

# MASTER OF ARTS IN THE FIELD OF ART THERAPY

George Washington University's master of arts in art therapy program prepares students for careers in schools, healthcare institutions, research centers, and more. Under the mentorship of faculty members who are credentialed art therapists, students explore their artistic identity, as well as the varying aspects of art therapy, trauma training, diagnosis, and assessment. The curriculum also builds a theoretical foundation in individual, family, and group counseling, psychopathology, and human development.

Students have the option to deepen their focus in a specific area by writing a thesis. By the end of the program, all students complete nearly 1,000 required hours of internship. Graduates leave prepared to earn professional licensure in art therapy and counseling.

Visit the program website (<https://arttherapy.columbian.gwu.edu/>) for additional information.

## ADMISSIONS

**Admission:** Fall - April 1 (February 1 for priority fellowship consideration)

**Standardized GRE is not required.**  
**test scores:**

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or the PTE Academic is required of all applicants except those who hold a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree from a college or university in the United States or from an institution located in a country in which English is the official language, provided English was the language of instruction.

Minimum scores for the M.A. program are:

- Academic IELTS: an overall band score of 7.0 with no individual score below 6.0; or

- TOEFL: 600 on paper-based or 100 on Internet-based; or

- PTE Academic: 68

**Recommendations:** Two (2) recommendations required:

**Prior academic records:** Transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended, whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended must be uploaded to your online application. Official transcripts are required only of applicants who are offered admission.

If transcripts are in a language other than English, English language translations must be provided. The English translation alone should be uploaded into your application.

**Prerequisite:** A bachelor's degree, with 18 credits in art, including painting, drawing, and ceramics/sculpture/3D/figurative clay, and 12 credits in the behavioral and/or social sciences, including abnormal psychology and human development. Coursework grades must be B or above to be accepted.

**Statement of Purpose:** In an essay of approximately 500 words, state your purpose in undertaking graduate study in Art Therapy and specifically why you are interested in the GW Program. Include why you have chosen this field over any other you considered and what led you to this decision. We are not looking for a reiteration of your CV, but rather your exploration of the field, your sense of self awareness, and your level of maturity.

**Interview:** An interview is required; options available for international applicants.

**Portfolio:** Please submit your portfolio directly to the Art Therapy Department via email or Google Drive at [artx@gwu.edu](mailto:artx@gwu.edu). You can submit a PDF, PowerPoint presentation or individual photos. Please follow this link for specific requirements: <https://arttherapy.columbian.gwu.edu/admissions-aid> (<https://arttherapy.columbian.gwu.edu/admissions-aid/>).

**Course Summary Sheet:** Applicants must submit an Art Therapy Course Summary Sheet with their applications. The template may be downloaded from the Art Therapy Department website.

**International applicants only:** Please follow this link - <https://columbian.gwu.edu/international-graduate-applicants> (<https://columbian.gwu.edu/international-graduate-applicants/>) - to review the International Applicant Information carefully for details on required documents, earlier deadlines for applicants requiring an I-20 or DS-2019 from GW, and English language requirements.

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Office of Graduate Studies  
The George Washington University  
801 22nd Street NW, Phillips Hall 107  
Washington DC 20052

For additional information about the admissions process visit the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences Frequently Asked Questions (<https://columbian.gwu.edu/graduate-admissions-faq/>) page.

**Contact:**

[askccas@gwu.edu](mailto:askccas@gwu.edu)  
202-994-6210 (phone)

Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday

## REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

The general requirements stated under Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Graduate Programs (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#degreeregulationtext>).

61 credits including 900 internship hours.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required</b>		
ARTH 6205	History and Theory of Art Therapy	
ARTH 6207	Human Development and Art Therapy I: Child and Adolescent	
ARTH 6208	Human Development and Art Therapy II: Adults and Senior Adults	
ARTH 6210	Counseling/Art Therapy Process	
ARTH 6211	Process of Counseling and Art Therapy: Theory	
ARTH 6212	Creativity, Symbolism, and Metaphor	
ARTH 6221	Studio/Technique of Art Therapy	
ARTH 6233	Marital and Family Art Therapy/Counseling	
ARTH 6234	Group Process	
ARTH 6235	Social and Cultural Diversity	
ARTH 6241	Assessment Procedures	
ARTH 6242	Psychopathology: Art and Diagnosis	
ARTH 6243	Substance Abuse and Addictions	
ARTH 6251	Research Methods	
ARTH 6262	Career Counseling and Art Therapy	
ARTH 6263	Ethics and Professionalism I: Principles	
ARTH 6264	Ethics and Professionalism II: Applications	
ARTH 6265	Advanced Issues in Psychotherapy and Art Therapy (taken four times for 1 credit for a total of 4 credits)	
ARTH 6271	Art Psychotherapy and Trauma I: Theory and Approaches to Treatment (taken for 3 credits)	
ARTH 6272	Art Psychotherapy and Trauma II: Loss, Countertransference, and Resiliency	

ARTH 6281	Practicum in Art Therapy (taken six times for 1 credit for a total of 6 credits)
ARTH 6292	Special Projects in Art Therapy (taken for 1 credit)