

MSc

Occupational Therapy (Pre-registration)

Study mode

Full-time

Duration

24 months

Apply by: **15 January 2027**Starts on: **25 January 2027**

About this course

This is a stimulating pre-registration MSc programme that will equip you with the advanced skills and knowledge necessary to thrive as an occupational therapist in modern healthcare.

Early applications are encouraged. Applications submitted by October 31 will be given equal consideration. Applications submitted after this date are not guaranteed to be considered for the January start but may be considered for waiting list places.

Introduction

Please note, your course welcome starts on 25 January 2027. Teaching starts on the 1 February 2027.

This programme is subject to revalidation in 2026. Therefore, course content is subject to change for January 2027 entry.

Early applications are encouraged. Applications submitted by 31 October will be given equal consideration. Applications submitted after this date are not guaranteed to be considered for the January start but may be considered for waiting list places.

This course will provide you with an enriching, dynamic educational experience that combines traditional teaching with the advancement of key clinical skills to produce professionals that

are equally adept in the practical and theoretic aspects of occupational therapy.

Our traditional classroom teaching will expand your awareness of the sector's principle themes and challenges, and allow you to develop general professional abilities like report writing, research techniques and critical thinking skills.

Our teaching incorporates the excellent grounding in biological and social sciences that our undergraduate programme is renowned for and we will encourage you to undertake research to develop the evidence base of the profession whilst providing you with opportunities to learn alongside master's students from our other Allied Healthcare programmes.

You will also be offered a variety of practice placement opportunities which include full-time and elective roles that will feature in your first and second year of studies. This will help you develop your clinical skills, and stimulate your leadership, communication and patient care abilities which will all be vital to your career in the future.

Who is this course for?

This course is suitable for graduates from across a range of disciplines, such as biological sciences, social sciences and health sciences, who have gained a 2:2 classification in their degree.

What you'll learn

- Clinical skills imperative to modern occupational therapists
- Research and report writing skills
- An understanding of different physical and mental health issues
- Critical thinking abilities
- An appreciation of other healthcare professionals and their roles
- Teamwork and communication skills.

Accreditation

Graduates are eligible for registration with the Health and Care Professions Council, the UK's prominent regulator of health and care professions.

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Course content

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

Year one

In Year one, you will be introduced to the fundamentals of professional practice, with particular emphasis placed on the science that underpins the industry. You will develop an appreciation for the nuances of occupational therapy provision and begin to understand the research methods which are used to expand the professional knowledge base.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
APPLIED SCIENCES IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY 1: BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES (OCCU470)	15
INTRODUCTION TO OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE (OCCU474)	15
REASONING IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY 1 (OCCU471)	15
APPLIED SCIENCES IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY 2: SOCIAL SCIENCES (OCCU473)	15
REASONING IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY 2 (OCCU472)	15
RESEARCH METHODS IN HEALTHCARE PRACTICE (HEAL417)	15

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

Year two

In Year two, you will further develop your professional skills and experience, and be expected to provide a greater level of care to patients than previously. You will also begin to focus on occupational therapy skills that will demonstrate leadership abilities which may prove highly useful to you in your future career. In addition, you will complete a dissertation on an occupational therapy subject of your choosing which adequately displays your professional expertise.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
DISSERTATION: HEALTHCARE PRACTICE (HEAL418)	45
LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE DEVELOPMENT FOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE (OCCU477)	15
LIFESTYLE TRANSFORMATION THROUGH OCCUPATION (OCCU476)	15
PERSONAL READINESS FOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE (OCCU478)	15

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

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

Our teaching is rooted in real world problems, and as such we implement case studies and experiential learning so that you can acquire knowledge and skills that you can critically apply to current health care delivery.

The teaching methods that we use include simulation activities, clinical skills development sessions, practice placements, interactive seminars, interprofessional learning and case-based learning.

These will enable you to demonstrate your learning and start to apply your knowledge to occupational therapy practice as a member of a multidisciplinary healthcare team at an early stage.

Online learning will be used where effective to promote digital literacy, permit synchronous and asynchronous activities and incorporate the use of video-conferencing and communication platforms.

These varied approaches are used to increase retention of knowledge, self-evaluation and deeper learning in students and are relevant for educating future occupational therapy practitioners.

How you're assessed

Our assessments have been designed to allow you to demonstrate the development of your professional and scientific knowledge, clinical skills and critical reasoning abilities.

More specifically, they have been designed to mirror the real-life tasks that you will be required to undertake in practice.

Clinical skills examinations, written assignments, personal reflections, oral presentations and the development of patient information documents are some examples of the various assessment methods that we use.

Regular opportunities for meetings with academic advisors will be scheduled to facilitate your reflections on assessments and feedback to consolidate your learning and to collaboratively plan your future development.

In addition to feedback from programme tutors, students are encouraged to recognise and use informal feedback from their peers, service-users and particularly through learning opportunities they encounter on practice placements, during group work and from oral presentations.

Liverpool Learning Framework

At Liverpool, we take a distinctive approach to education through the Liverpool Learning Framework. This means teaching that is engaging, inclusive and designed to help you succeed during your studies and beyond.

You'll develop specialist subject knowledge alongside the skills employers value most, including:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three Liverpool Hallmarks:

- Research-connected teaching – learning informed by the latest ideas and discoveries
- Active learning – taking part, applying knowledge and learning by doing

- Authentic assessment – assessments designed around real-world tasks and challenges

We also embed key priorities across our curriculum, including AI literacy, employability, and sustainability, helping you prepare for the future and make a positive impact in the world.

We're committed to creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive.

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Careers and employability

Graduates in Occupational Therapy are a vital part of modern health care and employment opportunities are available in the UK and abroad. This is a vocational programme and aims to fill a skill shortage area within the National Health Service.

Graduates from the University of Liverpool have an excellent employment rate and are highly regarded by local employers and successfully achieve employment nationally entering a wide variety of roles and services.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

Career planning

From education to employment

Networking events

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Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, 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

International fees

Full-time place, per year – £32,000

Tuition fees are for the academic year 2026/27. Please be advised that this tuition fee is subject to increase each year, subject to the government's regulated fee limits.

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

- You can pay your tuition fees in instalments.
- All or part of your tuition fees can be funded by external sponsorship.
- International applicants who accept an offer of a place will need to pay a tuition fee deposit.
- If you're eligible for tuition fees and maintenance support from the Student Loans Company, you may qualify for the NHS Learning Support Fund for this course.

Additional costs

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, specialist equipment, or stationery.

You can find information on the general and subject-specific costs you could expect to incur on our study costs webpage.

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Entry requirements

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

Postgraduate entry requirements

You should include a personal statement of no more than 700 words in support of your application. This should reflect on your understanding of the profession and relevant qualities valuable to a healthcare professional.

Applicants should present with a 2:2 degree in any discipline. We will also consider pending degrees.

You must demonstrate a good understanding of the occupational therapist profession, including an awareness of the procedures undertaken. You are encouraged to arrange a shadowing visit with a registered occupational therapist in their area of practice in support of your application.

An interview forms part of the selection process. The interview follows the values-based recruitment (VBR) process and you will be expected to demonstrate the relevance of the [NHS' values](#) and pertinent skills required within the occupational therapy role.

Please note: meeting the minimum criteria does not guarantee a place on the programme as competition is high. You are encouraged to present with the strongest possible application.

Declaration of Criminal Background

You will understand that as an allied health professions and nursing student, and when you qualify, you will be asked to treat children and other vulnerable people. We therefore need information about any criminal offences of which you may have been convicted, or with which you have been charged. The information you provide may later be checked with the police.

If selected for interview you will be provided with the appropriate form to complete.

Health Screening

The University and the School of Allied Health Professions and Nursing has an obligation to undertake health screening on all prospective healthcare students. Any offer of a place to study is conditional on completion of a health questionnaire and a satisfactory assessment of fitness to train from the University's Occupational Health Service. This will include some

obligatory immunisations and blood tests. Please visit the [Higher Education Occupational Practitioners website](#) for further information.

International qualifications

[Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.](#)

If you hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent, but don't meet our entry requirements, a Pre-Master's can help you gain a place. This specialist preparation course for postgraduate study is offered on campus at the [University of Liverpool International College](#), in partnership with Kaplan International Pathways. Although there's no direct Pre-Master's route to this MSc, completing a Pre-Master's pathway can guarantee you a place on many other postgraduate courses at The University of Liverpool.

English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a [majority English speaking country](#).

We accept a variety of [international language tests](#) and [country-specific qualifications](#).

IELTS

7.0 overall, with no component below 6.5. Please note, your IELTS test must have been sat and completed in person and not online.

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