

Master of Art in Art Therapy

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS | ART THERAPY COURSES:

ARTTH 605 History & Theory of Art Therapy (3 credits, online)

This course studies art therapy history and events, the development of art therapy as a distinct therapeutic practice, and the contributions of major art therapy theorists and practitioners. Includes a study of theories and models of creativity, of understanding symbolism, metaphor and artistic language, and of neuroscience theory, relevant to art therapy. Students will engage in guided art processes which will be shared and discussed through the course site.

ARTTH 615 Media, Materials & Techniques of Art Therapy Practice I (3 credits)

This course includes a study of the use of art processes and materials in art therapy practice, the establishment of therapeutic goals and intervention strategies, integrating an understanding of the safety, psychological properties and ethical and cultural implication of art-making processes and materials. An introduction to the study of developmental stages in art, and exceptions, and their applications to art therapy also is included. Prerequisite AT 600.

ARTTH 625 Applications of Art Therapy I (3 credits)

This course complements the more general course, MH 601: Human Development, by focusing specifically on art therapy applications with individual and family typical and atypical development - such as medical illness, disability, developmental crises - across the lifespan and in a variety of settings. The therapeutic benefits of art processes and media, strategies and interventions and their productive application to the treatment process are reviewed. Art therapists' characteristics that promote the therapeutic process also are included. A review of developmental stages in art, and exceptions, and their applications to art therapy is included. Prerequisites AT 601 and MH 601.

ARTTH 630 Applications of Art Therapy II (3 credits)

This course is designed to build upon AT602 Applications of Art Therapy I, through a study of the application of art therapy theory and processes in treatment with specific clinical populations and their needs such as substance abuse/ addictions, the effects of trauma and abuse, traumatic brain injury and Post Traumatic Stress. Review of the benefits of art therapy processes, strategies, media and materials in practice and in the establishment of therapeutic goals and interventions, and how they combine with art therapists' characteristics to promote the therapeutic process within the context of the therapeutic relationship. Prerequisite AT 602.

ARTTH 690 Group Art Therapy (2 credits)

This course integrates theory, processes and dynamics of group work to form and facilitate culturally responsive art therapy groups that have been designed with a clear purpose and goals for the group members to be served. Principles of group dynamics, therapeutic factors, member roles and behaviors, leadership styles and approaches, selection criteria, art-based communication and the influence of art media on group process.

ARTTH 640 Art Therapy Assessment (2 credits)

This course includes a study of a variety of art therapy assessment tools and methods, administration and documentation of art therapy assessment, and the formulation of treatment goals, objectives, and strategies related to assessment and evaluation.

ARTTH 650 Ethical and Legal Issues and Standards of Art Therapy Practice (1 credit, online)

This course studies the ethical and legal issues of the art therapy profession, the ethical standards of the AATA and the ATCB, and the proper application of ethical and legal principles of art therapy practice while performing roles and responsibilities in mental health and community-based settings. Additional areas of coverage include the importance of supervision, benefits of professional organizations and credentialing, licensure, collaboration, advocacy for the profession and advocacy for clients and their access to mental health services.

ARTTH 670 Art Therapy Research (1 credit, online)

This course is designed to complement the more general course, MH 604: Research, by focusing on art therapy research methods and their advantages and limitations. Includes the study of art-based research methodologies as related to art therapy theory and practice. Students will develop skills in evaluating art therapy research studies, presenting peer-reviewed literature to support an art therapy research topic, and considerations in the selection of methods used to obtain data for art therapy. Prerequisite MH 604.

ARTTH 675 Culminating Project Seminar I (1 credit)

Integrates knowledge with regard to the profession of Art Therapy including literature on the field, through a culminating project. Projects may involve, for example, established research methods, innovative methods of inquiry, a synthesis of techniques of practice, and program design which advocates for the profession or clients. Participants present their capstone project proposals, including literature review, rationale, and methods/implementation plans.

ARTTH 680 Art Therapy and Cultural Diversity (3 credits)

Matters of cultural and social diversity bearing on the practice of art therapy includes a study of cultural diversity theory and competency models applied to an understanding of diversity of artistic language, symbolism, and meaning in artwork and art making across culture and within a diverse society. The relevance of cultural competence, understanding of privilege and oppression, and the role of the arts in social justice, advocacy and conflict resolution also are emphasized.

ARTTH 695 Culminating Project Seminar II (1 credit)

ARTTH 695 is a continuation of ARTTH 675. Students will continue to integrate knowledge with regard to the profession of Art Therapy including literature on the field, through a culminating project. Projects may involve, for example, established research methods, innovative methods of inquiry, a synthesis of techniques of practice, and program design which advocates for the profession or clients. Participants present their capstone project proposals, including literature review, rationale, and methods/implementation plans.

ARTTH 620 Art of Art Therapy: Special Topic in Technique of Practice Weekend Intensive (1 credit)

The weekend intensive will be taught by a guest art therapist with expertise in a specific clinical population, setting or intervention. Students gain insights from the presenter's advanced knowledge in the specialty through lecture, discussion, and hands-on experiential exploration of the topic. Students will also have an opportunity to strengthen their connection to a personal creative process. A group exhibition/installation will be included. (May be repeated for credit)

ARTTH 655 Clinical Art Therapy Practicum (2 credits)

The purpose of this field experience course is to allow students to practice and demonstrate knowledge, skills and attitudes/ behaviors of art therapy competencies, including further development of a strong professional Art Therapist identity founded in ethical practice, and valuing of the benefits of student/therapist reflective art- making to inform clinical practice.

This practicum includes opportunities for observation as well as direct experience with individuals who are served in the practicum placement. Emphasis is placed on advancement of the students' observation and interviewing skills; the selection, implementation and analysis of art therapy assessments; the construction and facilitation of art therapy interventions for the treatment of children, adolescents, adults, couples or families in a clinical setting; and increased awareness and insight into art processes and images. Administration and summary of results of a formal art therapy assessment, scoring and analysis and interpretation/summary in the context of the practicum placement site, is required. Student work and performance for the semester is assessed through on-site supervision, faculty supervision, and related course assignments.

Requires approximately 20 hours/week for 8 weeks, for a minimum of 160 hours total. At least 80 hours must be in direct provision of art therapy services to individuals, groups, and/or families. The remaining hours may include supervision, case review, record keeping, preparation, staff meetings, and other administrative functions. Supervision must meet requirements for credentialing and entry level practice as an art therapist at the time the course is taught: The practicum course must be taught, supervised or advised by a current ATR, ATR-BC and/or ATCS. On-site supervision must be provided by someone with a minimum of a master's degree in a mental health field and a current master's level mental health credential or license. A master's or higher degree in a mental health field must have been required to obtain that license or credential. Supervision hours must be overseen and documented as such: individual (1:1) supervision hours must be accrued at a ratio of one hour of supervision for every ten hours of practicum/internship and/or group (2+ supervisees per supervisor) supervision must be accrued at a ratio of one and one-half hours of supervision for every ten hours of practicum/internship direct client contact in art therapy.

ARTTH 665 Clinical Art Therapy Internship I (3 credits)

The purpose of this internship course is to provide students with advanced practice and opportunities to demonstrate knowledge, skills and attitudes/behaviors of art therapy competencies, including further development of a strong professional Art Therapist identity founded in ethical practice, and valuing of the benefits of student/therapist reflective art-making to inform clinical practice. This internship includes substantial direct experience facilitating art therapy with clientele who are served in the internship setting. Emphasis is placed on building the therapeutic relationship, case conceptualization skills, and formulation of treatment planning. A formal case presentation is required. Students are assessed through on-site supervision, faculty supervision, and related course assignments.

Approximately 20 hours/week for 16 weeks, 320 hours total must be accrued. At least 160 hours must be in direct provision of art therapy services to individuals, groups, and/or families. The remaining hours may include supervision, case review, record keeping, preparation, staff meetings, and other administrative functions. Supervision must meet requirements for credentialing and entry level practice as an art therapist at the time the course is taught: The practicum course must be taught, supervised or advised by a current ATR, ATR-BC and/or ATCS. On-site supervision must be provided by someone with a minimum of a master's degree in a mental health field and a current master's level mental health credential or license. A master's or higher degree in a mental health field must have been required to obtain that license or credential. Supervision hours must be overseen and documented as such: individual (1:1) supervision hours must be accrued at a ratio of one hour of supervision for every ten hours of practicum/internship and/or group (2+ supervisees per supervisor) supervision must be accrued at a ratio of one and one-half hours of supervision for every ten hours of practicum/internship direct client contact in art therapy.

ARTTH 685 Clinical Art Therapy Internship II (3 credits)

The purpose of this internship course is to provide students more advanced practice and opportunities to demonstrate knowledge, skills and attitudes/behaviors of art therapy competencies including further development of a strong professional Art Therapist identity founded in ethical practice, and valuing of the benefits of student/therapist reflective art-making to inform clinical practice. This internship also offers an opportunity to develop an art therapy specialization with a particular population or setting. Emphasis is placed on direct experience in developing and facilitating art therapy treatment and approaches, for both individuals and groups, that will demonstrate advanced knowledge, cultural competence, and ability to critically analyze and describe in-depth experience with a specific area of art therapy practice. Students are assessed through on-site supervision, faculty supervision, and related course assignments.

Approximately 20 hours/week for 16 weeks, 320 hours total must be accrued. At least 160 hours must be in direct provision of art therapy services to individuals, groups, and/or families. The remaining hours may include supervision, case review, record keeping, preparation, staff meetings, and other administrative functions. Supervision must meet requirements for credentialing and entry level practice as an art therapist at the time the course is taught: The practicum course must be taught, supervised or advised by a current ATR, ATR-BC and/or ATCS. On-site supervision must be provided by someone with a minimum of a master's degree in a mental health field and a current master's level mental health credential or license. A master's or higher degree in a mental health field must have been required to obtain that license or credential. Supervision hours must be overseen and documented as such: individual (1:1) supervision hours must be accrued at a ratio of one hour of supervision for every ten hours of practicum/internship and/or group (2+ supervisees per supervisor) supervision must be accrued at a ratio of one and one-half hours of supervision for every ten hours of practicum/internship direct client contact in art therapy.

ARTTH 699 Special Topics (1 credit elective)

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS | MENTAL HEALTH COURSES (ALL ONLINE):

ARTTH 600 Psychological and Counseling Theories (3 credits)

This course will include the study of major psychological and counseling theories and their applications to practice. Includes historical development of counseling and psychological theories, contemporary development, understanding of systems perspective, application to case material, and interviewing and counseling skills. Interaction with course topics will include the course online learning community.

ARTTH 610 Human Growth and Development (3 credits)

This course will include the study of human psychological development across the life span, theories of personality development, contextual, cultural and environmental influences that impact both typical and atypical individuals and groups. Familiarity with human behavior, including developmental crises, disability, exceptional behavior, and addictive behavior. Also includes contextual/ecological factors that impact human development and recognition that development exists along a continuum of health and wellness across the lifespan.

ARTTH 645 Psychological Assessment, Appraisal, and Evaluation (3 credits)

This course will cover historical perspectives of assessment; basic concepts of standardized and non-standardized testing and assessment; fundamentals of psychological testing; bio-psychosocial assessment; statistical concepts including reliability and validity; strategies for selection of the assessment tool; and familiarity with a variety of specific instruments and procedures used in appraisal and evaluation. Selection of culturally and developmentally appropriate assessment methods and administration and interpretation of results to identify individual and familial challenges, strengths, resilience, and resources treatment planning are included. Methods of assessment and strategies to facilitate career development with diverse clients, and understanding of knowledge and skills essential in enabling individuals and organizations to positively affect career development and aptitude are also covered in this course.

ARTTH 635 Psychopathology and Diagnosis (3 credits)

This course will cover the criteria of psychiatric diagnoses; use of the DSM diagnostic criteria and the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) in use at the time the course is taught; and theories of psychopathology. Students will gain ability to recognize indicators of functional and organic disorders in clients. Also addressed in this course: Basic knowledge of types of psychopharmacological medications; ability to engage in the diagnostic process; review of commonly prescribed psychopharmacological medications; and recognition of the effects that culture, society, and crisis have on individuals with mental illness. Conceptual developments in neuroscience will be covered as well.

ARTTH 660 Research (3 credits)

The basic tenets of planning, conducting, and evaluating research and understanding research methodology, to include qualitative and quantitative designs will be explored in this course. The importance of research in the psychotherapy professions, ethical, practical, cultural and legal considerations, and the use of research to assess effectiveness of mental health services will be addressed. This course aims to help the student gain the necessary skills to design and conduct a research study and to become an informed consumer of psychotherapy professional research.



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