

ALISSA R BAKER, OTD, OTRL

Alissa.baker@wmich.edu

EDUCATION

Eastern Kentucky University

OTD, Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy

December 2022

Capstone project: *Use of concept mapping within a functional neuroanatomy course to promote critical thinking skills in occupational therapy students.*

Western Michigan University

MS, Occupational Therapy

December 2013

Central Michigan University

BS, Neuroscience

May 2011

Summa Cum Laude, Honors Program

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy

Certification #: 322426

Valid through: 3/31/2026

State of Michigan – Board of Occupational Therapists

License #: 5201008720

Valid through: 02/06/2026

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor

Western Michigan University – Department of Occupational Therapy

2023-present

Part-time Instructor

Western Michigan University – Department of Occupational Therapy

2018-2022

Research Assistant

University of Louisville School of Medicine – Department of Pediatrics

2021-2022

Resource Occupational Therapist

Inpatient Rehabilitation Center at Blodgett Hospital, Spectrum Health

2019-2020

Senior Occupational Therapist

Community Mental Health Authority – Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties

2014-2017

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

Functional Neuroanatomy (Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022)

Clinical Documentation (online; Summer 2019, Summer 2022)

Sensory Integration and the Child (online; Spring 2021)

Level I Pediatric Fieldwork (Summer 2021)

Therapeutic Interactions (Spring 2019, Spring 2020)

Science of Occupational Therapy (online; Summer 2022)

Foundations of Practice for the OTA (Spring 2023)

Co-Instructor

Analysis and Evaluation in Older Adulthood (Fall 2021) – Functional cognition, sensory testing

Interventions and Outcomes in Childhood (Spring 2022, Spring 2023) – Play, sensory integration, vision, post-secondary transitions

Interventions and Outcomes in Older Adulthood (Spring 2022) – Cognition & perception

Vision and Cognition (Fall 2020) – Cognitive assessments and interventions

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Publications

Baker, A. R., & Tomchek, S. D. (in press). Systematic review brief: Interventions to support participation in basic and instrumental activities of daily living for autistic children and adolescents (2013-2021). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*.

Tomchek, S. D., & **Baker, A. R.** (in press). Systematic review brief: Interventions to support participation in sleep for autistic children and adolescents (2013-2021). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*.

Tomchek, S. D., Dean, E. E., & **Baker, A. R.** (in press). Systematic review brief: Interventions to support participation in education autistic students (2013-2021). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*.

Submitted Manuscripts

Baker, A. R., & Ginn, C. (in revision). Use of concept mapping within a functional neuroanatomy course to promote critical thinking skills in occupational therapy students.

Presentations

- Baker, A.** (2021). *Being sensitive to sensory needs in the classroom*. Lecture (invited). Christian Educators Association Annual Conference, Grand Rapids, MI.
- Baker, A.** (2021). *Finding and applying research to improve your clinical practice*. Lecture (peer reviewed). Michigan Occupational Therapy Association (MiOTA) Annual Conference, Kalamazoo, MI.
- Baker, A., Binder, K., & Josts, D.** (2020). *Building better client-therapist interactions using the intentional relationship model*. Lecture (peer reviewed). MiOTA Annual Conference, virtual.
- Baker, A., Stockdale, J., & Tremp, G.** (2020). *Solving ethical dilemmas*. Lecture (peer reviewed). MiOTA Annual Conference, virtual.
- Baker, A.** (2018). *Essential elements of a comprehensive initial evaluation*. Lecture (peer reviewed). MiOTA Annual Conference, Livonia, MI.
- Baker, A., & Ramirez, C.** (2017). *Making sense of sensory processing: Neurological components and strategies to improve function*. Lecture (invited). Community Mental Health Clinical Excellence Committee quarterly conference.
- Baker, A., & Smith, D.** (2016). *Developing self-regulation in adolescents with ASD using the Zones of Regulation® curriculum*. Poster (peer reviewed). AOTA Autism Specialty Conference, Cleveland, OH.
- Baker, A., & Ramirez, C.** (2016). *Understanding pain and its influence on client performance*. Lecture (peer reviewed). MiOTA Annual Conference, Grand Rapids, MI.
- Ramirez, C., & **Baker, A.** (2016). *Back to basics: Functional neuroanatomy review*. Lecture (peer reviewed). MiOTA Annual Conference, Grand Rapids, MI.

Funded Research

- AOTF Health Services Research Grant, \$100,000. **Co-Investigator**. *Disparities and Costs of Access to Early Intervention Occupational Therapy Services*. (June 2022 – July 2024)
Principal Investigator: Lauren M. Little, PhD, OTRL

Reviewer

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| Peer review of Critically Appraised Paper (CAP) proposals (4)
AOTA 2021 Annual Conference | Summer 2020 |
| Peer review of Critically Appraised Paper (CAP) proposals (3)
AOTA 2020 Annual Conference | Fall 2019 |
| Peer review of Children & Youth proposal submissions (25)
AOTA 2020 Annual Conference | Summer 2019 |

Peer review of Critically Appraised Paper (CAP) proposals (2) AOTA 2020 Annual Conference	Summer 2019
Peer review of Critically Appraised Paper (CAP) submissions (2) American Occupational Therapy Association	Winter 2019
Peer review of Critically Appraised Paper (CAP) submissions (3) American Occupational Therapy Association	Winter 2018
Peer review of Critically Appraised Paper (CAP) submissions (2) American Occupational Therapy Association	Winter 2017

HONORS AND AWARDS

Employee of the Month Community Mental Health Authority – Clinton, Eaton, Ingham	October 2017
AMBUCS Scholarship Award National AMBCUS, Inc.	2013
Don and Jane Thomas Scholarship Department of Occupational Therapy, Western Michigan University	2012
Outstanding Community Service Award Honors College, Central Michigan University	2011

SERVICE

Committee Member Department of Occupational Therapy Scholarship Committee Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI	2023 – present
Cross-Cultural Partner Treetops Collective, Grand Rapids, MI	2022 – 2023
Lansing Chapter Co-Chair Michigan Occupational Therapy Association	2016 – 2017

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Occupational Therapy Association Member	2011 – present
Michigan Occupational Therapy Association Member	2016 – present