**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SPECIFIC WELCOME PAGE**

**Course Title: BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy**

**UCAS Code: B920**

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| ***Year*** | ***Session*** | ***Module code*** | ***Module Title*** | ***Module level*** | ***Module Credit*** | ***Total Credit*** |
| *One* | *Semester 1* | *OCCU170* | *Mind Body Performance 1* | *4* | *15* | *60 credits* |
| *OCCU172* | *Occupations throughout the life-course* | *4* | *15* |
| *OCCU176* | *Person in Context* | *4* | *15* |
| *OCCU178* | *Professional Practice 1* | *4* | *15* |
| *Semester 2* | *OCCU171* | *Mind Body Performance 2* | *4* | *15* | *60 credits* |
| *OCCU173* | *Occupational Therapy Toolkit 1* | *4* | *15* |
| *OCCU174* | *Evidence for Practice 1* | *4* | *15* |
| *OCCU179* | *Professional Practice 2 4* | *4* | *15* |

Welcome occupational therapy students, cohort 2025. We are looking forward to meeting you all. Below you will find some useful information to help you to prepare for your occupational therapy BSc degree programme and to settle in when you arrive.

* **Programme Timetable**

Academic timetables will be available to students in Welcome Week (week of the 15th to 19th September 2025) and students will be shown how to access these using the University of Liverpool Timetable App and by accessing teaching resources on Canvas during Welcome Week. Semester One teaching begins week beginning Monday 22nd September 2025. The semester finishes on Friday 12th December 2025.

Semester two starts on Monday 26th January 2026, following Semester One Assessment period, and finishes on Friday 5th June 2026. The final week of teaching is called Completion Week which follows the Semester Two Assessment period. The week of the 1st - 5th June is essential teaching to both review the 2025-26 academic year and in preparation for Year Two.

Teaching in both semesters is usually timetabled to take place on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. This means that Wednesday mornings and Fridays are generally timetabled as self-directed study. However please check your timetables carefully as teaching is sometimes delivered on Wednesday and Friday, in particular for scheduling interprofessional learning (IPL) and mandatory training such as therapeutic moving and handling and basic life support.

The majority of teaching sessions are in person however some sessions may be timetabled to be on line via MS Teams or Zoom.

It is important to note that attendance is required at teaching sessions and attendance is recorded, unless sessions are clearly described as ‘optional’.

* **Programme Handbook**

Programme handbooks will be available when students arrive in Liverpool and students will be shown where to access these during Welcome Week.

* **Academic Advisors**

All students at the University of Liverpool will be assigned a named academic member of staff as their Academic Advisor. Their role is to develop a relationship with their students; to provide information, advice and guidance on academic matters and to direct students to further sources of information on academic matters as well as the wide range of information, advice and guidance on non-academic matters available to students at Liverpool. Students will usually meet their academic advisor from the occupational therapy programme team, for the first time, during Welcome Week.

* **Peer Mentors**

First year students are allocated a peer mentor usually from the 2nd year student cohort. This is just one of the ways that the University seeks to support new students. As a mentee first year students will have the opportunity to meet with their student mentor for the first time during Welcome Week. Mentors provide guidance, support and knowledge about the University experience and occupational therapy programme.

* **Practice Placements**

There are two Practice Placements during the first year of study. In Semester One there is a one-week practice simulation week (3rd - 7th November 2025) which helps to prepare students for their practice placements. Students have the opportunity to learn and practice professional skills in simulated practice settings. This simulation week is followed by a one-week placement (10th- 14th November 2025). In Semester Two there is a four -week placement (23rd February – 20th March 2026).

* **Uniform**

Occupational Therapy students are asked to wear clothing suitable for practical sessions. Students are provided with a uniform for practice placements and are also expected to wear uniform in University for some teaching sessions.

It is important to note that many practice placement settings expect students to wear uniform. However, in some other settings, such as some mental health and community placements, students will be required to wear smart casual clothing.

Students will be given detailed guidance about presenting with a professional appearance whilst on practice placement when you arrive in University. This will include guidance about general presentation and cleanliness, wearing of jewellery, hair colour and style and covering up of some tattoos.

Students must have footwear which in accordance with moving and handling guidance is flat soled, non-slip, and must be a full shoe which covers the entire foot including the heel. Shoes must be all black in colour and without logos. Shoes should be able to be thoroughly cleaned.

Smart casual clothing should be modest for example, covering the chest, stomach and above knee adequately. Please note that denim, suede or leather clothing is not suitable. Examples of appropriate clothing include black or dark coloured trousers/skirts, shirt style tops, jumper or cardigan. Please note that equality, faith and cultural diversity is considered. We ask you to discuss any specific clothing requirements you may have with the occupational therapy practice placement team.

* **Occupational Health Screening and DBS clearance**

Students will receive guidance about carrying out their occupational health screening and DBS clearance after being offered a place on the occupational therapy degree course. It is essential that this guidance is followed in a timely manner to ensure that these requirements are met for practice placement. As soon as you receive information about these processes ensure that you complete and return any required documentation as soon as possible. In addition, if you receive an Occupational Health appointment you must attend, informing the appropriate Module Lead, or member of the academic staff, if you have to take time away from teaching. It is important to note that students who have not completed these processes are not able to attend practice placement.

* **Mandatory Training and E-Learning for Health**

The completion of Mandatory Training and E-Learning for Health is an essential requirement for attending placement. Students are required to complete learning via an on-line platform. Details are circulated during the first few weeks of Semester One about how to log on and access this training. Students will be provided with dates of sessions throughout the year for Mandatory Training such as Basic Life Support, Moving and Handling and Infection Control. In Year 1 mandatory training is covered within two modules OCCU178: Professional Practice 1 and OCCU179 Professional Practice 2.

* **Human Anatomy Resource Centre (HARC)**

Students receive teaching sessions from HARC in order to help with anatomy knowledge and understanding. Guidance will be given in OCCU170: Mind Body Performance 1 module.

* **Student well-being**

The Disability Advice and Guidance Team can help if students require a support plan to ensure reasonable adjustments can be put in place. If you have specific access needs please highlight these with your Academic Advisor.

In addition, the University has a range of services to support students during their time at University. There is access to a student counselling service, mental health advisory service and a diversity and disability contact for each academic programme. Information is available by following the link: <https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/studentsupport/>

* **Suggested Reading List**

Students may wish to purchase some texts before starting the programme, however **many students prefer to wait until they have started the modules before deciding which books to buy**.

In preparation for starting the first year on the BSc Occupational Therapy programme, the following suggested reading list has been compiled which students may find useful. This is just a guide to some resources that could be helpful to develop knowledge prior to starting on the course.

General Occupational Therapy Textbooks

* Duncan, E. A. S. (2020) *Foundations for Practice in Occupational Therapy*6th edition. Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone Elsevier
* Bryant, W., Fieldhouse, J. and Plastow, N. (2022)*Creek's Occupational Therapy and Mental Health,*6th edition. Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone Elsevier
* Curtin, M., *et al*. (2025) *Occupational Therapy for people experiencing Illness, Injury or Impairment: Promoting occupation and participation.*8th Edition. Edinburgh: Elsevier

Anatomy and Physiology

It is essential that you have an anatomy and physiology text book that is appropriate for higher education level four learning (Year One) for an undergraduate programme. The basic texts for modules OCCU170 and OCCU171 are:

* Marieb, E. and Keller, S. (2017) *Essentials of Human Anatomy & Physiology, Global Edition.* Harlow: Pearson.
* McMillan, I., Carin-Levy, G. (2012) *Tyldesley and Grieve's Muscles, Nerves and Movement in Human Occupation.* 4th edition. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

You may also find the following text useful:

* Palastanga, N., Soames, R.W. and Palastanga, D. *(2008) Anatomy and Human Movement Pocketbook.* Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone

It is strongly recommended that you purchase the two basic texts as they will support you throughout the programme and in professional practice. These texts are also available as e-books from the library. Remember, you are also able to buy second hand editions of these online.

You may find the following books useful for the first Society and Wellbeing module which introduces sociological and psychological concepts and models of disability.

* Oliver, M (2009) *Understanding disability from theory to practice.* Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan
* Clarke, A (2010) *The sociology of health care*. 2nd edition. London: Routledge
* Brown, K (2019) *The pretty one: on life, pop culture, disability, and other reasons to fall in love with me.* New York: Atria Books

Useful Websites

* Royal College of Occupational Therapists; <http://www.rcot.co.uk/>  Have a look in particular at the following two sections:
  + "Practice resources” including S*tandards and ethics, Occupational Therapy Topics, Policy and legislation, Practice guidelines*.
  + “Promoting Occupational Therapy" including *Podcasts, Occupational Therapy posters and Leaflets, Occupation Matters leaflets*and the *Improving lives, saving money campaign.*
* World Federation of Occupational Therapists: [www.wfot.org](http://www.wfot.org/) Have a look in the "Resources" and "About" sections

Students may also find it useful to follow the RCOT (@theRCOT) and the WFOT (@theWFOT) on twitter and to explore other accounts related to Occupational Therapy for up to date discussions and research outcomes.

We look forward very much to meeting you in September 2025.

Mr. Chris Edge

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**On behalf of the occupational therapy BSc programme team**

**July 2025**