

THE REACHER

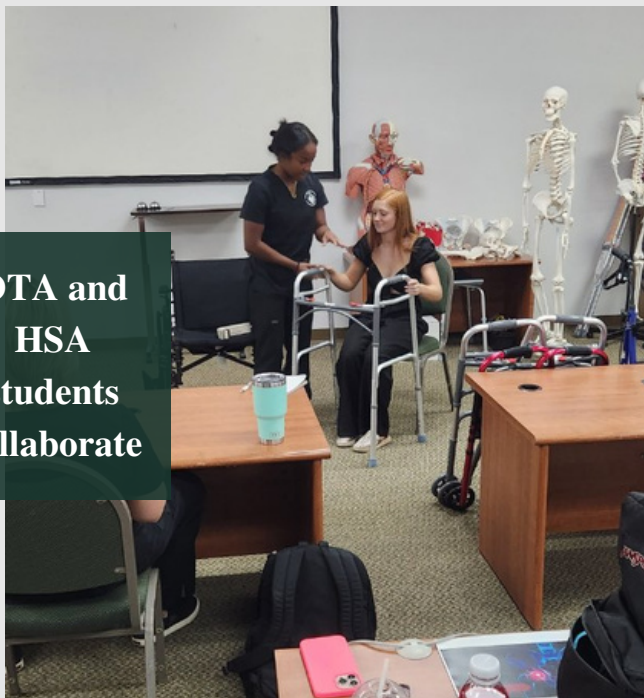
FIRST COHORT OF OTA STUDENTS COMPLETE ORIENTATION

The inaugural class of Occupational Therapy Assistant students (OTA) completed their OTA orientation and were enrolled for their fall 2022 semester courses. The students were excited to begin their journey as the first class in Florida and Webber International University to complete a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy Assistant (BSOTA) with a minor in Health Services Administration (HSA).

During their orientation, the students received their uniforms, and OTA kits and participated in the logo design for the program.



First group of OTA students



OTA and HSA students collaborate

THE OTA AND HSA STUDENTS COLLABORATE TOGETHER

As part of the program and the OTA student interprofessional growth, OTA and HSA students worked together in a transfer activity for the day.

HSA students participated in the activity by portraying the role of patients, while our OTA students demonstrated multiple transfer techniques. The activity was a huge success and allowed the OTA and HSA students to better understand their future professional careers.

The BSOTA program plans to continue this type of interprofessional activity to acclimate our students to the demands of working in facilities with multiple professionals.



(L-R) Bachelors of Science Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Director Dr. Thomas Laster welcomes the inaugural class of Occupational Therapy Assistant students at Webber International University, Samantha Wilson, Natalia Achecar, Adonis Mayorga, Keri Schwarz, and professors Barreto, and Dr. Abuathareh, on the first day of class, Monday, 29 August 2022.

Newest Faculty

Dr. Thomas Laster

Dr. Laster is the new program director for the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy Assistant program with a minor on Health Services Administration. Dr. Laster comes with a long history in occupational therapy and has an extensive experience in higher education and directing multiple programs. He has taught for 44 years in occupational therapy programs around the country and founded five different occupational therapy programs in private schools, outpatient and hospital settings. Dr. Laster graduated with his undergrad and graduate from Indiana University and received his doctorate degree from South University. In his free time, Dr. Laster enjoys scuba, snorkeling, and sports.



Dr. Anita Abuathareh

Dr. Abu earned master degree in occupational therapy from Florida International University, where she was awarded one of the "Worlds Ahead Graduates" for her outstanding performance in 2012. Following graduation, Dr. Abuathareh started her career as an occupational therapist at United Cerebral Palsy where she worked for five years. Following her dream to obtain a higher education, she returned to get a doctoral degree in occupational therapy with an emphasis on education from Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions. Dr. Abuathareh comes to Webber International University to share her ten years of experience and passion for occupational therapy. We are glad to welcome her to the new Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy Assistant program.



28th Oct - Babson Park, FL - OTA students participated in the Webber International University trunk or treat.