



Master of Occupational Therapy Program

General Information for the Incoming MOT Class

Welcome to your new home away from home! We are so happy to have you with us for the next 29 months. We would like you to be as prepared as possible before you begin orientation, so in this document I will make recommendations to help your transition to graduate school as smooth as possible.

General orientation is scheduled for Monday May 21, 2018 and attendance is mandatory. You will be notified by the Office of Student Affairs about the specific starting times and location for the morning events. We have planned MOT orientation, as well as anatomy and physiology preparatory sessions throughout the week. **See the separate orientation week schedule for details.** All classes will begin the **Tuesday, 5/22/2018.**

Dress code:

We generally follow the HPD dress code from the Student Handbook. Please see the separate dress code handout for orientation. The details for the dress code will be discussed in orientation.

Students generally wear eggplant colored scrubs for labs. The scrubs will be available at the NSU Bookstore for purchase or you may purchase online. When in off-campus or special events, khakis or dark pants (no jeans) and MOT polo shirts are worn. Polos are typically sold by the OT student organization. On Tuesday 5/22/2018, you will have the opportunity to order your ID and your lab jackets later in the afternoon. The lab jackets have the college and professional OT logo.

Books:

The official bookstore for the University is Barnes & Noble College Bookstores, near the Alvin Sherman Library and the University Center. The Website is www.nova.edu/bookstore and the bookstore also be reached by phone at 800-509-2665 or 954-262-4750. We encourage you to purchase books online prior to orientation, to be sure that you have books when classes start. Sometimes the bookstore runs out of books during orientation week, so having one in-hand before class starts will insure that you will have the materials that you need at the beginning of class. See the separate booklist.

Be sure that you order each book by the ISBN, not just the title, so that you can be sure that you will be getting the latest edition. In the event that a newer edition to a book is available from the bookstore

than printed on the booklist, please notify the professor so that we may advise you or adjust the list, as necessary.

Technology:

All students must have laptops or tablets for note-taking, searching electronic databases, taking quizzes, or collaborating on projects. The library loans out laptops and iPads, but these are limited in number. Be sure that you have a computer available for your use with word processing and presentation software installed. For online tests, you will be asked to use a lockdown browser. More details to follow.

Physical examinations & immunizations:

You are required to have a physical prior to entering school. Hands-on experiences in health care, educational, and social service settings begin early in the fall. Failure to attend these community outings will affect your grade in the course in which it is required. You cannot start any observations or fieldwork without current physical exam, immunizations, and background checks, and other medical requirements detailed in the Student Handbook. Please see the Dr. Palavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences [orientation](#) webpage for details.

All required information must be uploaded to the Castle Branch website prior to starting classes. Details about online submissions of immunizations and background checks will be emailed from Student Affairs. Please pay attention to the notices that you receive from Castle Branch and respond accordingly, as failure to complete these requirements will prevent you from participating in some class assignments. Castle Branch has online and phone assistance. You must also have a valid and current health insurance card. More details will be coming from Student Affairs.

Resources:

Please be aware that the summer semesters are very intense and rigorous. The material is challenging and requires focus, discipline, organization, and collaboration with other students. The University, HPD library, and Student Affairs have many resources for students to support their learning and to help with their adjustment to this demanding program. These resources will be reviewed during orientation and we encourage you to seek out assistance as needed. Your faculty will also make suggestions to promote your learning during classes, so do not hesitate to ask us.

Working during the program:

Although we discourage students from working during the program, we understand that some students find it necessary at times. There will be no time to work during the first summer, because of the demanding course schedule. Some students do work a little in other semesters, but it is important that students make it clear to their employers that group assignments, Level I fieldwork, volunteer experiences, professional activities, class meetings, adverse weather conditions, and other events may necessitate that you meet with your colleagues, faculty, and administration outside of your regular planned course schedule. To be successful in the MOT program, you must be able to prioritize

completion of all program requirements and the various opportunities that the program, college, and university afford you.

Student Leaders:

We have a team of student ambassadors who will be providing tours around our department, classrooms, library, eating areas, etc. Also, our Student OT Association (SOTA) is preparing a welcome for you during orientation week. Pi Theta Epsilon is another group of outstanding student leaders whom you will meet. We will try to make you feel as comfortable as possible as you become part of the NSU family.

Administrative & Faculty Support:

We have an excellent faculty who will be your mentors and advisors as you proceed through the program. We maintain an open-door policy to students. We will introduce ourselves to you during orientation. You will each be assigned a faculty member as an advisor, who will assist you during the first two years of the program. We will provide you with a complete contact information for faculty and administration during orientation. Here are the important administrative and support contacts in the program:

OT Department Chair (Ft. Lauderdale & Tampa): Dr. Rebecca Estes, Ph.D., OTR/L, CAPS

- **Program Director:** Dr. Rachelle Dorne, Ed.D., OTR/L, CAPS 954-262-1221
- **Academic Fieldwork Coordinator:** Alison Herman, MPH, OTR/L 954-262-1233
- **Administrative Support Coordinator:** Sonica Jean Mary 954-262-1242
- **Doctoral Academic Support Coordinator:** TBD 954-262-1202
- **Fieldwork Support Coordinator:** Laura Hanson 954-262-1635

Please contact the program office at 954-262-1242 or 954-262-1242 if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Dr. Dorne

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