Art Therapy

Certificate
24 Credit Hours

This program is offered by the Leigh Gerdine College of Fine Arts/Department of Art, Design, and Art History, and is only available at the St. Louis home campus.

The art therapy certificate covers the prerequisites established by the American Art Therapy Association (AATA). The purpose of the certificate is to introduce students to the field of art therapy, to enhance their personal use of arts processes and to prepare them to utilize art education methods and fine arts skills in therapeutic arts environments such as children's arts camps, retirement homes, and community arts agencies.

The student pursuing the certificate in art therapy must be an art major.

Students should petition to become art therapy candidates at their regularly scheduled major acceptance review and begin keeping their art therapy journal under the supervision of the art therapy program advisor. (Regulated by the AATA, art therapists must complete a master's degree in order to become registered and certified. The certificate in art therapy provides an initial stage of preparation for further training.) Students seeking this certificate are required to adhere to the Ethics and Standards of Practice guidelines of the AATA.

For information on general requirements for the certificate, see Certificate Program Policies and Procedures.

The U.S. Department of Education defines Gainful Employment program criteria and data requirements. View this program's Gainful Employment Disclosure at http://www.webster.edu/consumers/gainful-employment/undergraduate/art-therapy/gedt.html to see important information about the education debt, earnings and completion rates of students who attended this program.

In addition to all requirements for the BA in studio art or a BFA in the various studio emphases, art majors can attain the certificate in art therapy by successfully completing the following courses:

Requirements

Art Therapy courses — 9 credit hours including:
- ART 3200 Art Therapy: Introduction (3 hours)
- ART 4200 Art Therapy: History and Theory (3 hours)
- ART 4810 Professional Internship in Art Therapy (3 hours)

Psychology courses — 15 credit hours including:
- PSYC 1100 Introduction to Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 2300 Lifespan Development (3 hours)
  - or PSYC 2200 Child Psychology (3 hours)
  - or PSYC 2250 Adolescent Psychology (3 hours)
  - or PSYC 2950 Psychology of Adulthood and Aging (3 hours)
- PSYC 3125 Abnormal Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 3775 Personality Theory (3 hours)
- PSYC 3900 Introduction to Counseling (3 hours)

Art Education course (recommended):
- ART 3910 Art for the Elementary Grades (3 hours)

Art Therapy Journal

In addition to the required course sequence, students in the art therapy certificate program are encouraged to take courses in education, multicultural studies, religion, and social science methods.

Art Therapy Journal

Similar to an art portfolio, this journal must be kept throughout the course of studies once the student has been identified as a candidate for the art therapy certificate. The art therapy journal review takes place at the end of each semester in the program with a final review prior to graduation.