

Messiah University MOT Program Information

Messiah University's MOT Program is an 80-credit, full-time program, accredited by ACOTE through 2026. The occupational therapy program advances the profession by developing skilled and compassionate occupational therapy leaders and practitioners who are committed to a life of service and clinical excellence.

The curriculum and educational philosophy of the MOT program supports the philosophical assumptions of the OT profession that contends that successful participation in occupation is essential for health, well-being and quality of life. The program design affirms the holistic and complex nature of individuals as dynamic beings who engage in occupations throughout the lifespan and in doing so derive meaning and satisfaction.

Consistent with the American Occupational Therapy Association's Vision 2025, the Messiah University MOT program supports an accessible, collaborative, effective occupational therapy profession that builds leaders who influence change and embrace diversity (AOTA, 2022). The MOT program will cultivate healthy learning environments to prepare future occupational therapy practitioners through community-engaged learning, diverse perspectives, and ethical practice.

The curriculum design follows a spiraling, developmental model (Weddle & Sellheim, 2009). Students acquire a basic understanding of foundational skills and then are drawn into a deeper level of understanding and more sophisticated critical thinking as the curriculum progresses through application and mastery phases. To ensure students are prepared to enter practice as a generalist occupational therapist at the end of the curriculum, MOT faculty work together to plan the sequencing, depth, and integration of course content.