

MOT Mission Statement

To fulfill the Tennessee State University mission of “promoting life-long learning, scholarly inquiry, and a commitment to the service of others” the mission of the Occupational Therapy Program is to produce competent, ethical generalist practitioners. Graduates will be prepared to serve the community through the use of evidence-based, client-centered, occupation-based service in existing and emerging practice settings.

TSU MOT Program Philosophy

The occupational therapy program at TSU recognizes occupation to be a personal goal-directed use of time, energy, interest, and attention; and assumes that occupation is best analyzed by examining the activities in which people engage. It is believed that activities are of a changing nature not only throughout the lifespan of each individual, but also through time as the needs, interests and goals of our society change and progress. The program further recognizes that each person's capacity to compensate for lost or underdeveloped abilities is unique. Health is not absolute, but depends on an individual's cultural group, environment, and personal needs and choices. A unique role of occupational therapy lies in its capacity to integrate biopsychosocial and technological components within its view of health and to analyze the factors which influence an individual's performance of work, educational, leisure, and play activities; social participation; instrumental activities of daily living; and personal/basic activities of daily living. Student learning experiences will be structured in the curriculum with respect to ongoing development of individuals across the lifespan. The faculty, in the Department of Occupational Therapy, believes that every person has value. We emphasize the right of each individual to make choices and to determine personal goals. We further believe that in a helping relationship, active participation from the recipient is essential. This belief in active participation applies to both clients and students. Consequently, students shall be responsible for contributing to the structure and content of their learning experiences. The faculty is committed to helping students develop problem solving skills by supporting risk taking and encouraging interactive learning, develop an appetite for life-long learning; become grounded in occupational therapy theory, history, and philosophy upon which the profession was built;

demonstrate professionalism and act in compliance with the Code of Ethics (2020); and provide excellent client services. This includes the use of evidence-based practice and collaborative communication with the client, to achieve the desired outcome of engagement in occupation. Students will be expected to examine their own attitudes, values, and personal characteristics as a model for assessing the needs of others.