

BSc (Hons)

Foundation to Occupational Therapy (Year 0)

UCAS code 470H

Study mode

Full-time

Duration

4 years

Apply by: **30 June 2026**Starts on: **28 September 2026**

About this course

A year zero foundation programme, designed for mature students who have typically been out of formal education for some time or who have taken non-traditional qualifications, which leads to access onto an Occupational Therapy BSc programme.

Introduction

The University of Liverpool, in collaboration with local FE partners, has developed a year zero foundation programme for Home students that leads to access onto a variety of vocational Health Studies programmes. Our Human and Animal Health Professions (Occupational Therapy) course is for students seeking entry to undertake the Occupational Therapy BSc (B920) programme.

Students seeking entry to Occupational Therapy will study a foundation year (year zero) at [Carmel College, St Helens](#), about nine miles from the university campus, where the class sizes are small and the standards of academic achievement high.

This programme is specifically targeted at Home mature and non-traditional students, who typically have taken a break from studies.

Please note that we will not consider applications from prospective students who have multiple UCAS applications for a variety of programmes, as this does not demonstrate a clear commitment.

For further information on how to apply to this programme please contact: shs@liverpool.ac.uk.

What you'll learn

- Skills needed for independent study at undergraduate degree level
 - Undertaking a variety of learning methods and assessment tasks
 - A breadth of patient-focused practical experience in a region with a particularly diverse population
 - A range skills for a rewarding career that enhances the quality of life for a variety of people
 - The philosophy of the person, occupation and environment relationship
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Routes

- [Occupational Therapy BSc \(Hons\)](#)

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Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

Year zero

In all modules at year zero, the study skills needed for independent study at undergraduate degree level are developed. Students are also introduced to a variety of learning methods, such as formal taught sessions, workshops and practical laboratory sessions, as well as a variety of assessment tasks, such as written assignments, in class data handling, written and practical examinations to provide a good grounding for vocational programmes.

There are some shared modules for all students, and then route specific modules to ensure the students are prepared for their chosen undergraduate programmes.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
BIOLOGY FOR HEALTH STUDIES 1 (HEAL001)	22.5
BIOLOGY FOR HEALTH STUDIES 2 (HEAL002)	22.5
MATHS FOR HEALTH STUDIES 1 (HEAL003)	7.5
MATHS FOR HEALTH STUDIES 2 (HEAL004)	7.5
FOUNDATIONS OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (HEAL005)	15
APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY FOR HEALTH STUDIES (HEAL006)	22.5
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE FOR HEALTH SCIENCES (HEAL007)	22.5

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

Learning is promoted through a wide variety of activities that enable the students to become autonomous and continuous learners. Interactive lectures, practical and clinical skills group work, directed study, role play, problem-based learning, small group work, student-led seminars, collaborative project work and interactive tutorials are key learning strategies of the programmes. Practical work using our imaging suite digital equipment, the Clinical Skills Resource Room and the Human Anatomy Resource Centre complement teaching activities.

Face-to-face interactions between all students will occur at shared lectures, tutorials and group work and online interaction will be encouraged and facilitated. There is also inter-professional education and learning opportunities across all Healthcare Professions programmes.

How you're assessed

Using a mixture of coursework and examination, a range of assessment methods can be seen across the programmes. These include seen and unseen written examinations, essay assignments with specific word lengths, multiple choice questions, case study presentations, video analysis and interactive practical examinations. Assessment of the work-based learning element of all programmes is an important aspect. You will be required to communicate your views orally and in written form; analyse, implement and evaluate your practice; and to extend the research and evidence base of your chosen profession.

The various methods of assessments have been chosen to provide a balance that will permit the undergraduates to demonstrate their intellectual abilities in all areas to the full.

Liverpool Hallmarks

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

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Careers and employability

Occupational Therapy graduates are eligible to apply for membership of the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), the Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT) and the World Federation of Occupational Therapy (WFOT) to work outside the UK.

Your qualification allows opportunities to build a career in the NHS, Social Services, and independent third sector employers.

Successful completion of the programme will allow you to work in a range of specialist services with people of all ages to support them to address the psychological, physical, cognitive, social and environmental challenges which impact on their day to day functioning.

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Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, how to pay, and other costs to consider.

Tuition fees

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)

Full-time place, per year - £9,790

Foundation year fee - £9,790

Year in industry fee - £1,955

Year abroad fee - £1,465 (applies to year in China)

International fees

This course is not available to international students who require a visa to study in the UK. However, if you're a 'home' student and you've lived outside of the UK, you'll need to complete a fee status questionnaire as part of your application. We'll then assess your fee status and in some cases, home students who've lived outside of the UK may be required to pay the international fee rate. [Check your tuition fee status on our webpages.](#)

The fees shown are for the academic year 2026/27. Please be advised that tuition fees may increase each year for both UK and international students. For UK students, this will be subject to the government's regulated fee limits.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching, assessment, operating University facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

Additional costs

There are additional study costs to consider, such as stationary and equipment, professional association fees and travel to placements.

Stationery and equipment

In years two and three, students may be required to purchase materials for group-work (approximately £25 per year)

Students are advised to purchase a USB pen drive to use when carrying out presentations (£10)

In year two, students are required to participate in a leisure activity. Students choose their own activity but will need to consider that some activities will involve additional costs eg gym classes, craft materials, club fees although many students choose to undertake free activities.

Professional association fees

Optional (but strongly recommended) Royal College of Occupational Therapists, this however is optional. The cost to join is £60 per year / £5.00 per month.

Travel to placements

Students will complete 33 weeks of placement experience. Most clinical placements are a daily commute (students are placed within 50 miles of the University). Student concessions are also available from local travel companies.

Additional accommodation costs apply for students wishing to complete a placement in the Isle of Man at the cost of £343 per month (placement lengths vary from 4- 8 weeks)

Elective placements

Elective placement (6 weeks in semester two, year three) is mandatory. Same travel costs will be incurred as those on a clinical placement.

Students can choose to complete placements in the UK or abroad - these are self-funding.

- Vaccination costs apply if going abroad to certain countries and vary from £10-£50 approx.
- Visa fees apply in certain countries costs vary
- To travel abroad student must be a member of professional body approximately cost £12 per month
- First aid course is required to complete a placement in Australia £30
- Australian Police checks are required to complete a placement in Australia \$46.90
- Food, travel and accommodation costs up to £3,000 for a six week elective placement in Australia.

*Home students are able to apply for reimbursement of travel/accommodation costs in relation to placement from the NHS Business Services Authority.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

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Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

Applicants should normally be considered ineligible for direct entry to the BSc route.

A levels

This programme is designed for mature students who have typically been out of formal education for some time (2 years and above) or who have taken non-traditional qualifications. International students will not be considered. Please note that we will not consider A-Level students or School Leavers. However, consideration may be given to candidates who studied some time ago. In order to give all applicants an equal opportunity, applicants who have been rejected following an interview will not normally be considered again.

Narrowly missed the entry requirements on results day? If you've studied these subjects, we may take them into account:

AS level Biology, Chemistry, Physics, **or** a social science subject such as Psychology or Sociology will be accepted in lieu of the science GCSE.

GCSE

GCSEs at minimum grade 5(C) to include Maths, English Language OR English Literature, Science (single, dual, or combined). Will consider GCSE resits and/or ONE pending GCSE grade. Applied GCSE Science will not be accepted.

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma

Students currently studying BTEC level 3 will not be considered; BTEC level 2 will not be accepted in lieu of GCSE

International Baccalaureate

Applicants currently studying for International Baccalaureate will not be considered

Irish Leaving Certificate

Applicants currently studying for Irish Leaving Certificate will not be considered

Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher

Applicants currently studying for Scottish Highers will not be considered

Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced

Applicants currently studying the Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced will not be considered.

Graduate application

Applicants with a previous degree but do not meet criteria for direct entry to the degree programme will be considered if they are returning to education following a break.

Access

Applicants currently studying for an Access Diploma will not be considered. Mature students who have recently studied an access course (that is not eligible for direct entry) or have work-related qualification will be considered.

Profession-specific knowledge and skills required

Evidence of a clinical visit is highly recommended but not compulsory.

Declaration of criminal background

Applicants may be expected to complete either a Declaration of Criminal Background or have a full Disclosure Barring Service check as part of their application.

Disability information

Additional support is given to students who have declared a disability on their UCAS application.

Work Experience Requirements

Hands on work experience in a healthcare environment will be considered in lieu of ONE GCSE (excluding Maths, English, Science or Social Science).

International qualifications

Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.

Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our direct entry requirements. Although there is no direct Foundation Certificate route to this course, completing a Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the University of Liverpool International College, can guarantee you a place on a number of similar courses which may interest you.

Alternative entry requirements

- If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, contact us for advice
- Applications from mature students are welcome.

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