
Occupational Therapy Doctorate

Information Sheet and Paradigm Residential Certificate in Theology and Health Care (D-THC-R-C) as a part of the Duke Occupational Therapy Doctoral Program (OTD)

What is the Certificate in Theology and Health Care?

The Certificate in Theology and Health Care (C-THC) at Duke Divinity School prepares Duke Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD) students for the contemporary practice of occupational therapy grounded in a robust theological perspective.

What courses do C-THC students take?

The C-THC involves 5 courses beyond the required OTD course work. These include the signature Health Care in Theological Context sequence, as well as the introductory Christian theological sequence “Cultivating Christian Imagination.” Students also take one elective which may be fulfilled through the Divinity School (or OTD, as available). The C-THC courses integrate with two OTD course series: Formation for Service and Capstone.

In addition to courses through the Divinity School, students engage in mentoring and various paraprofessional experiences such as writing and networking seminars, a retreat, and possible conference participation.

How much time do OTD students have to finish the certificate?

OTD students are allowed to take three years to complete the certificate. The certificate is most often awarded at the same time as completion of the OTD degree, though students may be allowed more time past the OTD degree to complete C-THC requirements, if needed. If the student completes the certificate and does not complete the OTD, the certificate will be awarded, as long as all of the C-THC requirements are met.

When and how do students sign up for the C-THC?

The certificate will begin for students matriculated into their first or second year of the OTD program, with the first year being the pathway with the most flexibility. Matriculated OTD

students must apply for the residential C-THC in a separate application to Duke Divinity School by June 15 of their matriculation year. Second year students may qualify if appropriate arrangements can be made with the OTD Fieldwork Office that allow for continuance in the C-THC course work.

OTD students must apply and be admitted into the Residential Certificate in Theology and Health Care (D-THC-R-C) program at Duke Divinity School. The Divinity application fee will be waived. Applicants are required to have received a bachelor's degree (BA or BS) from a four-year college or university accredited by one of the nationally recognized regional accrediting agencies in the United States or hold an equivalent educational credential from another country. In addition to basic biographical information, OTD students will need to provide the following for the application:

- Unofficial transcripts (including the Duke University transcript if applying as a second year student)
- Resume or CV
- 1 recommendation (brief letter of support from OTD/C-THC advisor)
- 1 page essay describing how goals for enrolling as an OTD student in the C-THC program aligns with student's overall vocational goals

Questions or support for the application should be directed to the Divinity Office of Admissions (admissions@div.duke.edu or 919-660-3436)

How much does the C-THC cost?

The [certificate tuition](#) will be offered at a reduced rate (2/3rd of standard C-THC tuition) for OTD students. Divinity tuition is assessed in year one and two of the program in each Fall and Spring term. For students admitted later in the course of their OTD degree or deferring studies for one or more terms, the C-THC tuition will be adjusted in subsequent terms. Financial Aid in the form of scholarships from the Divinity School supporting a portion of C-THC tuition may be available to students enrolled in the C-THC.

Students seeking federal financial aid assistance to cover Divinity tuition charges will continue to work with the School of Medicine Financial Aid Office, as OTD students can only access federal financial aid at the School of Medicine.

Students will pay transcript fees at both the Divinity School and School of Medicine.

What courses and experiences are required?

- Requirements Fulfilled at Duke Divinity School
 - Christian Ethics 761 and 763 (Health Care in Theological Context), a two-semester course sequence focused on the intersection of theology and medicine
 - Christian Studies 705 and 706 (Cultivating Christian Imagination), a two-semester course sequence that combines scripture, history, and theology in a sweeping

- tour of the Christian tradition and the practices of Christian communities
- Presentation of Capstone Project and Experience at the DDS TMC Showcase (typically in mid-late April) or another comparable and mutually agreed upon public venue (e.g., the Conference on Medicine and Religion)
- Requirements Fulfilled in the OTD Program:
 - OTD Formation for Service Courses I – V and OTD Capstone Courses I and II
 - OTD Capstone Experience with at least one learning objective clearly connected to the C-THC
 - Presentation of Capstone project and experience at the OTD Scholarship Week
- Requirement Fulfilled Either at Duke Divinity School or in the OTD Program:
 - One elective course approved for this program

The core courses at Duke Divinity School (Christian Ethics 761, 763 and Christian Studies 705, 706) are all taught in a hybrid format. Each course begins with a one-week residential immersive week, followed by a semester of weekly online instruction. Online instruction will occur during evening hours. Other DDS electives may be residential or hybrid. OTD students will register for Divinity courses within registration windows communicated by Divinity.

Certificate in Theology and Health Care Paradigm for OTD students

Year 1

Fall	Spring	Summer
XTIANETH 761 – Health Care in Theological Context I	XTIANETH 763 – Health Care in Theological Context II	
OTD 506: Formation for Service I	OTD 513: Formation for Service II	OTD 518: Formation for Service III

Year 2

Fall	Spring	Summer
XTIANSTU 705 – Cultivating Christian Imagination I	XTIANSTU 706 – Cultivating Christian Imagination II	
OTD 604: Formation for Service IV	OTD 616: Formation for Service V	
OTD 606: Capstone Project I	OTD 617: Capstone Project II	
	One TMC elective in Divinity or one OTD elective course approved for this partnership	

Year 3

Fall	Spring	Summer

	OTD Capstone Experience	
	Present on Capstone Project and Experience at the DDS TMC Showcase	
	Present on Capstone project and experience at the OTD Scholarship Week	

What are the continuation requirements?

The progress of all students is reviewed at the end of every semester in alignment with SOM and Divinity policies. Student continuation is adjudicated within the policies and procedures for both the OTD and the C-THC, as listed in each school’s Bulletin. The student must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 in Divinity courses. If a student falls below this level, the student may, at the discretion of the academic dean and in consultation with the faculty advisor, be dismissed, placed on an involuntary leave of absence, or asked to participate in a limited program. This may result in a student not completing the certificate. At the end of the second semester the student on limited program who does not attain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 is withdrawn from the certificate. In exceptional cases a student who shows substantial improvement the second semester but does not quite attain a GPA of 2.0 may be given a third semester to do so.

Student progress in the OTD program is also reviewed at the end of each semester by the OTD Promotions Committee. Students who are placed on academic warning may be asked to terminate their participation in the C-THC in order to support their success in the OTD program. There is no refund for courses completed if students are withdrawn from the C-THC.

The student must demonstrate progress in the program by completing courses. A student who has three or more unresolved incompletes or a pattern of multiple withdrawals or leave may, at the discretion of the academic dean, be dismissed, placed on an involuntary leave of absence until the incomplete work is resolved, or asked to participate in a limited program. The certificate must be completed within five years (ten terms).

Faculty Advisor

Dr. Sarah Barton will serve as advisor to OTD students in the C-THC.