

# DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

**Web Site:** <https://twu.edu/occupational-therapy/graduate-programs/doctor-of-philosophy-in-occupational-therapy/>

## Degree Requirements

### Total Semester Credit Hours Required

The Ph.D. degree plan must include a minimum of 90 semester credit hours of master's/doctoral level coursework beyond the bachelor's degree. Coursework that was completed as part of a related master's or doctoral degree may (with approval) be applied to the Ph.D. degree plan (maximum of 45 semester credit hours). TWU Ph.D. coursework (including dissertation) that is included on the Ph.D. degree plan must be completed within 8 years of the first completed course as a TWU Ph.D. student. In addition, at least 50% of the semester credit hours included on the TWU Ph.D. degree plan must be awarded at TWU.

The organized courses are offered in a blended format with both online and face-to-face learning. Face-to-face seminars occur at the beginning and end of each Fall/Spring semester, and once in Summer.

Code	Title	SCHs
<b>Knowledge Base</b>		
OT 6223	Theory and Knowledge Development in Occupational Therapy	3
OT 6243	Learning Designs for Occupational Therapy Knowledge	3
OT 6353	Neuroscience Applications: Occupational Therapy and Adaptation	3
OT 6343	Theory of Occupational Adaptation	3
OT 6333	Occupation in Context	3
<b>Research Tools</b>		
OT 6553	Applied Research Design and Methods	3
OT 6363	Statistical Analysis in Occupational Therapy	3
or PT 6043	Statistical Methods I for the Health Care Professional	
OT 6643	Advanced Qualitative Methods in Occupational Therapy	3
OT 6623	Instrumentation for Measuring Occupational Performance	3
Academic Advisory Committee approved elective in Advanced Quantitative Analysis		3
<b>Electives</b>		<b>6</b>
Select 6 SCH from the following		
OT 6253	Scholarly Writing in Occupational Therapy	
OT 6823	Current Issues and Trends in Occupational Therapy	
OT 6373	Grant Writing in Occupational Therapy	
OT 6433	Teaching Practicum in Occupational Therapy	

OT 6913 Independent Study (Requires Academic Advisory Committee approval. Outside Electives may be included in degree plan under advisement of Research Mentor. Students are encouraged to take advantage of graduate coursework outside of TWU and/or OT to broaden/strengthen his or her program of study.)

Qualifying Examination		
OT 6563	Programmatic Research Planning (Required)	3
Dissertation		
OT 6983	Dissertation (Repeated through semester of successful proposal defense)	3
OT 6993	Dissertation (Repeated through semester of successful final defense)	3
<b>Total SCHs</b>		<b>45</b>

### Pre-dissertation Course Work

The student coordinates all initial enrollment through the Ph.D. coordinator. All Ph.D. degree plans are individualized and are generally finalized during the fall semester of 2nd-year coursework. The student must complete all Research Tool coursework identified on the student's degree plan before the semester in which the student sits for the qualifying exam. The student must complete all coursework identified as a Required Course on the student's degree plan by the close of the semester in which the student sits for the qualifying exam.

### Qualifying Examination

The overall purpose of the Ph.D. qualifying exam is to 1) stimulate the student's synthesis of knowledge, 2) evaluate the student's progress in acquiring necessary knowledge and skills at the Ph.D. level, and 3) evaluate the student's potential to be successful in conducting dissertation level research. Students must satisfactorily complete the qualifying examination before they are eligible to become a doctoral candidate and enroll in dissertation coursework. Students may petition to sit for the examination in the fall or spring semester preceding the exam. The exam is offered twice a year. Dependent on the recommendation of the student's Qualifying Exam Committee the qualifying examination may be repeated once.

### Dissertation Final Examination

Ph.D. candidates must demonstrate successful completion and oral defense of their dissertation research proposal. Dependent on the recommendation of the student's Research Committee, the proposal defense may be repeated once.

Doctoral candidates must demonstrate successful completion and oral defense of their dissertation project. Dependent on the recommendation of the student's Research Committee, the dissertation defense may be repeated once.