

Art Therapy Major

Bachelor of Arts, BA

Converse University's undergraduate art therapy program is embedded within a dynamic liberal arts curriculum. The major prepares students to identify as artists interested in the social transformation of individuals and communities. As a pre-professional program, students are prepared for graduate study in art therapy or other related mental health fields, and baccalaureate level entry into the social service professions.

The art therapy major, consisting of 62 credit hours, includes a year-long internship program completed during the senior year. A board certified art therapist supervises the fall field experience, and the spring internships are offered with a variety of populations and developmental stages, throughout the upstate region.

As an interdisciplinary field, a student majoring in art therapy completes ART 414: Senior Seminar and ART 415: Senior Exhibition, culminating in a group art exhibition in the Milliken Art Gallery, and completes 12 credit hours of behavioral science study in the Department of Psychology.

Art Therapy Program Goals

The program seeks to maintain a high percentage of graduates accepted into Master's programs or successful entrance into the baccalaureate level social service workforce. To accomplish this end, the Bachelor of Arts in Art Therapy degree program identifies the following primary goals:

1. Develop studio applications that support competency in two-dimensional (2-D) and three dimensional (3-D) visual language, and the inclusion of non-traditional materials.
2. Examine a comprehensive knowledge of art therapy theory, and skill-based practice to provide historical and contemporary contexts for understanding the profession.
3. Demonstrate civic awareness, ethical behavior, creative problem solving, and cultural humility during art-based interactions with at risk populations.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will exhibit studio applications that support competency in two-dimensional (2-D) and three dimensional (3-D) visual language, and the inclusion of non-traditional materials.
2. Students will demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of art therapy theory, and skill-based practice to provide historical and contemporary contexts for understanding the profession.
3. Students will display civic awareness, ethical behavior, creative problem solving, and cultural humility during art-based interactions with at risk populations.

Art History Requirements

Item #	Title	Credits
ART 202	INTRODUCTION TO HISTORY OF WESTERN ART II	3
	1 COURSE IN ART HISTORY	3
	Sub-Total Credits	6

Required Studio Art Courses

Item #	Title	Credits
	2D DESIGN: ART 111 or 125	3
	3D DESIGN: Art 112 or 125	3
	DRAWING I: ART 113 or ART 125	3
ART 130	CERAMICS I	3
ART 170	PAINTING I	3
	STUDIO ART AT THE 200 LEVEL (100 studio prerequisite)	3
	STUDIO ART AT THE 300 LEVEL (200 studio prerequisite)	3
	Sub-Total Credits	21

Non-Traditional Materials Selection

Choose one

Item #	Title	Credits
ART 120	PRINTMAKING I	3
ART 124	GRAPHIC DESIGN I	3
ART 126	DIGITAL MEDIA I	3
ART 140	PHOTOGRAPHY 1	3
	Sub-Total Credits	3

Senior Requirements

Item #	Title	Credits
ART 414	SENIOR SEMINAR	1
ART 415	SENIOR EXHIBITION	1
	Sub-Total Credits	2

Art Therapy

ART 453 and ART 454 fulfill the experiential learning requirements for degree program. ART 455 fulfills the capstone and writing intensive requirements for the major.

Item #	Title	Credits
ART 355	SURVEY OF ART THERAPY	3
ART 357	ART THERAPY PERSPECTIVE – UNDERSTANDING CHILDREN'S ART	3
ART 380	ART THERAPY METHODS, MATERIALS AND THEORIES	3
ART 453	ART THERAPY FIELD EXPERIENCE	3
ART 454	ART THERAPY INTERNSHIP	3
ART 455	ART THERAPY SENIOR SEMINAR	3
	Sub-Total Credits	18

Psychology Requirements

PSY 100 is required, and applies to the GEP Social Science category.

Item #	Title	Credits
PSY 100	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY	3
PSY 236	THEORIES OF PERSONALITY	3
PSY 374	ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY	3
PSY 380	HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT	3
Sub-Total Credits		12
Total Credits		62