

# BIOLOGY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY, BA/MS

Students complete the BA in Biology as well as the MS in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) in 5.5 years, which saves a full year of tuition. The combined degree program provides students with the knowledge and skills required for an exceptional career in occupational therapy, while also providing them with a BA in Biology. The MSOT courses are only offered in PLV.

Students are encouraged to declare interest in the combined degree program as early as freshman year to ensure proper course sequencing, preferably before the end of their freshman year, but no later than Fall of their Junior (3<sup>rd</sup>) year in the BA Biology program - the year in which they are eligible to apply for admission into the combined degree program. Applicants must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or greater and be granted acceptance into the program by the MSOT admissions committee.

In their Senior (4<sup>th</sup>) year, students begin to take MSOT courses, of which 14-25 credits will be counted both towards the MSOT degree and towards their undergraduate degree, which is how the combined degree accelerates graduation. In their 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year, students take the remaining MSOT courses. Summer MSOT courses are required after completion of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> years of study.

Students who do not proceed to complete the MSOT program would still be able to graduate with an undergraduate degree, provided they have taken specific research courses in Biology or OTH, or a combination of undergraduate electives and Masters OTH courses that would satisfy the undergraduate degree requirements in terms of completed electives and the required 120 credits. To receive the undergraduate degree, students are also required to pass a comprehensive examination, the Major Field Tests in Biology, that assesses the ability to integrate and synthesize basic concepts in Biology. To take the required exam, students must also register for BIO493.

## Major Completion Summary

Requirement	Credits
University Core	44
Major and MSOT Requirements	57-69
Open Elective	1
Additional Graduate Courses for MS Degree	45-56
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>165</b>

## University Core Requirements (44 Credits)

See complete University Core (<https://catalog.pace.edu/undergraduate/university-core-curriculum/>) requirements.

Note: Various major-required math and science courses, and courses required for MSOT admission (such as ANT101, SOC102, and PSY112), listed below may fulfill foundation, area of knowledge, and/or core requirements. Please consult with an academic advisor.

## Major Requirements (57-69 Credits)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Biology Requirements</b>		
BIO 101	General Biology I	4
BIO 102	General Biology II	4
BIO 210	Ecology	4
BIO 231	Genetics	4
BIO 251	Principles of Human Anatomy	4
BIO 327	Cellular Biochemistry	4
BIO 334	General Physiology	4
BIO 335	Molecular and Cellular Biology (4 credits in PLV, 5 credits in NYC; NYC students must simultaneously take BIO335A.)	0-4
BIO 493	Major Field Test in Biology	0
<b>Additional Courses Required for MSOT Admission</b>		
ANT 101 or SOC 102	Introduction to Anthropology Introduction to Sociology	
PHY 101 or PHY 111	College Physics I (Or PHY 101A and PHY 111B. Or PHY 111A, PHY 111B, and PHY 111R. Requires both lecture and lab.) General Physics I	4
PSY 112	Introduction to Psychology	
PSY 320	Abnormal Psychology I	3
PSY 375	Lifespan Development Psychology	4

## Required Math and Science Courses

CHE 111	General Chemistry I	
CHE 112	General Chemistry II	
CHE 223	Organic Chemistry I	
CHE 224	Organic Chemistry II	
MAT 141	Introductory Statistics for the Life Sciences	

**MSOT Courses Applied Towards the BS degree**

OTH 510	Applied Neuroscience for Occupational Therapy	3
OTH 535	Clinical Reasoning I: Community-based/Mental Health Level I Fieldwork	1
OTH 560	Research Methods in Occupational Therapy	3
OTH 565	Evidence-Based Research in Occupational Therapy	2
Additional MSOT courses		5-16

**Open Electives (1 CREDIT)**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
<b>Open Electives</b>		
UNV 101	First-Year Seminar: Introduction to University Community	1