Degree programmes in Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapy BSc
Choosing to study Occupational Therapy at Brunel is a commitment to working with the NHS and demonstrating its values and beliefs.

The NHS funds most Occupational Therapy undergraduate students at Brunel and the vast majority of our graduates take up posts in the NHS.

We aim to combine a thorough professional education with academic excellence. Our department has a fantastic record of research, innovation and publication which is reflected in the quality and relevance of the teaching you’ll experience.

If you are committed to improving lives through occupational therapy in the spirit of the NHS we’re very much looking forward to meeting you.

Professor Priscilla Harries
Head of Department
Clinical Sciences

Welcome

The qualifications you need

**Occupational Therapy BSc**

**B920**
3 Years (FT)

Brunel University London Code
**B84 BRUNL**

Apply online at [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

You will need one of the following:

- **GCE A-level** BBB including Grade B in Biology, Human Biology, Psychology, Health and Social Care or Sociology (General Studies not accepted).
- **BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma** D*DD in Health and Social Care.
- **IB Diploma** 30 points including Grade 5 in Higher Level Biology, Human Biology, Psychology or Sociology.
- **Access to Higher Education Diploma** Complete and pass a related subject Access course with 45 credits at Level 3 with Merits in all units.

You will also need **GCSE Maths and English** at grade C or above.

A satisfactory health declaration and **Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)** check will also be required.

**Mature students**

If you are a mature student your application will be looked at on its individual merits, together with your relevant work experience and recent academic achievement. You’ll also need GCSE Grade C or higher in both English and Maths.

This information was correct as we went to print but it’s always a good idea to check the website [www.brunel.ac.uk/courses](http://www.brunel.ac.uk/courses) for updates and specific entry criteria.
Why choose Occupational Therapy?

**Health and social care has become one of the most hotly discussed and debated issues of our time.**

Whether you look at it from a biological, psychological, sociological, philosophical, political, environmental or cultural perspective it affects each of us as individuals, and as members of families, communities and society as a whole.

Students are drawn to study occupational therapy for many reasons, but the challenge and reward of improving an individual’s quality of life is what tends to matter to most. It’s also a varied job with a holistic approach, and is highly valued in health settings. As well as being soundly scientifically grounded, occupational therapy gives you the opportunity to be creative in your approach to solutions.

Why choose Occupational Therapy at Brunel?

**Come to Brunel to study and you’ll be taught by our highly respected academic staff in our purpose built, cutting edge Health Studies Centre.**

We have an impressive record of research, innovation and publication. Lecturers’ leading-edge findings feed into our courses making sure the content is up-to-date.

The department has international links and staff from other countries often lecture on the programme. Some students undertake part of their studies overseas.

We also have close connections with our colleagues in the NHS, social services and voluntary organisations around London, which means you benefit from excellent research and practical placements.

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**Profile**

Maxine Tachon
Occupational Therapy BSc

“For my practice placement, I spent eight weeks on an Acute Neurosurgical ward, working with adults who had undergone complex brain or spinal surgery.

What I enjoyed most about my practice placement was the holistic view they took with their patients, the close multidisciplinary team collaboration, the high quality and on-going education they provide to the therapy team and their emphasis on evidence-based decision making. No one day was the same, the environment was fast-paced with masses of variety.”
Our students work in a wide range of occupational therapy settings, ranging from Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital to Ealing Council Social Care.
At Brunel, you have the option to live and study on our walk-anywhere campus.

Our students use purpose built rooms which mirror the clinical environment, including a specialist kitchen, arts room and gym.
What we teach

The course has three central themes:

**Occupation** - concepts including occupation, occupational therapy and occupational science; productivity, self-care and leisure; theories and models that inform occupational therapy; planning effective intervention; and managing the occupational therapy process to address clients' occupational performance needs. Human biology (anatomy and physiology) and psychology (how illness or chronic disease can affect a person's ability to carry out daily activities) are included.

**Enquiry** - skills including methods of obtaining evidence and assessing its value; understanding the research process and the ability to gather data; critically evaluating professional evidence and applying it; producing research proposals and evaluating the impact of service provision.

**Professional Performance** - helping you achieve your goals through understanding and using a range of occupational therapy procedures; learning professional language and terminology; demonstrating clinical reasoning; demonstrating client-centred practice; identifying change events and understanding their impact on practice; and justifying interventions based on theory, evidence and resource.

This is a taste of what you can expect:

**Level one (year one)**
- Knowledge and Skills for Occupational Therapy
- Human Sciences
- Personal and Academic Development
- Preparation for Level 2 Studies
- Professional Development
- Practice Placement I

**Level two (year two)**
- The Effective Practitioner
- Theory of Occupation
- Occupations for Health and Wellbeing
- Evidence-Based Occupational Therapy
- Practice Placement 2
- Practice Placement 3

**Level three (year three)**
- Continuing Professional Development
- Occupational Therapy Provision and Service Development
- Research Methods
- Research in Occupational Therapy
- Professional Practice
- Practice Placement 4

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this brochure and the University will take all reasonable action to deliver courses and services in accordance with the descriptions set out in it.
How we teach

The course integrates theory with practice. Periods of campus-based study will prepare you for your practice placements - then the information and experience you gain on placements will provide much of the case study material used in your study back on campus.

Practical skills are taught in our state of the art Keep Living Suite where you’ll learn about the use of special equipment such as wheelchairs, hoists and walking aids and designing adaptations to living environments. You will also study the principles and management of therapeutic activity groups, and train in interviewing and communication skills. You will develop skills in creative, vocational and recreational activities too, and consider their use in treatment.

Our aim is to help you become a qualified, competent occupational therapist equipped for lifelong, safe and effective practice in any health or social care setting.

Getting ready for work

During your time with us you’ll go on 28 weeks of practice placement. Together with your academic studies this creates a strong foundation for your therapeutic career.

In your final year the Professional Practice module covers essential areas such as continuing professional development, preparing for interviews and developing a personal statement designed to help you make strong job applications.

An Occupational Therapy BSc enables you to work in many areas including physical rehabilitation, mental health settings, with children in schools or clinics and with people with learning disabilities. You might be based at a hospital or with a community reablement team.

Occupational therapy has developed rapidly over the past decade and as well as opportunities to work in the health and social care sector with people of all ages and all types of disability, there has also been rapid growth in the voluntary sector, private practice, schools, prisons and industry. Future developments are likely to be in vocational rehabilitation, medico-legal practice, forensic mental health, and health promotion.

Profile

Zoë Thompson
Occupational Therapy BSc

“The Occupational Therapy programme at Brunel provides a great mix of hands-on seminars and practice placements along with lectures by experts in the profession to provide a strong foundation.

Studying this course has enabled me to not only have a good grounding as a future Occupational Therapist, but also in many other areas of my life. Most of all, it has been a lot of hard work and great fun.”

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Useful information

Accommodation
As a first year undergraduate you’re guaranteed a room on campus. We accommodate over 4500 students in five different complexes which creates a fantastic live/study atmosphere.

Flats come in different sizes accommodating from 4 to 16, and 30 of our 33 halls have en-suite facilities. The Isambard complex incorporates studio flats for co-habiting couples. Adapted and disabled rooms are available in the Isambard Complex, Mill Hall and Fleming Hall.

All rooms are fully furnished with bed and bedding, a desk, chest of drawers, wardrobe and free wifi. Accommodation costs vary between £104.00 to £132.50 a week (based on 2014-15 costs).

Find out more at www.brunel.ac.uk/accommodation or take a look at our Flickr account www.flickr.com/photos/accom

Fees and funding
For information about fees and scholarships, go to www.brunel.ac.uk/ugfees

Disability and dyslexia support
We want you to make the most of life at Brunel and fulfill your potential. Please get in touch www.brunel.ac.uk/disability

The best way to get a real feel for Brunel’s buzzing atmosphere is to come visit us, explore our campus and meet our staff and students.

Open days
We run regular Open Days where you can chat with students and lecturers and explore the campus. Check our website for dates www.brunel.ac.uk/openday

Campus tours
We run Campus Tours where our student ambassadors will show you around campus and answer your questions about student life at Brunel. Check our website for dates.

Individual visits
If you can’t make an Open Day, feel free to contact us on openday.booking@brunel.ac.uk and we’ll happily arrange for you to come in and chat with a member of staff.

Getting here
Details on how to find us are online at www.brunel.ac.uk/directions
Explore and connect, any time with us:

/explore
/BrunelUniversity
/bruneluniversity
/BrunelUni
/edu/brunel
university
london-12575

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this brochure and the University will take all reasonable action to deliver courses and services in accordance with the descriptions set out in it. A contract is made at the point when an applicant accepts an offer from Brunel, meeting any conditions, and the acceptance is communicated to Brunel or the clearing system acting for Brunel; and this contract is confirmed. All students are required, as a condition of registration, to abide by and submit to the University’s statutes, ordinances, regulations and rules, which are published on the University’s website (a hard copy is available from the Registry at the Uxbridge address). Note: the information contained within this course brochure is correct at the time of going to print (June 2015).