

Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapy's definition

Occupational therapy is the therapeutic use of occupations of daily living with individuals, groups or populations to enhance or enable participation. Specifically, it promotes independent occupational participation. Occupational therapists consider independence when people carry out activities or occupations on their own, but also when they use adaptations in their environment or different support products, as well as having another person supervise their performance (American et al. Association, 2020).

A little bit of history...

The Diploma in Occupational Therapy was introduced at UMA in 2006, and together with the University of Granada in the 1999-2000 academic year, they are the only two Andalusian universities that currently offer this degree. Subsequently, the 3-year degree was converted into a 4-year degree of 240 ECTS, which was introduced at the University of Malaga in 2009/2010.

Currently, the teaching of the occupational therapy degree is exclusively assigned to the Occupational Therapy Area within the physiotherapy department.

DEGREE IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

The degree in occupational therapy consists of 240 ECTS credits which are distributed as follows in the four years of training:

Subject	Semester	Character	ECTS
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First year

General anatomy	1	BA	6
Human physiology	1	BA	6
Fundamentals of Occupational Therapy	1	OB	6
Human Histology	1	OB	6
Information and Communication Technology Applied to Occupational Therapy	1	OB	6
Special anatomy	2	BA	6
Diet and nutrition	2	OB	6
Statistics	2	BA	6
Applied Social Psychology and Sociology	2	BA	6

Public health	2	BA	6
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Second Year

Surgical and Pediatric Conditions	1	OB	6
Occupational Therapy Activity Analysis	1	OB	6
Ethics and Legislation	1	BA	6
Basic Psychological Processes	1	BA	6
Psychopathology in Mental Health	1	OB	6
Medical and Geriatric Conditions	2	OB	6
Research Methodology in Behavioral Sciences and Health	2	BA	6
Life Cycle Psychology	2	BA	6
Occupational Therapy for Personal Autonomy in Traumatological Disabled	2	OB	6
Occupational Therapy for Personal Autonomy in Mental Health I	2	OB	6

Third Year

Pharmacology	1	OB	6
Practicum I	1	PE	6
Support Products, Ergonomics and Personal Autonomy	1	OB	6
Occupational Therapy for Personal Autonomy in the Neurologically Disabled	1	OB	6
Occupational Therapy for Personal Autonomy in Mental Health II	1	OB	6
Practicum II	2	PE	12
Therapeutic Techniques	2	OB	6
Occupational Therapy for Personal Autonomy in Physical Disability in the Life Cycle	2	OB	6
Occupational Therapy for Personal Autonomy in Mental Health III	2	OB	6

Fourth Year

Management and Administration for Entrepreneurs in Occupational Therapy.	1	OB	6
English Applied to Occupational Therapy	1	OB	6
Practicum III	1	PE	12
Health Psychology Applied to Occupational	1	OB	6

Therapy			
Elective I (1)	2	OP	6
Elective II (2)	2	OP	6
Practicum IV	2	PE	10
Final Degree Project	2	TFG	8

BA=Basic

OB=Mandatory

PE=External Practices

TFG=End of Degree Project

Below is a list of optional subjects that can be taken

Name Subject	ECTS
Communication and Health	6
Basic Patient Care	6
Social Skills and Interpersonal Relations in Health Professionals	6
Psychological Intervention in Pain and Hospitalization	6
New Technologies in the Health Field	6

The first two courses focus on students obtaining basic knowledge of the fundamental socio-health aspects of this profession. Although there are specific occupational therapy subjects in the first and second years, it is in the third and fourth years that the knowledge and techniques of occupational therapy are studied in depth. The external internships are carried out in different public and private social and health institutions during the third and fourth years under the supervision of an occupational therapist. Finally, in the fourth year, the Final Degree Project is carried out, where students integrate the knowledge of the whole degree oriented towards occupational therapy.

Both classes and practical seminars on the subjects and external internships are held in the mornings and afternoons.