

## Academic Programs

### Associate in Science Degree with a Concentration in Pre-Physical Therapy/ Occupational Therapy ( 830)

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The concentration in Pre-Physical Therapy/Occupational Therapy prepares students to transfer to four-year universities to pursue a bachelor's degree in health science, biology, kinesiology, and/or science-related fields.

Physical Therapists improve mobility, relieve pain, and prevent or limit permanent disabilities of individuals due to injury or disease. Physical Therapists work with accident victims as well as individuals who suffer from multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, nerve injuries, burns, amputations, head injuries, fractures, lower back pain, arthritis, and heart disease.

Occupational Therapists assist individuals who have mentally, physically, or emotionally disabling conditions to develop, recover, or maintain daily living and work skills. The goal of occupational therapy is to help individuals have independent, productive, and satisfying lives.

**The associate in science (A.S.) degree is designed to complete the lower-division (freshman and sophomore) portion of a bachelor of science degree in STEM-related majors. As a result, the A.S. degree does not include the entire General Education Core Curriculum. Therefore, students will need to complete MORE general education courses after transfer by completing the GECC curriculum while enrolled at the participating Illinois transfer institution OR fulfilling the general education requirements of their selected non-participating transfer institution.**

#### Transfer Considerations

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**Students who have already chosen the university to which they plan to transfer should consult that institution's catalog or department advisor and an SVCC academic advisor in planning their program.**

1. Foundational prerequisites at all or most programs include human anatomy and physiology (BIO 109 & 110), psychology (PSY 103, 200), statistics (MAT 240), and additional science coursework (BIO 105, CHE 105). In addition, pre-physical therapy includes a sequence in biology, chemistry, and physics. Sociology (SOC 111) is recommended for pre-occupational therapy.

#### Competitive Admissions

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**Since admission is limited and competitive, completing the recommended courses does not by itself guarantee admission.**

Undergraduate admission requirements will vary depending on selected major.

For Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T) OR a professional program (Masters or Doctorate) in occupational therapy, typical admission requirements include:

1. A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution
2. Minimum grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale)
3. Prerequisite courses completed successfully
4. Graduate school entrance exam score (GRE)
5. Observation hours (20-30) within the last five years
6. Program/graduate school application that can require letters of recommendation, professional resume, personal statement, interview

#### Special Considerations

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1. To practice as a physical therapist in the U.S., students typically earn a doctor of physical therapy (D.P.T) degree from an accredited physical therapist education program and pass a state licensure exam. For more information, go to [apta.org](http://apta.org)
2. Some D.P.T programs offer a 3+3 format (3 years of specific undergraduate prerequisite coursework taken prior to advancement into a three-year professional D.P.T program)
3. To practice as an occupational therapist in the U.S., students must successfully complete a master's degree in occupational therapy or a professional doctorate in occupational therapy (O.T.D.) and pass the National

Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy exam. State licensing may also be required. For more information, go to [aota.org](http://aota.org)

4. Clinical experiences are an integral part of the curriculum. A criminal background check, drug screen, first aid and CPR are typical clinical requirements.

### Program Contacts at Sauk Valley Community College

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- Academic Advising 815-835-6354

## Minimum Total Credit Hours - 66 Hours

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### Suggested Program

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#### First Semester - 18 Hours

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- \*\*\*  
BIO105 - Principles of Biology ( 5 Semester Hours)
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CHE105 - General Chemistry I ( 5 Semester Hours)
  - ENG101 - Composition I ( 3 Semester Hours)
  - FYE101 - First Year Experience ( 1 Semester Hours)
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MAT221 - Calc for Bus & Soc Science ( 4 Semester Hours)
- OR**
- MAT203 - Calculus & Analytic Geometry I ( 4 Semester Hours)

#### Second Semester - 17 Hours

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- Humanities 3 Semester hour(s)
- Personal Development 3 Semester hour(s)
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CHE106 - General Chemistry II ( 5 Semester Hours)
- COM131 - Intro to Oral Communication ( 3 Semester Hours)
- ENG103 - Composition II ( 3 Semester Hours)

#### Third Semester - 15 Hours

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- Fine Arts 3 Semester hour(s)
- BIO109 - Human Anatomy & Physiology I ( 4 Semester Hours)
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BIO131 - General Zoology ( 5 Semester Hours)
- PSY103 - Introduction to Psychology ( 3 Semester Hours)

#### Fourth Semester - 16 Hours

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- \*\*\*\*Social/Behavioral Science 3 Semester hour(s)
- Humanities/Fine Arts 3 Semester hour(s) OR major field requirement
- BIO110 - Human Anatomy & Physiology II ( 4 Semester Hours)
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MAT240 - Elementary Statistics ( 3 Semester Hours)
- PSY200 - Human Growth & Development ( 3 Semester Hours)

## Footnotes

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- \*Math requirements may vary depending upon the program and transfer institution.
- \*\*One year of general chemistry (CHE 105 and 106) and one year of general physics (PHY 201 and 202) are usually required for physical therapy majors but not for occupational therapy majors.
- \*\*\*Some institutions require BIO 123 Intro to Botany in addition to BIO 105 and 131.
- \*\*\*\*SOC 111 recommended for occupational therapy.