective practice, personal development planning, basic business enterprise and basic management theory.
- g. Understanding health and safety issues pertinent to Occupational Therapy modes of treatment

ii. Qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas:

a. Intellectual Skills

- Integrate knowledge gained in the course with Occupational Therapy intervention.
- Develop clinical reasoning skills and use reflective practice to enhance Occupational Therapy practice.
- Appraise evidence based practice and their application in Occupational Therapy management.
- Analyse the organisational structure of the various Occupational Therapy practice settings.

b. Practical Skills

- Identify and conduct appropriate and relevant history taking – medical and occupational.
- Demonstrate appropriate assessment techniques and appropriate Occupational Therapy interventions for core Occupational Performance Areas.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the various models and frames of reference in Occupational Therapy practice.
- Document evaluations, interventions and progress in accordance to professional standards.
- Practice safe, professional and reflective Occupational Therapy in the different settings.

c. Transferable Skills

- Demonstrate basic communication skills including evidence of problem solving individually and in group settings.
- Integrate evidence-based practice into decision-making and problem-solving for Occupational Therapy practice.
- Be able to critique research papers for evidence-based practice.
- Design and carry out a small scale research study.
- Work autonomously or within a professional team in a variety of settings.

3. General Entry Requirements

As per General Entry Requirements for admission to the University of Mauritius for undergraduate degrees.

4. Programme Requirements

GCE Advanced Level passes (or equivalent) in three science subjects. Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics and Biology will be counted as science subjects. Minimum grade should be 16 aggregate score.

5. Programme Duration

	Normal	Maximum
BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy:	8 Semesters (4 years)	12 Semesters (6 years)

6. Credits per Year: Minimum 18, Maximum 48.

6.1. Minimum Credits Required for Award

BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy 125 credits

A Diploma exit point will only be available in special cases where a student has failed to obtain the minimum number of credits for the award of the BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy, but has obtained a minimum of **97 credits** corresponding to the total number of credits acquired at the end of Level III.

7. Assessment

There will be both formative and summative assessments throughout the programme. The various assessment styles may include the following: practical tests, written examinations, written assignments, coursework, presentations, reflective accounts, portfolio building, poster presentation, viva voce, literature reviews, research proposals, research project etc.

7.1 Continuous and Written Assessment of Modules

The pass mark will be 50% for all modules.

Each module will carry 100 marks (i.e. expressed as %) and will be assessed yearly as follows:

7.1.1 Written examinations

Modules will be examined at the end of the year in which they are taught. Pass mark for all written examinations will be 50%.

The Foundation modules (excluding Occupational Therapy (Foundations for practice) – BOT 1011Y) in Year I carry no credits.

The following modules will be assessed by a **2-hr written exam paper**:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
HLS 1101, HLS 1102, HLS 1103, HLS 1104, RHB 1105, BOT 1203, HLS 1204	HLS 2101, HLS 2103, HLS 2105, HLS 2201, RHB 2202, BOT 2203	BOT 3104, BOT 3105	BOT 4202

The following modules will be examined by a **3-hr written exam paper**:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
BOT 1007Y	BOT 2002Y, BOT 2004Y	BOT 3002Y, BOT 3003Y	BOT 4001Y

7.1.2 Practical work and Continuous Assessment for modules (except Professional Practice modules)

➤ Modules including a practical component

Practical work will be assessed on a continuous assessment basis and will include a practical assessment. Marks for practical work will carry a weight of 40% of the total continuous assessment marks. Pass mark for practical component will be 50%.

Continuous assessment for the theory part of modules may be in the form of assignments and should include at least one class test. Marks for written work will carry a weight of 10% of the total continuous assessment marks.

Continuous assessment marks will thus carry a weight of 50% of the total mark for the module. Students need to pass practical component to clear the module.

WEIGHTING FOR MODULES INCLUDING A PRACTICAL COMPONENT		
Practical Work	40%	Pass mark = 50%
Written continuous assessment	10%	
Examination	50%	

➤ Modules not including a practical component

Continuous assessment for modules not including a practical component may be in the form of assignments and should include at least one class test. Continuous assessment will carry a weighting of up to 40% of total marks for the respective modules.

WEIGHTING FOR MODULES INCLUDING NOT A PRACTICAL COMPONENT	
Written continuous assessment	40%
Examination	60%

Special Note: Research Project (BOT 4000):

The research project will be assessed on the dissertation and viva. The dissertation will carry a weighting of 90% of research project and the viva will carry a weighing of 10% of the research project.

➤ Modules assessed solely on continuous assessment

The following modules will be assessed solely on basis of continuous assessment. Pass mark for these modules will be 50%. For modules having a practical component, marks for practical work will carry a weight of 50% of the total marks. Pass mark for practical component will be 50%. Written continuous assessments will be as detailed below:

All written assessments and practical assessments (if any) will be subject to moderation by an internal moderator using the Continuous Assessment Moderation Sheet within the Department of Health Sciences. This sheet should be filled and submitted to Examinations Section along with Module Specification Sheet at beginning of Academic year along with Module Specification Sheets.

MODULES ASSESSED SOLELY ON CA		Assessments
Modules without practical component	BOT 1106 BOT 2106 BOT 4102	At least one class test and 2 written assessments

Modules with practical component	HLS 1201 BOT 1202 BOT 3204	At least one class test, one written assessment and one practical assessment
	RHB 3001Y	At least one class test and a Research proposal to be submitted by last week day of March of the academic year

Specifications: RHB 3001Y Health Research Methods for Therapy Professions

Students failing the Research proposal component will be required to resubmit satisfactory research proposals within a period of one month.

Specifications: HLS 1201 IT and Communication skills for Health Sciences

Practical work will be assessed on a continuous assessment basis via practical tests and will carry a weighting of 30% of the total marks awarded for the module. Pass mark for practical component will be 50%.

The continuous assessment for the theory part will thus carry a weighting of 70% of total marks for the module.

7.2 Professional Practice/Fieldwork/Clinical Blocks

Professional Training in the form of fieldwork in different public and private institutions will form an essential part of the professional programme.

Fieldwork is distributed throughout the curriculum. To ensure a progressive depth of learning, fieldwork will be guided by a placement handout (an agreement about the particular knowledge, skills, or attitudes the student will have to develop as well as the roles and responsibilities of the student) and workplace skills supervised and assessed by an occupational therapist preferably with at least two years' experience or an occupational therapy educator.

The student has to demonstrate that s/he has achieved the learning specified in the learning contract (provided in **professional practice orientation document**) in the form of a concise student-prepared portfolio. Students' progress will be monitored by a supervisor who submits a supervisor's report in the form of an evaluation sheet, summarising and rating the work training and experience based on a list of all therapeutic techniques used and skills acquired. The immediate clinical supervisor will sign both portfolio and report. These will have to be submitted to the professional practice/fieldwork coordinator and to the UoM programme coordinator at the **end of each relevant semester** together with grades.

Fieldwork is divided as follows:

1. Professional Practice modules (1 to 4) - undertaken during the semester
2. Clinical Blocks modules (1 to 3) - undertaken during the long vacation (May-June break) for a maximum period of 5 weeks. Students will be assessed by continuous assessments and satisfactory attendance. Successful students will be awarded a satisfactory grade (Grade S). Students with unsatisfactory performance in the clinical blocks will be awarded a Grade U. Clinical Blocks do not carry any credit. A Grade S is required in these Clinical Blocks for the award of a BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy.

Details on the modules can be found in Section 15

7.2.1 Professional Training

A minimum of one thousand hours are required as per WFOT, five hundred (500) of which must be full time in the field. In this programme, fieldwork is divided as follows:

Practicum conducted in the modules of

- a. Occupational Therapy – Foundations for practice
- b. Occupational Therapy: Neurology, Neuro Musculo Skeletal/ Surgical/Orthotics, Mental Health, Paediatrics and Cognition
And in the modules
- c. Volition and Action
- d. Rehabilitation
- e. Gerontology and Specific Disabilities
- f. Therapeutic Communication and Group Dynamics 350 hrs

. Professional Practice 1: Observation and Orientation: 90 hrs

. Professional Practice 2 300 hrs

. Professional Practice 3 300 hrs

. Professional Practice 4 300 hrs

. Clinical Training Blocks 1, 2 and 3 360 hrs

Total Professional Training/Fieldwork 1700 hrs

7.2.2 Assessment for Professional Practice Modules and Clinical Blocks

Modules	Year	Assessment	Grading criteria
Professional Practice 1	1	A case report will be submitted to clinical supervisor	Grade S/U
Professional Practice 2, 3 & 4	2, 3 & 4	Continuous Assessment by means of case study reports and logbooks. Clinical assessment by means of bedside assessment and/or any other viable means of assessment will be carried out.	Clinical assessment will carry a weighting of 50% of the total marks for each of these modules with continuous assessment counting for the remaining 50% of the marks. A pass mark of 50% should be obtained in the clinical assessment in order to pass the module Students are awarded marks and grades for these practice modules in lieu of Grade S.
Clinical Block 1, 2 & 3	1, 2 & 3	Clinical assessment by means of bedside assessment and/or any other viable means of assessment will be carried out	Grade S/U

Note: 80% satisfactory attendance will be required in all professional practice modules and clinical block modules in order to clear the modules.

7.2.3 Clinical/Bedside Assessment

Students will be required to participate in a clinical/bedside assessment session to assess their clinical skills at the end of each professional practice (starting from Professional Practice 2).

The clinical or bedside assessment may include history taking, application of a particular assessment or demonstration of an intervention under supervision of the placement supervisor. This will take place on the last week of placement at the placement site.

8. Grading Structure

This will be as shown below taking into account that the pass mark for all modules is 50%.

Under the GPA, the following letter grades and their grade point equivalent are used:

Letter Grade	Grade Point	Percentage Mark
A+	4.00	$x \geq 80$
A		$70 \leq x < 80$
B	3.00	$60 \leq x < 70$
C		$50 \leq x < 60$
F	0.00	< 50
N	NA	

9. Classification of Award

The degree classification will be based on the **CPA** at the end of the Programme as follows:

CPA (%)	CLASSIFICATION	
$\geq 70\%$	1 st Class	With Honours
$60 \leq x < 70$	2 nd Class 1 st Division	
$50 \leq x < 60$	2 nd Class 2 nd Division	
< 50	No Award	

10. Criteria to proceed to subsequent year

Students who fail in up to 2 of the following BOT modules, will be allowed to proceed to the following year if their CPA ≥ 50 , and clearing the failed modules with the following cohort of students.

Students who fail in more than 2 of these BOT modules, independent of the CPA, will repeat the year:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
BOT 1106	BOT 2003Y	BOT 3002Y	BOT 4001Y
BOT 1007Y	BOT 2004Y	BOT 3003Y	BOT 4102
BOT 1202	BOT 2106	BOT 3104	BOT 4202
BOT 1203	BOT 2203	BOT 3105	
		BOT 3204	

10.1 Professional Practice modules and Clinical Blocks

Any student failing professional practice modules and/or clinical blocks (listed below) will be allowed to resubmit case reports and/or present clinical assessment (as applicable) within a period of one month.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE MODULES				CLINICAL BLOCKS		
Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
BOT 1205	BOT 2007Y	BOT 3006Y	BOT 4004Y	BOT 1206	BOT 2206	BOT 3206

11. Termination of Registration

1. If the CPA of a student is < 50 for an academic year, the student will have to repeat the entire academic year, and retake modules as and when offered. However, s/he will not be allowed, to retake modules for which Grade C or above has been obtained.
2. Students will be allowed to repeat only once over the entire duration of the Programme of Studies.
3. Registration will be terminated if the CPA of the student remains below 50 at the end of an academic year and the student has already repeated one year of study.
4. A student who repeats a module must submit new assignment(s), take part in the class test and re-write the examinations.
5. A student's registration will lapse at the end of the semester in which s/he has successfully completed the minimum requirements for the award of the degree.

12. Important Note

The rules as stipulated in this Programme Structure and Outline Syllabus will be applicable regarding all matters pertaining to the BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy programme.

13. Specifications:

Module codes	Programs Involved
HLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Most DHS programs
RHB	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy• BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy
BOT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BSc(Hons) Occupational Therapy

14. List of Modules/Programme Plan

Code	Module Name	Hrs/Yr L/P	Credits
YEAR 1			
<i>(Optional Modules as per individual requirement)</i>			
HLS 1101	Foundation Course in Biology	35/20	-
HLS 1102	Foundation Course in Physics	35/20	-
Semester 1			
HLS 1103	Health in Society	45/0	3
HLS 1104	Human Anatomy and Physiology	45/0	3
RHB 1105	Skeletal and Locomotor Systems	45/0	3
BOT 1106	Humans as Occupational Beings	45/0	3
BOT 1007Y	Occupational Therapy - Foundations for Practice	-	-
Semester 2			
HLS 1201	IT and Communication Skills for Health Sciences	30/30	3
BOT 1202	Therapeutic Media I	35/20	3
BOT 1203	Kinesiology	35/20	3
HLS 1204	Psychiatry	45/0	3
BOT 1205	Professional Practice 1	0/90	2
BOT 1206	Clinical Block 1	0/90	-
BOT 1007Y	Occupational Therapy- Foundations for Practice	60/30	5
YEAR 2			
Semester 3			
HLS 2101	Human Pathology	45/0	3
BOT 2002Y	Therapeutic Media II	-	-
HLS 2103	Central Nervous System	45/0	3
BOT 2004Y	Occupational Therapy – Neuromusculoskeletal, Surgical and Orthotics	-	-
HLS 2105	Health Psychology and Health Related Behaviour	45/0	3
BOT 2106	Occupational Science	45/0	3
BOT 2007Y	Professional Practice 2	-	-
Semester 4			
HLS 2201	Peripheral Nervous System	45/0	3
RHB 2202	Rehabilitation in Society	45/0	3
BOT 2203	Occupational Therapy – Neurology	35/20	3
BOT 2003Y	Therapeutic Media II	75/30	6
BOT 2004Y	Occupational Therapy – Neuromusculoskeletal, Surgical and Orthotics	70/40	6
BOT 2007Y	Professional Practice 2	0/300	5
BOT 2206	Clinical Block 2	0/120	-

YEAR 3

Semester 5

RHB 3001Y	Health Research Methods for Therapy Professions	30/0	
BOT 3002Y	Occupational Therapy- Mental Health	-	-
BOT 3003Y	Occupational Therapy – Paediatrics and Cognition	-	-
BOT 3104	Volition and Action	20/20	2
BOT 3105	Occupational Therapy - Gerontology	35/20	3
BOT 3006Y	Professional Practice 3	-	-

Semester 6

RHB 3001Y	Health Research Methods for Therapy Professions	15/30	4
BOT 3002Y	Occupational Therapy – Mental Health	60/30	5
BOT 3003Y	Occupational Therapy – Paediatrics and Cognition	70/40	6
BOT 3204	Therapeutic Communication and Group Dynamics	25/40	3
BOT 3006Y	Professional Practice 3	0/300	5
BOT 3206	Clinical Block 3	0/150	-

YEAR 4

Semester 7

BOT 4001Y	Vocational Rehabilitation, Play and Activities of Daily Living	-	-
BOT 4102	Practice Management for Occupational Therapists	45/0	3
BOT 4003Y	Research Project	-	-
BOT 4004Y	Professional Practice 4	-	-

Semester 8

BOT 4001Y	Vocational Rehabilitation, Play and Activities of Daily Living	60/30	5
BOT 4202	Occupational Therapy – Emerging Fields of Practice	45	3
BOT 4003Y	Research Project	-	12
BOT 4004Y	Professional Practice 4	0/300	5