LEED SPOTLIGHT

USGBC WEST MICHIGAN

Western Michigan University – Brown Hall
1903 W Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI
PROJECT PROFILE

LEED v2009 O+M
LEED CERTIFIED
November 2012

Western Michigan University's Brown Hall houses the classrooms for the English, Communication, and Foreign Language Departments. It is approximately 58,258 square feet, encompassing 5 floors.

The building was originally constructed in 1967. The masonry clad building was just another building on campus until August 2006 when the project began. The existing 3-story steel and cast concrete building was completely rehabilitated. The renovation was a 14.8-million-dollar project consisting of new classrooms, audio-visual labs, lecture halls, new roofing and new storefront. In addition, a large mechanical support space was added.

During the project, WMU spread their sustainability practices into the community by inviting Kalamazoo and Battle Creek's Habitat for Humanity to comb through the project site in search of materials that could be salvaged and resold to support future Habitat homes in both communities.

It takes a lot of work to get existing buildings into shape to meet LEED standards and to document the changes that have been made. For example: Brown Hall now has a computer-controlled irrigation system, water-efficient fixtures, including dual flush toilets, energy-efficient classroom lighting with dimmers and occupancy sensors and compact fluorescent site lighting. These updated building features transformed WMU's Brown Hall into a sustainable environment for students, faculty, and staff to enjoy.

LEED Facts

Brown Hall

Location……..……..Kalamazoo, MI
Rating System…….LEED-EB (O+M)
Certification Achieved…….Certified
Points Achieved……...43/110

Sustainable Sites……..…..15/26
Water Efficiency……..…..……7/14
Energy and Atmosphere……..…..1/35
Materials and Resources…….……..2/10
Indoor Environmental Quality……....10/15
Innovation and Operation……5/6
Regional Priority……3/4

PROJECT METRICS

90% sustainable purchasing of reduced mercury lamps

63% reduction in potable landscape water use

25% reduction in indoor potable water use

50% reduction in conventional commuter trips