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# Occupational Therapy (OT) Prerequisite Guide

***This resource represents the recommended coursework for OT school preparation. Individual schools may expect additional coursework.***

AP and proficiency credits are not always accepted by OT programs to fulfill prerequisite requirements

Prerequisite Area	MINIMUM RECOMMENDATION	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Course Number(s)
<b>Communication</b>		
	Varies by program	May include: written, verbal
<b>Biological Sciences</b>		
Anatomy & Physiology	2 Lectures/2 Labs	MCB 244/MCB 245, MCB 246/MCB 247
<b>Physical Sciences</b>		
General Chemistry	1 lecture/1 lab	CHEM 102/CHEM 103
		<i>Additional courses in the sciences (biology, chemistry, physics) are recommended to strengthen applicant's preparation.</i>
<b>Mathematics/Statistics</b>		
Statistics	1 Lecture	STAT 100/MATH 161 (or equivalent)
<b>Humanities</b>		
Medical Terminology	1 Lecture	CLCV 102
	Varies by program	May include: history, philosophy, religion, literature
<b>Social/Behavioral Sciences</b>		
Psychology	3 Lectures	PSYC 100, PSYC 216 or HDFS 105, PSYC 238
	Varies by program	<i>Additional courses in psychology, sociology, anthropology, etc. are recommended to strengthen applicant's preparation.</i>

**Graduate Records Examination (GRE)**

For exam information visit: [www.ets.org/gre](http://www.ets.org/gre)

For more information visit: <http://www.aota.org/>

# Preparation Timeline

**Directions:**

1. Write the academic years of your preparation.
2. Write in prerequisite courses AND out-of-classroom preparation activities you plan to complete each term.
3. Write in when you plan to take your admissions test and apply to health professional school.
4. Review timeline periodically by your academic advisor & a health professions advisor at The Career Center and make revisions as needed.

**Keep In Mind:**

Plan to take, on average, 2-3 science courses (6-8 credit hours) per semester. During your first semester on campus, it's okay to take only 1 science course.

Plan for more than one term in advance. Check that courses will be offered the semester that you want to take them.

Note that AP and community college credits are not always accepted by health professional programs.

Plan to take most of your prerequisite courses at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign during the fall or spring semester.

Out-of-classroom preparation (volunteering, shadowing, research, etc.) should happen throughout the academic year—not just during breaks and summers.

Plan to take most prerequisite courses before you apply or take your admissions test.

The application process can take more than a year. Since most health professions begin the application process in the summer, plan to take to take your admissions test (MCAT, DAT, OAT, PCAT, etc.) by the spring. *For example: If you want to enter professional school fall 2018, you would take the admissions test spring 2017 and apply summer 2017.*

Academic Year	Fall	Spring	Summer