



Department of Occupational Therapy

Policy 13.0. *Student Academic Expectations*

POLICY PURPOSE

To define minimum academic expectations for progression in the Masters of Health Science in Occupational Therapy curriculum.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Department of Occupational Therapy uses the following grading system. OT has established minimum academic expectations for classroom, laboratory, and fieldwork performance.

PROCESS + PROCEDURES

1. Augusta University has established consistent grade designations.

a. A	90-100 %	Grade Point Average: 4.0
b. B	80-89 %	Grade Point Average: 3.0
c. C	70-79 %	Grade Point Average: 2.0
d. D	60-69 %	Grade Point Average: 1.0
e. F	Below 60 %	Grade Point Average: 0.0
2. The Department of Occupational Therapy does not accept any grade below a C (70%) in general coursework and Level I Fieldwork coursework. All exams, labs, assignments, and assessments are expected to achieve a grade of 70% or higher as outlined on the course syllabi.
3. The Department of Occupational Therapy does not accept any grade below a B (80%) in intervention coursework and Level II Fieldwork coursework. All exams, labs, assignments, and assessments are expected to achieve a grade of 80% or higher as outlined on the course syllabi. The intervention courses include the following:
 - a. OTHP 6600 Mental Health and Psychosocial Evaluation & Intervention
 - b. OTHP 6602 Older Adult Evaluation & Intervention
 - c. OTHP 6606 Adult Evaluation and Intervention
 - d. OTHP 6604 Pediatric Evaluation and Intervention
 - e. OTHP 6854 School Systems
 - f. OTHP 6609 Community, Societal, and Population Models of Practice
 The Level II Fieldwork courses include the following:
 - g. OTHP 7009 FW Experience A
 - h. OTHP 7010 FW Experience B
4. If a student fails to meet the minimum expectations for any OTHP course exam, lab, assignment or assessment, the course faculty will provide a one time, comparable remediation to demonstrate competency on the specific exam, lab, assignment, or



- assessment. The student will be expected to achieve 70% competency for general coursework and an 80% competency for intervention coursework on repeated academic experience in order to progress in the curriculum and ensure competency with content moving forward. The original assignment grade will be the recorded grade.
5. Failure to meet minimum academic expectations in general, intervention, and fieldwork coursework could result in a delay in course and fieldwork completion and a delay in graduation.
 6. All academic courses must be completed with a minimum 70% final grade for general coursework and a minimum 80% final grade for intervention coursework prior to a student attending Level II Fieldworks, with the exception of OTHP6710 which occurs concurrently with Level II B Fieldwork experience.
 7. Given the unique nature of Fieldwork involving patient care experiences, the site and Academic Fieldwork Coordinator may remove a student from a Level I or II fieldwork experience immediately, resulting in a failing course grade. This would be due to serious actions or behaviors that directly impact the safety, privacy, dignity, or confidentiality of patients in the setting. A Departmental remediation must be completed prior to the student being able to go on a future fieldwork placement. For behaviors that are less serious, a learning contract may be developed during the fieldwork to support the student being successful in continuing on fieldwork if the site agrees to a learning contract. If a student fails to meet the minimum expectations for any Level I or Level II fieldwork course, after the implementation of a learning contract to support the student, the student will be required to withdraw from the fieldwork experience. A Departmental remediation must be completed prior to the student being able to go on a future fieldwork placement. Students may only have one withdraw from Level I or Level II Fieldwork. Failure to achieve the minimum academic expectation, including a withdraw, on fieldwork will be reviewed by a Departmental Review Committee for eligibility to progress in the program. Withdraw or failure in fieldwork will impact progression of future fieldwork placements and may impact progression in the curriculum.
 8. Participation requirements are graded by faculty and serve as a professional requirement in all courses. The lack of professional participation could result in course failure for not meeting course and professional expectations. Students will be warned about lack of participation, the warning will be documented, and if the student needs faculty assistance, it is the student's responsibility to discuss learning needs with the faculty member.
 9. Academic Probation Criteria: If the student's cumulative program GPA falls below 2.8, the student is placed on probation for one semester. The student will be notified, in email communication, by the Chair. The student is expected to improve the cumulative program GPA to the 2.8 level or above after one semester. If the student fails to meet the GPA expectation, the student will be referred to a Departmental Review Committee for recommendation regarding progression.



10. Student Failure of a course or Withdraw from a course: A student, if not successful (70% competency with general courses and Level I Fieldworks, 80% competency for intervention course and Level II Fieldworks) or electing to withdraw from a course, will need to repeat such course(s) before qualifying for graduation. When this occurs, determination will be made if the student may progress in the curriculum or if the student will have to wait to progress until the course is completed satisfactorily (70% competency for general courses and Level I Fieldworks, 80% competency for intervention courses and Level II Fieldworks). This determination will be done on a case by case basis. The student will be referred to a Departmental Review Committee for recommendation regarding progression. The student will have one chance to repeat a failed or withdrawn course.
11. Academic Suspension Criteria: The Department of OT may recommend a student for suspension if the student is unable to achieve the required performance levels after first attempt (70% competency for general courses and Level I Fieldworks, 80% competency for intervention courses and Level II Fieldworks) for academic, laboratory, fieldwork performance or professional behavior. The period of suspension is for up to one year. The student will be referred to a Departmental Review Committee to determine if Academic Suspension is the appropriate recommendation regarding progression.
12. Academic Dismissal Criteria: The Department of OT will recommend the student be dismissed from the Program if academic, laboratory, fieldwork, or professional behavior expectations are not realized after two courses are below the Departmental academic expectations outlined above or after second attempt is not successful. An academic withdraw from a course is considered a first attempt of a course, regardless of if the withdraw is a 'withdraw' or a 'withdraw fail'. The student will be referred to a Departmental Review Committee to determine if Academic Dismissal is the appropriate recommendation regarding progression.
13. Students may also be placed on a leave of absence for personal or health issues. The student will be referred to a Departmental Review Committee for recommendation regarding progression.
14. Academic Sanction Appeal: The student may appeal the above sanctions to the CAHS Dean according to CAHS Policy. There is no appeal of passing grades (University System of Georgia Policy).

Policy No.	13.0
Policy Owner:	AU Department of Occupational Therapy
Originally Issued:	July 2017
Approved:	March 2019



Last Revision:	March 2019
Last Review:	January 2020
Location:	AUOT Website / Current Students

ACOTE STANDARD

A.3.5 Criteria for successful completion of each segment of the educational program and for graduation must be given in advance to each student.

A.4.9 Policies and procedures for student probation, suspension, and dismissal must be published and made known.