

Curriculum Vitae

Date: August 2026

Salma Bachelani, OTD, OTR/L, PMH-C

Contact Information

- Mailing Address:
Program in Occupational Therapy
WashU Medicine
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Present Position

01/2026-present Assistant Professor, Occupational Therapy and Pediatrics
WashU Medicine, St. Louis, MO

Education

Undergraduate

8/2010-5/2013 BS; Bachelor of Science in Psychology,
Missouri State University, Springfield, MO

Graduate

8/2013-12/2016 OTD; Doctorate of Occupational Therapy,
WashU Medicine, St. Louis, MO
Thesis: Empowering children and families with food allergies: An
innovative role for occupational therapy
Mentor: Dr. Meredith Gronski

Additional education

2023 Lead 360: Mapping the Journey – Leadership Training Course
American Occupational Therapy Association

2023 Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders: Components of Care
Postpartum Support International

2023 Advanced Learning Certificate in Program Evaluation
Brown School of Social Work at WashU

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2023 Advanced Perinatal Mental Health Psychotherapy Training
Postpartum Support International

Academic and Promotion History:

04/2021-12/2025 Instructor, Occupational Therapy and Pediatrics
WashU Medicine, St. Louis, MO

01/2021-05/2021 Adjunct Faculty, Occupational Therapy Assistant Program
St. Louis Community College, St. Louis, MO

04/2021-Present Instructor, Occupational Therapy
WashU Medicine, St. Louis, MO

Employment History:

01/2014-05/2016 Continuing Education Instructor
Paraquad Continuing Education Program, St. Louis, MO

04/2017-12/2017 Occupational Therapist
University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS

01/2018-08/2019 Occupational Therapist
Supplemental Healthcare, St. Louis, MO

08/2019-01/2021 Occupational Therapist
St. Louis Public Schools, St. Louis, MO

2020-2021 Admissions Rater, Occupational Therapy
WashU Medicine, St. Louis, MO

Professional Licensures and Certifications

2017-present National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy
Certification, *Certification number:* 379125

2017-present State of Missouri Division of Professional Licensure
Board of Occupational Therapy, *License number:* 2017007988

2023 Advanced Learning Certification in Program Evaluation
Brown School of Social Work, WashU

2024-present Perinatal Mental Health Certification
Postpartum Support International

Honors and Awards

05/2013 Magna Cum Laude Graduate – Missouri State University Honors College
01/2020 Staff Member of the Month Award – Mullanphy Elementary School
07/2023 Educator of the Year – WashU Medicine Occupational Therapy

Editorial and Review Responsibilities

Manuscript Reviewer

2022-present Occupational Therapy in Healthcare

Community Service Contributions

Program in Occupational Therapy, WashU Medicine, St. Louis MO, Committee and Administrative Service

2021-2023 Admissions Committee
2021-2024 Curriculum Committee
2022 Transition Management Team: The Center at WUOT
2022 Center for Interprofessional Education, Phase I Facilitator
2022-2024 Inclusive Occupational Therapy Education Committee
2022-2024 Faculty Co-Chair, WashU Student OT Association
2023 Pediatric Faculty Search Committee
2023-2024 Recruitment Committee

Community Outreach & Volunteer Service:

2015-2016 Volunteer Coordinator, Project Downtown St. Louis, Jennings, MO
2016-2018 Mentor, Muslim Women's Professional Network, St. Louis, MO
2018 Non-Violence Week Summer Program, Project Downtown St. Louis,
Jennings, MO

Membership in Professional Societies

2012-present	Theta Alpha Kappa National Honor Society for Religious Studies and Theology
2013-present	Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology
2014-present	American Occupational Therapy Association
2022-present	Missouri Occupational Therapy Association
2022-present	Coalition of Occupational Therapy Advocates for Diversity
2023-present	Postpartum Support International

Consulting Relationships and Board Memberships

2016-2017	Project Coordinator, MUHSEN, Chicago, IL
2017-present	Advisory Board, Project Downtown St. Louis, Jennings, MO
2023-2024	Research Consultant, Crisis Nursery, St. Louis, MO

Teaching

Occupational Therapy Assistant Program, St. Louis Community College, St. Louis, MO:

2021 - Course Director, OTA104: Adaptive Activities II

Implemented course content for 20 OTA students, covering a broad variety of topics including assistive technology, assistive devices, low vision, home modifications, community accessibility, driving, work and ergonomics, upper extremity positioning and orthotics, splinting, wheelchairs and seating systems, bed mobility and positioning, transfers, pediatrics, and acute care. Enhanced existing content and developed novel learning and assessment opportunities.

Program in Occupational Therapy, WashU Medicine, St. Louis, MO:

2021-2024 - Co-Course Director, OT633: Case Based Learning I

Developed and implemented course content covering the application of the pediatric occupational therapy process for cohorts of 105, 106, and 57 students. Trained pediatric clinicians to support learning of small groups of students in navigating clinical case analysis, evaluation, intervention and documentation for pediatric cases.

2021-2022 - Guest Lecturer, OT632: Evaluation and Intervention: Children and Youth

Generated novel course content on practicing in school-based occupational

therapy settings through the COVID-19 pandemic. Served as evaluator and grader for student practical examinations covering professional communication in pediatric settings.

2021 - Course Team, OT615: Fundamentals of Professional Communication

Generated novel course content for 105 students on cultural considerations related to communication and developed content covering communication with clients who are not able to communicate using traditional verbal speech. Supported course grading.

2021 - Course Team, OT616: Professional Identity and Practice I

Supported grading for course team and co-developed learning opportunity for 105 OT students to collaborate with and learn with OTA students in partnership with a local OTA program.

2022 - Course Team, OT628: Anatomical Structures Supporting Occupational Performance

Contributed to implementation of learning and assessment opportunities for 105 students and supported course grading.

2022 - Course Team, OT629: Applied Strategies in Biomechanical Performance

Contributed to implementation of learning and assessment opportunities for 105 students and supported course grading.

2022-2024 - Course Director, OT 638/648/658: Mentored Scholarship I-III

Designed, developed and implemented learning and research experiences related to pediatric and perinatal topics for 3 learners per semester.

2022 - Course Team, OT643: Case Based Learning II (Small Group Instructor)

Led small group of 9 students to facilitate learning of the occupational therapy process from evaluation to intervention for adult clients. Supported restructuring and reorganization of online learning management system for course and supported course grading.

2022-2023 - Course Director, OT611: Professional Immersion in Occupational Therapy

Designed, developed, and implemented learning experience covering foundations of the occupational therapy profession, and exploration of various practice areas within the profession for cohorts of 106 and 57 students.

2023-2024 - Co-Course Director, OT629: Applied Strategies in Biomechanical Performance

Co-designed, co-developed, and co-implemented learning experiences and assessments covering foundations of biomechanical function, range of motion, manual muscle testing, clinical vitals, and physical agent modalities.

2023 - Course Team, BIOL2656: Introduction to Health Professions

Supported implementation and grading of a course introducing undergraduate learners to health professions including audiology, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, and pharmacy.

2025 - CBL Tutor, OT6335 - Case Based Learning I: Clinical Reasoning and Applications in Pediatric Settings

Led small group of 9 students to facilitate learning of the occupational therapy process from evaluation to intervention for pediatric clients.

2025-present - Course Team, OT6235 - Occupational Therapy Process for Children, Youth and Families I

Supported implementation and grading for a novel pediatric course covering foundations of pediatric of occupational therapy practice. This is the first of a two-course series, with a focus on development, evaluation, and intervention.

2025-present - Course Team, OT6235 - Occupational Therapy Process for Children, Youth and Families II

Supported implementation and grading for a novel pediatric course covering foundations of pediatric of occupational therapy practice. This is the second of a two-course series, with a focus on topics within pediatrics and occupational performance.

2025-present – Course Director, OT6115: Occupation and Society: Foundations, Ethics, and Social Impact

Designed, developed, and implemented learning experience focused upon the foundations and fundamentals of the OT profession including the concept of occupation, the profession of occupational therapy, occupational science, ethics, and health and well-being

2026-present – Course Director, OT6220: Impacts of Disease and Disability on Occupational Performance

Developed a new course focused on disease and disability across the lifespan where students explore the phenomenology of disability and disease processes, and how occupational participation is impacted by these processes (including understanding of etiology, prevalence, signs, symptoms, prognosis, and other relevant medical information).

Mentorship & Sponsorship Record

Level I Fieldwork Clinical Instructor:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Student</i>	<i>Fieldwork Site</i>
2019	Roger Reyes, MSOT '20	St. Louis Public Schools
2020	Danielle Pollard, MSOT '21	St. Louis Public Schools

OTD Student Research Mentorship:

<i>Years</i>	<i>Student(s)</i>	<i>Project and Outcome(s)</i>
2022-2023	Madison Guerra, OTD '24	“Job Satisfaction and Retention Considerations Amongst School-Based Occupational Therapists” – <i>poster presented at American Occupational Therapy Association's 2024 conference</i>
2022-2023	Julia Guild, OTD '24	“Exploring an Occupational Therapy Role in Supporting Early Childhood Educators with Addressing Social Emotional Learning”
2022-2023	Sophia Ricciardi, OTD '24	“Examining Accessibility and Usability of School Environments: The Development of the Community Health Environment Checklist – Schools Assessment Tool
2023-2024	Allison Martin, OTD '25	“Consulting with Crisis Nursery Providers for Staff Capacity-Building” – <i>article published in OT Practice magazine</i>
2023-2024	Amarria Mumphard, OTD '25	“Occupational Therapy's Role on the Inpatient Antepartum Unit”
2023-2024	Bailee Rousso, OTD '25	“The Development of a Well-Being Intervention Program for Patients with High-Risk Pregnancies on Antepartum Units”

Capstone Mentorship:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Student</i>	<i>Capstone Project</i>
2022	Bee Burns, OTD '22	Re-designing Education: A Trauma-Responsive Approach
2022-2023	Julia Fleming, OTD '23	Creation of OT-Focused Toolkit for Early Childhood Special Education Teachers
2026	Molly Morton, OTD/S	TBD – in process
2026	Molly Schaefer, OTD/S	TBD – in process

Bibliography

Original, peer reviewed articles in refereed journals

Bachelani, S.H., Gronski, M.P., & Carlson, K.A. (2023). Empowering children and families with food allergies: An innovative role for occupational therapy. *The Open Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 11(2), 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.15453/2168-6408.2053>

Taff, S. D., **Bachelani, S.**, Russell-Thomas, D. C., Tucker, S., Walker, C., & West-Bruce, S. (2023). Development and pilot of an educator training course for early career faculty. *Education in the Health Professions*, 6(2), 101-106. https://doi.org/10.4103/EHP.EHP_13_23

Lazzaro, C., Selvaratnam, A., Lipsey, K., **Bachelani, S. H.**, & Taff, S. (2026). The prevalence of epistemology in occupational therapy education literature: a historical mapping review, 1917-2024. *Cadernos Brasileiros de Terapia Ocupacional*, 34, e4094. <https://doi.org/10.1590/2526-8910.cto415940942>

Reviews, Chapters, and Editorials, including Invited Publications

Cohen Podvey, M., **Bachelani, S.**, Hatfield, M., McLean, B., Swanton, H., Little, M., La Pointe, M., O'Connor, E., Peterson, J., Schweet, G., Bergmann, S., Miller, M., & Killorin Hemminger, R. (2025). Navigating 'normal' motherhood struggles: Movement, compassion, and occupational balance. In H. Sloatjes (Ed.), *Enhancing women's wellbeing during matrescence, motherhood, and perinatal transitions: An evidence-based guide for occupational therapists*. Taylor & Francis.

Other publications

Cheatham Oberle, S., **Bachelani, S. H.**, Hoyt, C. R., Harris, K., & Millsap, M. (2024). Calling in: Facilitating change by acknowledging human connection. *OT Practice*, 29(3), 20–23.

Martin, A., Mack, A., Broaddus, A., & **Bachelani, S.** (2025). Consulting with crisis nursery providers for staff capacity-building. *OT Practice*, 30(2), 14–17.

Presentations

Gronski, M. & **Hussain, S.** (2016, April). Empowering Children with Food Allergies: An Innovative Role for Occupational Therapy. Poster presented at the American Occupational Therapy Association's Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.

Hussain, S. (2017, February). Disabilities and Inclusion in Islam. Presentation at the St. Louis University Muslim Students' Association 9th Annual Winter Conference, St. Louis, MO.

Bachelani, S.H., Guerra, M., Fung, A. (2024, March). Job Satisfaction and Retention Considerations Amongst School-Based Occupational Therapists. Poster presented at the American Occupational Therapy Association's Annual Conference, Orlando, FL.

Bachelani, S.H., (2026, March). Deeply Rooted: Justice, Equity, and Occupational Therapy. Presented for Marville University's Student OT Association, St. Louis, MO.