



**COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH
REVISION OF EXISTING DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

Name of program	Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD)
Department or School or College	Occupational Therapy, WCHHS

Contact Person:

Name	Sarah Smidl
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Indicate type(s) of revision:
<input type="checkbox"/> Change in catalog description
<input type="checkbox"/> Change in course requirements
<input type="checkbox"/> Add/modify/delete subarea
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change in total credit hours
<input type="checkbox"/> Delete program
<input type="checkbox"/> Other(s) describe

Consult with SCHEV liaison regarding SCHEV reporting or review	<input type="checkbox"/> not needed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> report as simple modification <input type="checkbox"/> submit proposal for approval as a substantial modification
Consult with SACS liaison regarding SACS reporting or review	<input type="checkbox"/> not needed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> submit letter of notifications <input type="checkbox"/> submit substantive change prospectus



Proposal Description with Rationale: Include the current language and use track changes to indicate proposed changes. Explain why the change is desired.

Radford University requests approval for a modification of its current Post-Professional Occupational Therapy Doctorate (PP-OTD) program. The proposed modified degree program resides in the Waldron College of Health and Human Services, Department of Occupational Therapy. The target start date for the modified program is fall 2021.

Radford University seeks to modify the PP-OTD program by reducing the total credit hours required for the degree program by 6 credit hours and making changes in the courses required in the degree curriculum. The proposed modification will reduce the total credits hours for the degree program from 36 credit hours to 30 credit hours. The proposed program will be a fully online 30-credit, 5- semester PP-OTD for occupational therapists who have previously graduated from an accredited Occupational Therapy Master's degree or bachelor's degree program, and who are licensed occupational therapists in the United States or abroad (those practitioners with the bachelor's degree in occupational therapy must also have a master's degree in a related field). Upon completion, students will be awarded an Occupational Therapy Doctorate degree.

The purpose of the modified degree program is to provide education for practicing occupational therapists who are wishing to advance their current roles and equip them with the knowledge and skills for higher order critical decision-making and to succeed in roles in advanced clinical practice, leadership, and academia. The proposed modifications reflect the current trends, practice demands, and innovations in the discipline of occupational therapy.

The existing PP-OTD program was acquired by Radford University when the Jefferson College of Health Sciences merged into Radford University in July 2019. During the time that this program was offered by Jefferson College of Health Sciences, one cohort of 8 students was admitted in fall 2017, and subsequently graduated in December of 2019. Upon thorough examination of prospective students' inquiries into the PP-OTD program, application trends, a survey of prospective students, as well as the courses, content, and tracks in the existing program, the Department of Occupational Therapy faculty at large, the Department Curriculum Committee, and Department Chair all agreed that a revision to the existing program would be both desirable and beneficial for prospective students, who are already practicing occupational therapists wishing to further their knowledge and skills.

A PP-OTD Workgroup was created and met to identify needs, collect and analyze data, and propose modifications to the existing program over the course of 4 semesters, spanning the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 academic calendar years. The PP-OTD Workgroup investigated PP-OTD programs in the US, and more specifically in Virginia and found that the PP-OTD program at Radford University was 3 to 9 more credits and 1 to 2 semesters longer than the other available PP-OTD programs, and that updates to the curriculum would be required in order to reflect changing trends in practice settings as well as the holistic and dynamic nature of the profession.



Approval/recommendation pathway:

Department Curriculum Committee (if for one discipline)
College Curriculum Committee
College Dean
Academic Course and Program Review
Graduate Affairs Council
Faculty Senate (recommendation)
Provost
SCHEV if required
SACS if required

Instructions:

- Indicate the type of change in the current degree program that is requested. The proposal can include more than one change in a program.
- Consult with the SCHEV liaison to determine if the proposed program revision would require notifying SCHEV of the change or SCHEV approval. The current SCHEV liaison is George Santopietro, Assistant Provost for Academic Operations, gsantopi@radford.edu x5460.
- Consult with the SACS liaison to determine if the proposed program revision would require notifying SACS of the change or SACS approval. The current SACS liaison is Sandra Baker, Director of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Improvement, sbaker10@radford.edu x5792.
- Attach graduate proposal signature page.

Approval/Recommendation Signature Sheet for Graduate Curriculum Proposals

Signature	Title	Date
<i>Judith Jones</i>	Department Curriculum Committee Chair	2/24/21
<i>Sarah Smidt</i>	Department Chair (on behalf of faculty)	2/25/21
<i>Col RA</i>	College Curriculum Committee Chair	3/8/21
<i>K.A.M. Gyo</i>	College Dean	3.8.21
<i>Beyoncé Adams</i>	Graduate College Dean (on behalf of the Graduate Affairs Council)	3/19/21
For new majors and certificates:		
	Library Liaison	
For new or discontinued majors, minors, certificates, concentrations, options or significant changes in program requirements:		
	Faculty Senate President following review by the Faculty Senate	
	Provost and VP for Academic Affairs	
For proposals going to BOV, SCHEV and/or SACSCOC:		
	President	
	Board of Visitors approval date	
	SCHEV approval date	
	SACSCOC approval date	
	Entered into catalog by Graduate College	