



**BOSTON UNIVERSITY**  
**Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT)**  
<http://www.bu.edu/sargent/>



Wendy Coster, PhD  
Chair, OT Dept  
Recipient, Eleanor Clark Slagle Award

**Welcome!** We are delighted that you are considering the occupational therapy program at Boston University (BU) College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences: Sargent College. At Boston University, our mission is to prepare people who are going to be leaders. Our role is to prepare students who can think and problem solve creatively, not just meet the expectations that exist now, but to envision where things might go in the future and be a positive part of making that happen. We don't know what occupational therapy practice will look like in ten years, but we don't want our graduates to sit and wait to find out. We want them to shape the future.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences: Sargent College

<http://www.bu.edu/sargent/>

Admissions Office: [sargrad@bu.edu](mailto:sargrad@bu.edu), 617-353-2713

OT Office: [OT@bu.edu](mailto:OT@bu.edu) (email preferred) 617-353-2729



Boston University's graduate program in Occupational Therapy was tied for **#1** in the 2008 ranking by [U.S. News & World Report's](#) Best Graduate Schools.

**An ADVANTAGE to ENTERING the PROFESSION  
at BOSTON UNIVERSITY**

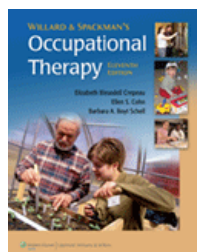
Students attending Boston University (BU) College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences: Sargent College's Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) program study with outstanding faculty who have helped shape occupational therapy practice and contributed significantly to occupational therapy scholarship and research. The BU faculty are known among occupational therapists and the health care community throughout the United States and internationally, and they bring a unique perspective to the education of students in our programs.

Students in our program are well informed about and involved in larger issues affecting occupational therapy and health care. As past-president of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), faculty member **Dr Karen Jacobs** <http://people.bu.edu/kjacobs/> is highly knowledgeable about how national policy decisions may affect the occupational therapy profession, and how practitioners may work effectively to advance important health care initiatives. **Prof Nancy Lowenstein** <http://people.bu.edu/nlowe/> currently

serves on the Board of Registration for Allied Health Professions for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Boston University faculty member **Dr Ellen Cohn** <http://people.bu.edu/ecohn/> is coeditor of the most widely-used OT textbook: *Willard and Spackman's Occupational Therapy*. This text provides students and practitioners with the most

current presentation of occupational therapy concepts and practice.



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Updated Mar2010

**Dr Wendy Coster**, Chair of the OT Dept <http://people.bu.edu/wjcoster/> is the recipient of the Eleanor Clarke Slagle Lectureship award, the highest honor given by the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). The Slagle award is given annually to a leader in occupational therapy who has made a significant and long-standing contribution to the development of knowledge of the profession through research, education, and/or clinical practice.

Our program emphasizes the importance of using scientific findings to guide clinical decisions. Students in the Boston University MSOT program take 3 evidence-based practice courses (OT520, OT620, and OT621) to learn how to apply the critical thinking and research skills needed for evidence-based practice.

Boston University faculty are actively engaged in research and scholarship to further build and apply the knowledge base of OT. As faculty share their expertise in classes, MSOT students benefit from hearing about cutting edge developments in theory and practice. Interested students can participate in these activities directly as research assistants, by registering for an independent study with the faculty, or by undertaking an optional thesis or practicum project. Recently students have assisted in studies of parent-child interaction during daily activities and of intervention for persons with Parkinson's Disease.

Innovative clinical learning experiences (Level I Fieldwork) are woven through all Boston University courses in the educational program. Many of these experiences involve students in non-medical settings reflecting the shift in OT to community-based practice (see Fieldwork section on page 4 for more details).

#### **NCBOT Success Rate:**

Over the past 3 years (January 2007-December 2009), our graduates have achieved an overall pass rate of 95.3% on the [NBCOT's](#) National Certification Exam in Occupational Therapy.

Year	Number of program graduates*	Number of first time test takers*	Number of first-time test takers who passed the exam	Percentage of first time test takers who passed the exam.
2007	40	39	39	100%
2008	42	42	40	95.2%
2009	47	47	43	91.5%
Total 3 Year	129	128	122	95.3%

\* Because the calendar year of a student's official graduation may differ from the year in which the exam was taken, these two categories do not overlap 100%.

Over 90% of our graduates seeking employment last year had jobs within 3 months after completing the program. Boston University graduates consistently rate themselves as very well prepared for practice, and many have taken on leadership roles in practice and education.

#### **Boston University Campus:**

The Boston University Charles River campus is located in a convenient setting in the heart of the city near Kenmore Square. We are easily accessible by public transportation, and can draw on the city's extensive network of health, social service, and education facilities for student clinical training experiences. BU Sargent College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences is a small inter-disciplinary, health-focused college that is self-contained but can draw on the extensive resources of Boston University. Please visit <http://www.bu.edu/infocenter/> for facts about BU.



## **BOSTON UNIVERSITY MSOT PROGRAM and CURRICULUM**

Boston University (BU) College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences: Sargent College's MSOT program is an entry-level master's degree curriculum that prepares graduates with baccalaureate degrees in other disciplines to become occupational therapists. The entry-level MSOT program is designed for students who do not have an OT undergraduate degree.

The MSOT program includes two years of academic work plus 24 weeks of internship (OT593/594 Level II Fieldwork), is full-time, and consists of primarily day-time, weekday classes with some evening labs. Our program begins in the Fall semester, and courses are sequential and build upon preceding courses;

therefore, we offer no options for spring entrance into the program. There are no summer courses.

New incoming 2-year MSOT students join students already in our 5-year BS/MSOT program, which is an accelerated professional preparation program.

#### BU SARGENT COLLEGE GRADUATE BULLETIN:

For full details on the MSOT curriculum, degree requirements, course descriptions, etc, please review Boston University (BU) College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences: Sargent College's Graduate Bulletin <http://www.bu.edu/bulletins/sar/> (look under "Occupational Therapy"). For a printed copy of the bulletin, please visit <http://www.bu.edu/sargent/admissions/get-more-information/>.

#### UP-TO-DATE MSOT CURRICULUM:

The MSOT curriculum reflects the commitment of the Boston University occupational therapy faculty to high-quality, rigorous, up-to-date preparation for practice. The Boston University MSOT curriculum is designed to provide integrated preparation for diverse professional roles as an occupational therapy practitioner in traditional settings as well as in areas of newly identified need. The Boston University MSOT curriculum follows a development sequence that integrates academic courses and clinical learning experiences (Level I Fieldwork) throughout the program. Three organizing threads guide all instruction: a clear focus on occupation, a commitment to client-centered practice, and a belief that clinical reasoning must be guided by the best scientific evidence available. Special features of the program include:

- A curriculum organized around a life-course perspective rather than one taught by traditional divisions of diagnosis (mental health, physical disabilities) or age group (pediatrics, geriatrics).
- Extensive use of case examples, which are followed across the life-course and guide the introduction of assessment, intervention, and systems issues as they would typically occur in relation to each phase of the life-course.
- Extended Level I Fieldwork (LIFW) experience each semester that enable students to gain experience in a wide range of practice settings and client populations. Students participate in a series of four Integrative Seminars that link coursework with LIFW experiences in a variety of settings.
- The opportunity to participate with program faculty in a variety of national and international professional activities or to gain experience in active research programs.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY MSOT Curriculum (Fixed Sequence)		
For course descriptions, visit <a href="http://www.bu.edu/search/coursedescriptions/">http://www.bu.edu/search/coursedescriptions/</a> .		
MSOT-1 Year	<b>MSOT-1 First Semester (Fall):</b> SAR-OT500 Integrative Seminar 1 & LIFW (2cr) SAR-OT513 Analysis & Adaptation of Occupation (4cr) SAR-OT520 Evidence-Based OT Practice 1 (2cr) SAR-OT526 Functional Movement Analysis (4cr) SAR-OT529 Occupation Across the Life Course (4cr) SAR-OT589 Orientation to Practice (0cr) <i>Gross Human Anatomy is now a prerequisite</i>	<b>MSOT-1 Second Semester (Spring):</b> SAR-HS582 Neuroanatomy (4cr) SAR-OT501 Integrative Seminar 2 & LIFW (2cr) SAR-OT524 Introduction to the OT Process (4cr) SAR-OT562 Learning and Behavior Change (4cr) SAR-OT620 Evidence-Based OT Practice 2 (2cr)
	<b>MSOT-2 First Semester (Fall):</b> SAR-OT502 Integrative Seminar 3 & LIFW (4cr) SAR-OT538 Assistive Technology (2cr) SAR-OT563 Context and Occupational Performance (4cr) SAR-OT564 Skills for Occupation Based Practice I (4cr) SAR-OT621 Evidence-Based OT Practice 3 (2cr) <i>Optional:</i> SAR-OT904 Thesis Proposal (2cr)	<b>MSOT-2 Second Semester (Spring):</b> SAR-HP650 Health Care Management (4cr) SAR-OT530 Occupation-Based Practice with Groups (integrative seminar) (4cr) SAR-OT565 Skills for Occupation Based Practice 2 (4cr) SAR-OT566 Client Factors and Occupational Performance (2cr) SAR-OT590 Level II Field Exp Seminar & Fee (0cr) XXX-500+ Graduate Electives (2-4cr) or SAR-HP905 Thesis Directed Research (4cr)

<b>LIIFW</b>	<p><b>Level II Fieldwork:</b> No student may start LIIFW until all academic course work (including optional thesis) has been completed, a minimum "C" grade is earned in all required professional courses, and the minimum 3.0 MSOT GPA is achieved. Students must complete LIIFW within 24 months of finishing didactic portion of MSOT program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SAR-OT593 Level II Field Experience I (<i>Ocr</i>)</li> <li>• SAR-OT594 Level II Field Experience II (<i>Ocr</i>)</li> <li>• SAR-OT595 Level II Elective Field Experience <i>optional via petition</i> (<i>Ocr</i>)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p>Earn Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) after completion of Level II Fieldwork requirements and within 5 years from initial matriculation. A minimum total of 64 graduate/500+ level credits are required for the MSOT degree.</p>

#### SUMMARY OF MSOT DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:

- A minimum grade of "C" in all professional courses (students may not repeat more than 2 courses, and no course may be repeated more than once).
- A minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0.
- A minimum of 64 graduate-level credits.
- Successful completion of 24 weeks of supervised Level II Fieldwork (SAR-OT593/594) within 24 months after finishing didactic work.
- Completion of all requirements within 5 years of initial matriculation.

#### ACCREDITATION:

The Boston University's entry-level Occupational Therapy Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), 4720 Montgomery Lane, PO Box 31220, Bethesda, MD 20824-1220; 301/652-2682 (<http://www.aota.org/>). In 2001, ACOTE awarded BOSTON UNIVERSITY Sargent College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences full reaccreditation for 10 years through academic year 2011/2012.

**Certification:** Graduates of the Boston University MSOT program are eligible to sit for the National Certification Examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (<http://www.nbcot.org/>). Upon successful completion of the exam, the individual will be an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR). Most states require licensure to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination.

**NBCOT Eligibility:** The National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) may disqualify students with felony convictions/charges from becoming certified. The Qualifications Review Committee (QRC) will review the qualifications of examination candidates who have been convicted of or charged with a felony to determine if the circumstances appear to relate directly to the safe, proficient, and/or competent practice of occupational therapy. For students entering an OT program, the QRC may give an early determination for approval to take the certification exam. For more information, contact the NBCOT directly.

**NBCOT Success Rate:** Please see page 2.

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OT Office: [OT@bu.edu](mailto:OT@bu.edu) (email preferred) 617-353-2729



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## CLINICAL LEARNING EXPERIENCES (FIELDWORK) throughout the BOSTON UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM

You may have heard that Boston University (BU) College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences: Sargent College's Occupational Therapy program is "research-oriented". While it is true that many of our faculty are recognized for their research and scholarship, the Boston University MSOT program is strongly clinically-oriented. Participation in Level I Fieldwork (clinical) experiences is an integral part of our curriculum



throughout the academic program. Each semester students participate in a variety of practice experiences to increase exposure to a range of occupational therapy practice approaches and practice settings and to gain beginning practice skills. Students in our program benefit from the rich variety of opportunities accessible by public transportation throughout the greater Boston area. Below is a brief overview of the fieldwork experiences in our program.

### **LEVEL I FIELDWORK (LIFW)**

*Prof Naomi Moran (LIFW Coordinator), <http://people.bu.edu/nmoran>*

Level I Fieldwork introduces students to practice. It is designed to enrich coursework through directed observation and participation in selected aspects of the occupational therapy process. Level I Fieldwork takes a variety of forms. Some of these experiences are part of required coursework while others are supplemental. Below is a brief overview of the LIFW experiences in the Boston University program.

- Integrative Seminar (OT500, 501, 502, 530): This course runs all 4 semesters of the program with each semester building on the previous one, and involves both weekly fieldwork and classroom activities. Students bring their experiences to the Integrative Seminar class for discussion to help make connections between course-based learning and clinical practice. During the final semester of the program, students are actively engaged in providing occupational therapy services to individuals and groups in community settings.
- SAR-OT524 Introduction to the OT Process: Students work with peer partners throughout the semester to get first-hand experience of the occupational therapy assessment and intervention process in a wellness context.
- SAR-OT529 Occupation Across the Life Course: Students interview adults, observe a child/ adolescent in natural contexts, and practice administering interview assessments to understand another person's point of view, the ways in which they construct meaning in their lives, and the influence of occupation on development.

Many other opportunities to gain clinical experience can be arranged for Boston University students, depending on interest and client/community need. In the past, these experiences have ranged from observations in rehabilitation units, hand clinics, early intervention centers, hospice care, homeless shelters, nursing homes, day treatment programs, camps, and schools. Students are encouraged and supported to explore their individual areas of interest.

### **LEVEL II FIELDWORK (LIIFW)**

*Prof Mary Evenson (LIIFW Coordinator), <http://people.bu.edu/mevenson>*

Students begin the Level II Fieldwork (SAR-OT593 and OT594) component of the program after completing the four semesters of academic course work. A minimum of 24 weeks of occupational therapy internship, which are typically completed in two 12-week full-time placements, is required for graduation from the program. Generally, students opt to plan their fieldwork placements to occur in either the Summer & Fall or Fall & Winter. All degree requirements, including fieldwork, must be completed within five years from initial matriculation into the professional program.

- In the MSOT-1 Fall semester (OT589 Orientation to Practice), students are oriented to the fieldwork components of the curriculum. Students complete and submit applications for placements made by the Academic Fieldwork Coordinator at training facilities that have offered to sponsor a student from BU. When possible, Level II fieldwork assignments are completed by the end of the first year of the program. Training must be completed at a facility that has a formal affiliation with the University. The BU program has contracts with approximately 250 such active training sites across the United States.
- In the MSOT-2 Spring semester (OT590 Fieldwork Seminar), students review the LIIFW objectives, fieldwork performance evaluation procedures, and other relevant fieldwork topics.

Level II Fieldwork provides students with an in-depth, supervised experience in delivering occupational therapy services to clients, focusing on the application of meaningful occupation and research, administration, and management of occupational therapy services. It is recommended that each student gain exposure to a variety of clients across the lifespan and to a variety of settings. Exposure to client populations is generally categorized by settings that serve children (pediatrics), adults with mental health/psychiatric needs, and adults with physical disabilities. Examples of the types of fieldwork facilities include: acute care and rehabilitation hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, schools, private practice agencies,

and community agencies (such as early intervention programs). The Fieldwork Coordinator remains in contact with students and training sites, serving as a support for problem-solving, as needed, throughout students' participation in Level II Fieldwork.

## OPPORTUNITIES to WORK CLOSELY with BOSTON UNIVERSITY FACULTY MEMBERS

While some MSOT professional courses involve lectures with 40-45 students, most class time is spent in small (15 students or fewer) seminar, lab, application, or discussion sections. By working closely together, OT faculty and students get to know one another well. Boston University faculty are accessible to students and very open to including students in their ongoing professional activities where possible. As students identify their own areas of special interest, they may choose to work more closely with a particular OT faculty member in their area of expertise. Interested students can participate in these activities directly by working as research/course assistants, registering for an independent study with the faculty, or undertaking an optional thesis project.

## BOSTON UNIVERSITY MSOT ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

### ACADEMIC SERVICES CENTER (ASC) ADMISSIONS OFFICE:

ASC is Boston University Sargent College's headquarter for admissions, financial aid, and certain registrar's office issues. Boston University's policies provide for equal opportunity and affirmative action in admission to all programs of the University.

Academic Services Center (ASC): Graduate Admissions Office  
BOSTON UNIVERSITY College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences: Sargent College  
635 Commonwealth Ave (room SAR207), Boston, MA 02215  
Phone: 617-353-2713, Fax: 617-353-7500, Email: [sargrad@bu.edu](mailto:sargrad@bu.edu),  
Application website: <http://www.bu.edu/sargent/admissions/how-to-apply/>

At this time, we anticipate using the Occupational Therapy Centralized Application Service (OTCAS) for Fall 2011 applications. When more information is available, we will post it on our application website.

### FINANCIAL AID:

For financial aid information, please visit BU Sargent College's Graduate Financial Aid at <http://www.bu.edu/sargent/admissions/costs-loans-scholarships/>. Janet Turner is our Financial Aid Administrator (617/353-7477 or [jmt98@bu.edu](mailto:jmt98@bu.edu)) in the BU Sargent College's ASC Admissions Office.

### APPLICATION TIME FRAME:

- **APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Applicants should gather and submit all required materials to Boston University Sargent College--ASC Graduate Admissions ([sargrad@bu.edu](mailto:sargrad@bu.edu) or 617-353-2713) by **January 15 (earlier deadline for Fall 2011 applications)** for Fall/Sept matriculation. Only *completed* applications with undergraduate transcript(s), GRE scores, OT essay, three reference letters, prerequisite transcripts (prereqs could be pending), and optional healthcare experience list will be forwarded to the MSOT Admissions Committee for review. After the January 15 deadline (please contact the Boston University OT Office at [OT@bu.edu](mailto:OT@bu.edu) or 617/353-2729), applications will be reviewed on a space available basis, and financial aid availability may be limited.
- **APPLICATION REVIEW:** There is no rolling admission. In mid-January, the MSOT Admissions Committee will begin to review *completed* applications and make decisions regarding admissions and scholarships. Acceptance letters are mailed beginning late-January.
- **FALL ENTRANCE ONLY:** The Boston University MSOT program begins in the Fall semester only. Courses are sequential, interwoven, and build upon preceding courses; therefore, we offer no options for spring entrance into the program.

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### ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants should gather and submit all required materials to BU Sargent College of Health & Rehab Sciences' Academic Services Center (Admissions) Office by January 15.

1. **COMPLETION OF A BACCALAUREATE DEGREE WITH A GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF 3.0+.**  
Official transcript(s) showing evidence of completion of (or intention to complete) a baccalaureate degree. Degree should include a minimum of 12 credits in social sciences (no time limit on these credits) and may include history, government, economics, sociology, anthropology, geography, and psychology. The program does not require a particular undergraduate concentration, and we encourage applicants with a diversity of backgrounds. A minimum GPA of 3.0 in undergraduate coursework is suggested. Prerequisite courses taken after completion of a baccalaureate degree are not counted toward the GPA.
2. **GRE SCORES (RECOMMENDED MINIMUM): VERBAL 500+, QUANTITATIVE 500+, AND ANALYTICAL WRITING 4.5+ (ANALYTICAL TAKEN BEFORE OCT 2002: 500+).**  
Official scores on the aptitude portion of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE, <http://www.gre.org/>) General Test should arrive by Jan 15 to Boston University Sargent College of Health & Rehab Sciences (institutional code 3028, dept code 0618). Because our program requires strong critical thinking and writing skills, we use the GREs as one indicator of an applicant's competency in these areas.  
If GRE scores are below our suggested minimum in any area (especially the verbal), we recommend retaking the exam. There are some excellent study guides available to help students prepare for these exams, and sample test questions are posted on <http://www.gre.org/>. There is no limit on the number of times a student is allowed to retake the GREs. We will mix & match, use the highest score from each section, and review each application on an individual basis.
3. **COMPLETED APPLICATION ADDRESSING THE THREE SPECIAL OT ESSAY QUESTIONS.**  
The purpose of section #J. Personal Essay (typed, double-spaced, 3-pages total, one page maximum per question) is to evaluate the applicant's understanding of and commitment to the OT profession, as well as the applicant's thinking process and writing ability.
  - a. Discuss your perception of how occupational therapy contributes to health and well being.
  - b. Discuss how your past education and life experiences led you to choose the profession of occupational therapy.
  - c. Describe a personally meaningful occupation and how your participation in that occupation has influenced you.
4. **THREE (3) LETTERS OF REFERENCE.**
  - a. One must be academic (from course instructor or academic advisor).
  - b. One should be from a supervisor in professional or other work capacity who can address work, service, or other areas of background that may be pertinent to the applicant's qualifications.
  - c. One should be health-care related, if possible.
5. **FIVE PREREQUISITE COURSES COMPLETED PRIOR TO MATRICULATION.**  
Official transcripts indicating completion of the following five (5) prerequisite courses at college level. A minimum grade of "B-" is required, except for Gross Human Anatomy where the minimum required grade is "C".
  - At the time of application, prerequisites may be in progress or pending (eg, planning to take in the summer), but must be completed before starting the MSOT program in September. In these cases, applicants would be accepted conditionally to Boston University.

- All courses must be completed within seven years of matriculation into the MSOT program (otherwise, include a letter explaining how you have kept up-to-date on course materials).
- Courses taken to fulfill prerequisites may be taken at any accredited university or college (including community colleges) and must have a minimum of 3 credit hours.

If you have questions regarding any of the prerequisites or admission requirements, we encourage you to contact the Boston University OT Office in writing ([OT@bu.edu](mailto:OT@bu.edu)). If your question concerns whether a course fulfills a particular requirement, it is most helpful if you submit a photocopy/attachment of the course description from the appropriate college catalog (please allow at least two business weeks for decision). Send this information along with your contact information to:

**MSOT Admissions Committee**

BOSTON UNIVERSITY Sargent College

635 Commonwealth Ave

Boston, MA 02215

Email: [OT@bu.edu](mailto:OT@bu.edu) or Fax: 617/353-2926

If a preapproval or waiver is granted by the MSOT Admissions Committee, you will receive a written confirmation and should include a copy with your MSOT application.

A.	<b>Human Physiology:</b> one course (lab section optional).
B.	<p><b>Gross Human Anatomy</b> (effective Fall 2007): Three options for fulfilling the Gross Human Anatomy prerequisite are itemized below. <b>IMPORTANT INFO:</b> Most Human Anatomy courses with an animal dissection lab are too basic and will NOT fulfill the Gross Human Anatomy requirement (Human Anatomy usually serves as a prerequisite to Gross Human Anatomy). Gross Human Anatomy may have a variety of course titles, but it is a <i>more thorough course with a cadaver lab</i> and often taught in premed or nursing programs. In Gross Human Anatomy, students learn more specific details about each system, with a strong focus on the musculoskeletal system. Students should learn muscle attachments, innervations and actions, as well as muscle palpation. The level of detail in the Gross Human Anatomy course is reflective of what a practitioner in the clinic would need to know in order to effectively evaluate and treat patients.</p> <p>(Students may apply to the Boston University MSOT program prior to completing Gross Human Anatomy with the understanding that this prerequisite be completed successfully before beginning the Fall MSOT courses.)</p> <p><i>Gross option 1 (Boston University course):</i> We strongly recommend enrolling in Gross Human Anatomy (SAR-HS581) at Boston University (course description is as follows: Regional approach to the musculoskeletal, peripheral nervous, and circulatory systems of the human body. Lecture content is reinforced by a study of osteology, prosected cadaver laboratories, and live anatomy palpations). Boston University offers Gross Human Anatomy during Fall, Spring, and Summer session I (May/June). You need to receive a C or better in this course.</p> <p>1a. Visit the Boston University Registrar's Class Schedule at <a href="http://www.bu.edu/reg/">http://www.bu.edu/reg/</a> to search when SAR-HS581 will be held.</p> <p>1b. Download a Registration Form at <a href="http://www.bu.edu/reg/">http://www.bu.edu/reg/</a>, include a note stating that you are registering as a non-degree student (namely, MSOT applicant taking SAR-HS581 as a prerequisite), and submit to Boston University Sargent College's Academic Services Center (635 Commonwealth Ave, room SAR-207, Boston, MA 02215, <a href="mailto:sargrad@bu.edu">sargrad@bu.edu</a> or 617-353-2713) for registration.</p> <p><i>Gross option 2 (course at another college):</i> Enroll in a Gross Human Anatomy course at another college. Please see IMPORTANT INFO (#B above) regarding Gross Human Anatomy. The course should include the following 5 items:</p> <p>2a. Cadaver lab (this can be petitioned to be waived if the course used one of the current cadaver computer programs or other alternatives for learning).</p> <p>2b. Thoroughly covers anatomy of the head, neck, trunk, back, and limbs.</p> <p>2c. Arthrology (study of joints).</p> <p>2d. General knowledge of muscle origin, insertion, action, nerve supply, and blood supply</p> <p>2e. Surface anatomy.</p> <p>You must submit the course syllabus (including course description, objectives, and schedule) for prior approval for this course. If your Gross Human Anatomy course is approved by the</p>



	<p>Boston University MSOT Admissions Committee, you will receive a written confirmation (please include a copy of the approval with your MSOT application). You will need to receive a "C" or better in the approved course. Please submit your Gross Human Anatomy syllabus for review along with your contact information to:</p> <p>MSOT Admissions BOSTON UNIVERSITY Sargent College 635 Commonwealth Ave, SAR-553 Boston, MA 02215 Email: <a href="mailto:OT@bu.edu">OT@bu.edu</a> (email preferred) or Fax: 617-353-2926</p>
	<p><b>Gross option 3 (self-study):</b> This option is available <i>only</i> to students who have been accepted conditionally to the Boston University MSOT program. Complete a Gross Human Anatomy self-study and pass an online competency exam developed by the Boston University Occupational Therapy Dept. To complete the self-study, students must:</p> <p>3a. complete a basic Human Anatomy course (Anatomy and Physiology I &amp; II would fulfill this and the Human Physiology requirement) with a minimum B- grade.</p> <p>3b. receive written confirmation from the OT office to fulfill the Gross Human Anatomy requirement via the self-study option.</p> <p>3c. purchase specific texts and CD-ROM (details will be provided in June).</p> <p>3d. pass an online multiple-choice competency exam in August before matriculation.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> Gross Human Anatomy is a challenging course, and even more challenging online as a self-study. Therefore, if at all possible, we strongly encourage you to complete either option 1 or 2 above. However, we understand there may be circumstances where this is not feasible. Therefore, we are offering option 3. Please know that if you choose option 3, you are accepting additional responsibilities for independent learning that will require extra time and effort.</p>
C.	<p><b>Statistics:</b> one course to include descriptive and inferential statistics, correlation, hypothesis testing, analysis of variance (ANOVA) and introduction to regression analysis. A course in Research Design is also acceptable if it covers the relevant statistics.</p>
D.	<p><b>Abnormal Psychology:</b> one course (courses titled Psychopathology or Psychology of Deviance may be acceptable).</p>
E.	<p><b>Developmental Psychology:</b> one course (courses titled Lifespan Development, Child Development, or Child Psychology may be acceptable; content on child development must be included in the course).</p>

#### 6. HEALTH CARE EXPERIENCES (STRONGLY RECOMMENDED).

We encourage applicants (especially those who are unsure if they want to study occupational therapy or what occupational therapy is) to observe or shadow an occupational therapist. Applicants can arrange an observation by contacting the Occupational Therapy Dept at a local facility. Observations in a population in which you are interested would be helpful (if you are interested in children, try a school setting). If possible, applicants should chat with the occupational therapist to find how what they do.

Include a list (on a separate sheet of paper) describing health care-related experience, including both paid and volunteer work. The health care experiences should show evidence of how the applicant explored occupational therapy and determined it to be an appropriate career choice. The list should include:

- date of experience
- name and type of facility/program
- population, and
- a brief description of involvement.

We highly recommend experiences in at least two different service delivery settings (eg, schools, early intervention program, skilled nursing facility, community health center). One experience should be extended (over several weeks) and one short-term exposure. Although health care experiences are not part of the official admissions' criteria, they provide additional information about a prospective student's experience in the field and basis for choosing to pursue occupational therapy. Such experiences will weigh favorably when making admissions decisions.

## 7. INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

See our section for International Students <http://www.bu.edu/sargent/admissions/costs-loans-scholarships/international-students/> for more details and important additional requirements.

### MSOT APPLICANT STATISTICS:

The admissions process has become less competitive in recent years, attracting students who are truly committed to becoming occupational therapists. The following statistics are for “accepted applicants”:

Boston University MSOT	Fall 2009	Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005	Fall 2004
mean GRE verbal	541	498	491	498	505	504
mean GRE quantitative	643	591	586	592	595	579
mean GRE analytical/essay	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.7
mean GPA	3.5	3.66	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.34
Number of applicants	89	85	66	83	58	66
Matriculated MSOT students *	26	23	24	18	16	21

\* New incoming 2-year MSOT students join students already in our 5-year BS/MSOT program, which is an accelerated professional preparation program. (BS/MSOT students would be your peers having had 2 OT-prefix courses, 3 core curriculum courses in health and rehabilitation sciences, and 18 credits in courses related to human occupation.)

**Essential Skills** <http://www.bu.edu/sargent/files/2009/09/BUessentialfunctions.pdf>:

Full participation in the academic and clinical portions of the occupational therapy programs requires ability to perform a set of essential skills. Applicants who anticipate difficulty performing one or more of these functions because of a disability are encouraged to consult with the Boston University Office of Disability Services <http://www.bu.edu/disability/>.

## BOSTON UNIVERSITY FURTHER QUESTIONS

*If you have any questions, you may find the following Boston University resources helpful.*

### ADMISSIONS QUESTIONS:

- **Academic Services Center (ASC) Admissions Office:** To request an MSOT admissions packet or inquire about the status of your MSOT application, contact:  
ASC Graduate Admissions Office  
BOSTON UNIVERSITY College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences: Sargent College  
635 Commonwealth Ave (room SAR-207), Boston, MA 02215  
Email: [sargrad@bu.edu](mailto:sargrad@bu.edu), Phone: (617) 353-2713, Fax: (617) 353-7500  
Application website: <http://www.bu.edu/sargent/admissions/how-to-apply/>
- **Graduate Financial Aid:**  
Janet Turner, Graduate Financial Aid, BOSTON UNIVERSITY Sargent College  
ASC Admissions Office, room SAR217  
[jmt98@bu.edu](mailto:jmt98@bu.edu) or 617/353-7477,  
<http://www.bu.edu/sargent/admissions/costs-loans-scholarships/>

### OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROGRAM QUESTIONS:

- **MSOT website:** <http://www.bu.edu/sargent/academics/programs/occupational-therapy/master-of-science-in-occupational-therapy/>
- **MSOT degree curriculum and program requirements:** Please review the Boston University Sargent College Graduate Bulletin <http://www.bu.edu/bulletins/sar/> (look under “Occupational Therapy”). To request a printed copy, visit <http://www.bu.edu/sargent/admissions/get-more-information/>.

- **Chat with an MSOT student:** To chat with a current Boston University MSOT student about student life, the application experience, the MSOT curriculum, etc, email [OTTest@bu.edu](mailto:OTTest@bu.edu) (current MSOT students work as test librarians and also serve as student admissions ambassadors). Email only please, as students are in class and cannot take phone calls (September to May only).
- **Pictorial tour of OT rooms at Boston University:** [http://www.bu.edu/sargent/files/2009/09/ot\\_tour.pdf](http://www.bu.edu/sargent/files/2009/09/ot_tour.pdf).
- **Specific OT Program Questions or to RSVP to an Information Session:** please contact Isaac Goldstein in the Boston University OT Office at [OT@bu.edu](mailto:OT@bu.edu) (email preferred) or 617-353-2729.

#### BOSTON UNIVERSITY QUESTIONS:

- **Tuition and Fees:** For tuition rates and fees, visit the Boston University Registrar's website at <http://www.bu.edu/reg/> (pull down under "Registration & Classes") and Sargent College expense budget at <http://www.bu.edu/sargent/admissions/costs-loans-scholarships/tuition-fees-payment/>.
- **Semester Schedule:** For Boston University's academic calendar, visit BU Registrar's website at <http://www.bu.edu/reg/> (pull down under "Important Dates").
- **Boston University Info Center:** For maps and directions, visit <http://www.bu.edu/infocenter/>.
- **Off-Campus Housing:** There are no dormitories available for graduate students. Please visit the Boston University Off-Campus Housing Resources website for information about housing options: <http://www.bu.edu/offcampus/>.
- **BU Electronic Directory:** To look up contact information (phone number, email address, etc) for a Boston University faculty, staff, or student: <http://www.bu.edu/directory/>.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY College of Health & Rehabilitation  
Sciences: Sargent College  
<http://www.bu.edu/sargent/>  
Admissions Office: [sargrad@bu.edu](mailto:sargrad@bu.edu), 617-353-2713  
OT Office: [OT@bu.edu](mailto:OT@bu.edu) (email preferred) 617-353-2729



Boston University's graduate program in Occupational Therapy was tied for **#1** in the 2008 ranking by [U.S. News & World Report's](#) Best Graduate Schools.