Western Michigan University’s Occupational Therapy (M.S.) program has established a tradition of leadership and innovation in the field as the first non-teacher education program at WMU and one of the earliest such programs in the nation.

The program is consistently ranked among the top 50 of its kind in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

The 4 + 1 bachelor’s/master’s program offers a fast track to professional practice, and the OT graduate professional program is available in both Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids.

The program is accredited by The Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE), ensuring excellence and qualifying graduates to sit for the national certification examination.

Students experience high quality clinical preparation right next door at the Marion R. Spear OT Clinic and are actively involved in a variety of research and dynamic classroom activities with dedicated, expert faculty members.

The Department of Occupational Therapy publishes The Open Journal of Occupational Therapy (OJOT), a unique, open-access, peer-reviewed journal with a focus on applied research, practice, and education in OT.
Occupational Therapy (M.S.)

Teaching, Research, and Program Focus Areas

The expertise of the WMU OT Faculty cuts across all specialty areas of the profession including early childhood intervention, school based practice, mental health, adult rehabilitation, gerontology, and administration and management. Cutting edge teaching practices include case base learning, hands-on faculty-supervised clinical experiments and state of the art educational technology resources. Faculty-student research teams engage in applied, interdisciplinary research in varied specialty areas neurorehabilitation, head injury, aging in place, office ergonomics, and occupation based technology.

Admissions

Students are admitted to the OT Professional Master’s Degree Program in the fall only. Prospective students must submit an application for graduate study to WMU. A supplemental OT application must also be submitted online within the application for graduate study. Applications are due by February 1. For detailed information, visit the OT application page at www.wmich.edu/ot/academics/grad/apply. A meeting with an OT advisor is highly recommended. No GRE score is required.

Graduate Assistantships/Associateships

OT students are eligible for graduate assistantship positions, scholarships, and financial aid. Information is available at www.wmich.edu/ot/scholarships.

Contacts

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Western Michigan University

One of the top-100 public universities in the United States, Western Michigan University offers many nationally known graduate programs, including 29 doctoral and 64 master’s degrees. More than 20 percent of its 25,000 students are enrolled in graduate course work.

Kalamazoo

With a population of more than 325,000, Kalamazoo is the sixth largest metropolitan area in Michigan and among the 150 largest in the country. Kalamazoo is rated one of the 25 best cities in the country for young college graduates, and is located midway between Chicago and Detroit.