



# Shaping the Future: A Culturally Relevant Occupational Therapy Curriculum that Reflects the Everyday Lives and Thinking of the Chinese People

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仁心

**Benevolence**

**(Ren)**

A holistic approach toward  
human wellness

笃行

**Prudent  
Practice  
(Duxing)**

A pragmatic approach  
to professional  
reasoning

**Huangtu  
Occupation  
Study**

共济

**Collective  
Endeavor  
(Gongji)**

An ethical orientation  
toward actions under  
the principles of  
interdependence and  
reciprocity

Since 2019, the faculty at SDUTCM has worked to formulate a curriculum where Confucianism, TCM, and OT practice meet. The faculty members were later inspired by the Huangtu Occupation Study to integrate core OT principles and Chinese cultural context.

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# Applying Huangtu Occupation Study in OT education using Fink's Taxonomy of Significant Learning

The Huangtu Occupation Study was integrated into the OT curriculum using the Fink's Taxonomy (2013) in order to foster the professional identity and capacity of the OT students.

Fink, L. D. (2013). *Creating significant learning experiences: An integrated approach to designing college courses* (2nd ed.). Jossey-Bass.

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| <p><b>Benevolence<br/>(仁心 Ren)→<br/>Human<br/>Dimension as<br/>Foundational<br/>Knowledge</b></p> | <p><u>Pedagogical Objective:</u><br/>To understand the person as a holistic, dignified human being within a cultural context.</p>                           | <p><u>Application:</u><br/>Ren is used to define the therapeutic relationship, viewing the client as a holistic being. It fosters empathy and provides a philosophical base to understand the "person" through Confucian and TCM principles.</p> |
| <p><b>Collective Endeavor<br/>(共济 Gongji)→<br/>Caring &amp;<br/>Integration</b></p>               | <p><u>Pedagogical Objective:</u><br/>To develop occupational performance that values interdependence and reciprocity.</p>                                   | <p><u>Application:</u><br/>Gongji values the co-creation of care with families, communities, and populations that is based on the integration of the Eastern and Western ways of connection and collaboration in family and society.</p>         |
| <p><b>Prudent Practice<br/>(笃行 Duxing)→<br/>Application &amp; Learn<br/>how to Learn</b></p>      | <p><u>Pedagogical Objective:</u><br/>To apply OT professional reasoning in occupational context so as to foster self-directed professional development.</p> | <p><u>Application:</u><br/>Duxing is putting Huangtu Occupation Study into practice and in life-long learning to strive for continuous professional development, even in complex and changing practice contexts.</p>                             |



# Alignment with Policy and the Future of Wellness

## Policy Context

The curriculum is strategically aligned with the "Implementation Guidelines on Advancing TCM- based Lifestyle Medicine" (Health Commission of Shandong Province, 2025).

Health Commission of Shandong Province, HCSP. (2025). *Implementation proposals for promoting the "Living TCM" initiative: Incorporating traditional wisdom into everyday wellness.* [http://wsjkw.shandong.gov.cn/zcwjts\\_45181/202506/t20250617\\_4829145.html](http://wsjkw.shandong.gov.cn/zcwjts_45181/202506/t20250617_4829145.html)

## The Graduate Profile

- Graduates are equipped to serve as "enablers for culturally grounded wellness through daily occupations".
- They are prepared to support the "Living TCM" initiative by incorporating traditional wisdom into everyday wellness.

## Societal Impact

The intergration of the Huangtu Occupation Study and Fink's Taxonomy will support the new generation of OT practitioners to deliver increasingly accessible and high-quality services.

## WFOT papers on Huangtu OS

### Poster #65

Chiu, M. T., Shi, X. C., Cui, J. L., Liao, P., & Song, J. A. (2026, February 9-12). Huangtu Occupation Terms: A set of occupational therapy terms that are linguistically and culturally appropriate for use in mainland China.

### ePoster

Dong, X., & Chiu, M. T. (2026, February 9-12). Using both literal and semantic translations to address the challenges of applying volition in OT practice in China.

Yuan, C., Dong, X., & Chiu, M. T. (2026, February 9-12). My journey of doing, being and becoming an occupational therapist in mainland China.

### Lightning Talk

Shi, X. C., Ma, L.H., & Lee, M. (2026, February 10). Shaping the future: A culturally-relevant Occupational Therapy curriculum that reflects the everyday lives and thinking of the Chinese people.

### Oral Presentation

Chiu, M. T., Shi, X. C., Cui, J. L., Liao, P., & Song, J. A. (2026, February 11). Huangtu Occupation Study: Enabling occupational therapists in mainland China to use OT professional reasoning effectively.

Chiu, T., Cui, J., Shi, X.C., & Liao, P. (2018, May 21). Huang-Tu Occupation Study: A study of occupational therapy theory written in Chinese for use in China. The 17th World Federation of Occupational Therapists Congress, Cape Town, South Africa.



Find out more about the Huangtu OS presented in this Congress