



Associate Degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant

Help your patients
restore their independence.





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Turn your compassion into a rewarding healthcare career.

Occupational therapy assistants (OTAs) play an essential role in the treatment and rehabilitation of clients looking to gain the strength and skillsets to live independent, fulfilling lives. Individuals in need of occupational therapy are typically limited by a physical illness or injury, an emotional disorder, a developmental disability, or the aging process. As an occupational therapy assistant, you will be responsible for supervising your clients as they restore and maintain independence while performing everyday life skills. Seeing improved client outcomes and quality of life as a result of your work will lead to an immense sense of fulfillment and career satisfaction — you'll know you're truly making a difference.

At Goodwin University, you can earn your associate degree and get on the path to becoming an Occupational Therapy Assistant. Our expert faculty and emphasis on hands-on clinical training will set you up for success in your career. Your clients need you — start your journey to becoming an OTA today!

Become an Occupational Therapy Assistant and start transforming lives.

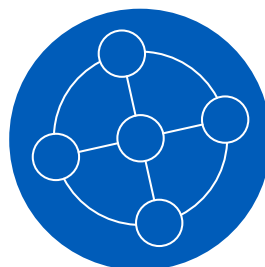


Advocate for your clients' needs.

When you pursue a career as an occupational therapy assistant, you are committing to advocate for your clients' personal and healthcare needs. At Goodwin University, you'll gain critical thinking and interpersonal skills to help you fully understand client needs and collaborate with occupational therapists to develop solutions accordingly. Participating in clinical training sessions will allow you to sharpen your active listening skills and strategize best practices for working with clients.

Take a holistic approach to providing care across the lifespan.

As an occupational therapy assistant, you'll take a holistic, whole-body approach to treating clients. Unlike physical therapists, who focus primarily on physical ailments, occupational therapy assistants are trained to help clients work through physical, emotional, and social issues that are keeping them from reaching their full potential. Your coursework will prepare you to work with individuals of all ages, including pediatric, adult, and geriatric clients. Our program offers entire semesters dedicated to different age groups, so you can graduate with an in-depth understanding of each client's needs and how to effectively treat them.



Join an in-demand career path with great growth opportunity.

Occupational therapy assistants can expect to enter a thriving field with excellent potential for high salaries and advancement opportunities. According to the **Bureau of Labor Statistics**, the field of occupational therapy is **expected to grow by 25% by 2031** – which is a significantly higher growth rate than other employment industries. Due to increased demand, OTAs are also some of the highest paid healthcare assistants in the field. By pursuing a career as an OTA, you can ensure you maintain job security while leaning into your passion for helping others.



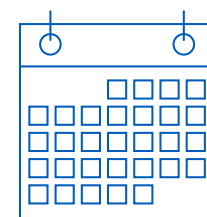
Earn your degree at Goodwin University.



Gain the skills to become nationally certified.

In order to practice as an occupational therapy assistant, you will be required to sit for the national certification administered by the **National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT)**. Connecticut also requires a license in order to practice occupational therapy, which is based on the results of the **NBCOT Certification Exam**.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program at Goodwin University will prepare you to pursue certification and licensure after you graduate. Our program will teach you how to implement interventions, support client participation, and work with Registered Occupational Therapists to provide quality care, all of which are requirements to become a certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA).



Flexible class schedules

Whether you're working full-time or taking care of your family, we believe that your personal responsibilities are just as important as earning your degree. Occupational Therapy Assistant classes are held in the evenings, and fieldwork and internships are offered during the day with select Saturday options available. You shouldn't sacrifice your personal life to advance your career, and at Goodwin, you don't have to!



We put you first.

At Goodwin University, we have a student-centered approach to learning. Our Occupational Therapy Assistant program offers small class sizes with a 10:1 student-to-faculty ratio, so you'll always get the one-on-one attention you deserve. We also offer a wide variety of student resources such as counseling services, financial aid, our Ann B. Clark Co-op, and more. While you're earning your degree, we'll be there to support you every step of the way!



A focus on career readiness

Becoming an occupational therapy assistant can be a pathway to an immense sense of personal and professional fulfillment — that's why, at Goodwin University, we are committed to preparing you for success in your career. You'll learn from expert faculty who are all working clinicians with years of experience in the field, meaning you'll walk away with a comprehensive understanding of the functional activities and therapeutic models you'll use every day.

Curriculum

Non- Major Core Requirements - 6 Credits		
HSC 105	Medical Terminology	3
PSY 212	Lifespan Development	3
General Education Core - 22 Credits		
ENG 101	English Composition	3
ENG 1XX	English Elective	3
MATH 1XX	Mathematics (MATH)	3
CAP 115	Learning and Working Through Digital Technologies	3
BIO 120	Human Biology	4
PSY 112	Introduction to Psychology	3
	Humanities (HIS, PHIL, SPAN, HUM)	3
Occupational Therapy Assistant Major Core - 36 credits		
SEMESTER ONE		
OTA 100	Occupational Therapy Foundations and Fieldwork IA	3
OTA 101	Foundations of Movement and Function	3
OTA 105	Foundations of Behavioral Health in OTA	1
SEMESTER TWO		
OTA 214	Principles of Adult Populations and the Occupational Therapy Assistant	4
OTA 215	Principles of Pediatric Populations and the Occupational Therapy Assistant	4
SEMESTER THREE		
OTA 216	Principles of Geriatric Populations and the Occupational Therapy Assistant	4
OTA 217	Principles of Group Dynamics in OTA	2
OTA 218	Case Studies Across the Lifespan with FW1B	4
SEMESTER FOUR		
OTA 220	Occupational Therapy Assistant Seminar	1
OTA 250	Advanced Fieldwork Level IIA	5
OTA 260	Advanced Fieldwork Level IIB	5

TOTAL CREDITS IN PROGRAM: 64

Course format

We know that you're busy — that's why we offer flexible class schedules. Classes are offered in the evenings, so you can work full-time or manage your personal responsibilities while earning your degree. All fieldwork and internships are offered during the day, with select Saturday options available.

As an occupational therapy assistant, you'll be responsible for rehabilitating patients and restoring their quality of life to the best of your ability. We combine traditional classroom learning with hands-on clinical experiences that will shape you into a knowledgeable, well-trained healthcare professional. For this reason, most classes are held on-campus, while some are available in a hybrid format.

- **On-campus classes**

When you're earning your Occupational Therapy Assistant degree, it's important that you participate in on-campus class sessions, as well as immersive clinical practices to gain experience caring for clients before you enter the field. You'll work under the guidance of our expert faculty and exchange knowledge with your peers to understand the real-world applications of your learning. In a field that relies so heavily on your ability to demonstrate compassion while executing hands-on therapy skills, having the in-person classroom experience is critical.

- **Hybrid classes**

Many students enjoy our hybrid class format, which offers the best of both worlds — both online assignments and on-campus responsibilities. This will allow you to make time for your personal responsibilities while still working toward your degree.



Testimonials



“At Goodwin, each class is small, which allows you to get to know your classmates and professors on a professional and personal level. Everyone is extremely passionate about the OT field and is always willing to help one another. The educators gave constant support and guidance throughout the program and afterward while looking for jobs. The clinical knowledge and skills that the OTA program provided allow students to excel in the field. Goodwin has gone above and beyond to help me become the best clinician I can be.”

Stephanie Dise, Student



“From the first time you interact with the instructors, you can tell they are fully invested in making sure students grow into the best OTAs they can be. Goodwin professors genuinely have all of the students’ best interests in mind, and that experience is something I will never forget. In no time, I felt like I was part of a family amongst my peers and professors — not just a cohort, and I cannot emphasize that enough.”

Patrick Waszczak, Student



“I have grown so much since starting the OTA program. My experiences with the professors at Goodwin have been nothing short of amazing! The hands-on approach that the program provides is invaluable to the learning experience. All of the professors take the time to ensure that you understand the material, take that knowledge, and apply it to real-life situations.

Before this program, I was a stay-at-home mom, wondering what I would do with my life. Now, I am leaving this program with more confidence in myself and a solid foundation to guide me in my career as an OTA.”

Kiia Silverstrim, Student

Student resources and support

At Goodwin University, we are invested in the continued success of our students. We believe that you deserve great support services and resources to help you achieve your goals!

Academic Resources

- Academic Advising
- Admissions
- Financial Aid
- Registrar’s Office

Academic Support

- Academic Success Center
- Library
- Math Lab
- Tutoring

College Experience

- Clubs and Organizations
- Student Engagement

Personal Support Services

- AccessAbility Services
- Ann B. Clark Co-op
- Counseling

Professional Development

- Lifetime Career Services

Financial Aid information

Paying for college doesn’t have to be stressful — we make it easy to understand the costs of your education before classes even begin.

We are committed to helping you earn your degree at a cost that is affordable to you. At Goodwin, there are a variety of financial aid opportunities available to you, including scholarships, grants, student loans that need to be repaid, and work-study opportunities that provide a regular paycheck.

Check out our [financial aid page](#) to find out how Goodwin University can help you pay for your education.



Contact us today!

Call: 800-889-3282

Text: 860-467-1511

www.goodwin.edu/ota

Goodwin University is a nonprofit institution of higher education and is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE), formerly known as the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is accredited by the **Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE)** of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200, North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929. ACOTE's telephone number, c/o AOTA, is (301) 652-AOTA, and its web address is www.acoteonline.org.

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