MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PROSTHETICS AND ORTHOTICS

The School of Biological Sciences offers a graduate program of study leading to a Master of Science Degree in Prosthetics and Orthotics (MSPO). Similar to a medical education model, the Georgia Tech MSPO program is founded upon organized problem solving and investigative processes within an interdisciplinary clinical environment. The curriculum includes traditional lecture and laboratory courses in clinical pathology, basic sciences, medicine, engineering, and prosthetics and orthotics. These courses are supplemented by unique off campus clinical rotations in which students participate in local hospitals, medical clinics, and prosthetics and orthotics patient care facilities under the guidance of a credentialed preceptor. These applied learning experiences occur in parallel to on-campus hands-on patient physical examination, treatment planning, and orthosis/prosthesis device design and fabrication. Students perform these tasks both off-site in affiliated medical and orthotic/prosthetic facilities as well as on-campus in Georgia Tech's clinical and fabrication facilities, including on campus research laboratories.

The MSPO education program curriculum consists of 48 credit hours over four semesters and covers three themes:

1. Applied physiology and engineering
2. Clinical medicine and prosthetics/orthotics
3. Applied science and research

The curriculum emphasizes clinical applications in which one third involves didactic instruction, one third laboratory design/fabrication and clinical patient interaction and the remaining one third focusing on applied research (i.e., research capstone, research seminars). Students considering the program should visit the program, obtain clinical experiences in local prosthetic/orthotic clinical facilities and should have an academic background that includes prerequisite classes in biology, human anatomy, human physiology, psychology, abnormal psychology or human growth and development, chemistry, calculus-based or non-calculus based physics, and statistics.

MSPO Information (http://www.ap.gatech.edu/mspo)