Western University (UWO) is located in the "Forest City" London, Ontario (population 380,000) and has a fulltime enrollment of 35,000 students. The graduate program in Orthodontics was the only Western clinical dental specialty program until recently when the graduate program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery was established in 2007.

The Western graduate orthodontics program was established in 1973 by W.S. Hunter, Program Director and D.C. Way, Clinic Director as a two year program with a thesis component leading to a Master of Clinical Dentistry Degree under the aegis of the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral studies. Under the Directorship of A.H. Mamandras in 1994 the program was extended to 36 months.

The entrance to the graduate orthodontics program is very competitive. While top dental graduates from the two dental schools in Ontario comprise a fair proportion of those admitted to the graduate orthodontic program, successful applicants have come from every Canadian Province, the United States as well as Europe, Australia, Africa, and Asia. Western University and its affiliated colleges offer an exceptional international student climate with rich cultural diversity, to the benefit of all graduate and undergraduate students.

The Western University graduate orthodontic program commences the first week of June. The first year residents complete a very comprehensive pre-clinical courses in cephalometrics and biomechanics in the first 10 weeks of the program. During the same period they are taking and analyzing orthodontic records for their 70 assigned pediatric and adult cases. After preparation, all cases will be presented in seminar for treatment approval by the supervising clinical instructors. Clinical practice commences in September with clinical sessions on a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly basis. Each clinic session is preceded by a clinical seminar. A variety of orthodontic appliances and bracket systems are used in the clinic, offering the residents a broad clinical experience. The graduate students are encouraged to use as many systems as possible. That experience will give them the perspective to pick and choose from the strengths of each system. In addition to their 70 initially assigned cases, residents gain experience from a number of transfer and retention cases as well. All residents have successfully completed their clinical assignments and defended their respective thesis within the normal duration of the graduate orthodontics program. All residents have met the requirements for fellowship in the Royal College of Dentists of Canada or those who opted to write Part II of the ABO exam did so without difficulties.

Each graduate orthodontics resident at Western must commence a research project in the winter term of the first year of their residency as a partial fulfillment for their Master in Clinical Dentistry Degree. Graduate students can select from an array of topics in areas of clinical or basic science research. Areas of interest include cranio-facial growth and development, biomechanics, dental materials, epidemiology, skeletal biology and clinical microbiology and biochemistry.
The Division of Graduate Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics Western University is very fortunate to have the support of dedicated and experienced Clinical Faculty that include:

A.H. Mamandras, DDS, MSc (Chairman and Program Director)
A. Tassi, DDS, MClD (Clinic Director)
D. Beaton, W.D.M., DDS, MSc.
R. Burton, BDS MSc
L. Chumak, DDS, MCID
K. Coups-Smith, BSc, DDS, Dip. Ortho
R. Elliot, DDS, MCID
K. Floreina DDS MCID
T. Foley, DDS, MCID
M. Gross, BSc, Bed, DDS, MClD
B. Hill, DDS, MCID
P. Kalman, DDS MCID
B. Kuppers DDS MCID
G. Keyes DDS, Dip. Ortho
A. Mair DDS, MCID
H. Nguyen BSc, DMD, Cert. Ortho
S. Palleck DDS, MCID
M. Pus DDS, MCID
L. Redigonda, DDS, MCID
B. White DDS, Dip. Ortho
R. Voth DDS, MCID
N. Lalani DDS, MCID
R. Aynaciyan DDS, MCID
R. Shukla DDS, MCID
F. Inocencio, DDS, Dip. Ortho
W. Frydman, DDS, MSc
S. Hatibovic-Kofman, DDS, MSc, PhD
H. Lapointe, DDS, PhD
M. Shimizu, BSc, DMD, MD, MSc, FCD (C)
M. Tesseyman, DDS MCID

In addition to the Clinical Faculty the program is also supported by the following Western fulltime faculty:

F. Beir, PhD
T. Daley, BSc, DDS, MSc, Dip. ABOP
M. Darling, BChD, MSc (Dent), MSc (Med), MChD
J. Dixon, BSc, MSc, DDS, Dip. Perio. PhD
C. Driessen, CBchD, HBchD, MSc, PhD
K. Galil, BDS, DOS, PhD, Cert. Perio
H. Goldberg, BSc, MPhil, PhD
G. Hunter, BSc, PhD
A. Rizkalla, BSc, MEng, PhD
H. Sandhu, BDS, PhD, Dip. Perio
W. Sequira, DDS, PhD
D. Walden, BSc, MSc, PhD
C. Ketola, BSc, MSc, PhD

The graduate orthodontics students presently in the program are: class of 2018- Maria Pia Canales (Montreal 2012); Jennifer Curran (UWO 2009); Michael Greene (U of Manitoba 2011), Class of 2019 – Diego Diaz (UWO 2013); Woody Neilson (U of Sask 2013) and Johnny Tran (U of Sask 2014), Class of 2020 – William Taylor (Dal 2002); Leah Van Sant (Dal 2012) and Fraser Young (U of Sask 2012). The class of 2021 will commence June 1st 2021. Admission offers for the class of 2021 will go out November 13th 2017.

The Western Orthodontic Alumni Association was formed in 1982 and has been holding biennial reunions since then. The 19th Alumni Reunion will be held in the fall of 2018 in London, ON when the Western Graduate Orthodontics Program will be celebrating its 45th anniversary. The relationship between the program and the Orthodontic Alumni Association is very strong. In fact for many years our alumni have maintained the highest percentage of participation in Western’s alumni funding. This is an achievement of which we are all very proud. Many UWO Orthodontic Alumni members have served in organized orthodontics at national and international levels including the presidency of the Canadian Association of Orthodontists as well as the presidency of the constituents’ societies of the American Association of Orthodontists.

More information about the graduate orthodontics program, Western University and the city of London, Ontario can be found at the following websites:

www.uwo.ca
www.schulich.uwo.ca/dentistry
www.london.ca