

ART THERAPY MINOR

ATS

Art and Design Department

Upton Hall 402
(716) 878-6032

About the Program

Art therapy is a mental health profession in which qualified art therapists facilitate client's use of art media, the creative process, and the resulting artwork to explore emotions, resolve conflicts, develop interpersonal skills, manage behaviors, reduce stress, increase self-esteem and self-awareness, and achieve insight. Art therapy is used in individual, group, and family assessment and treatment to improve and enhance the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of individuals of all ages including children, adolescents, adults, and older adults. Art therapists work in a variety of settings such as hospitals, clinics, public and community agencies, schools, wellness centers and private practice.

A master's degree and extensive post-graduate clinical experience are required for entry-level practice in art therapy. The Buffalo State art therapy minor is designed to introduce students to the profession of art therapy. Those students preparing for graduate study will be advised regarding the prerequisite undergraduate coursework required for admission to graduate art therapy programs approved by the American Art Therapy Association, the national professional organization that maintains the standards for education and training leading to the art therapist clinical credential and board certification.

Admission Requirements

This minor is open to all students who have completed at least one semester of full-time study at Buffalo State and who are in good academic standing (2.00 or better GPA).

Transfer credits: A maximum of 6 transfer credits are accepted toward fulfillment of the minor.

Program Requirements

The Buffalo State art therapy minor requires 21 credits including three core courses in art therapy and four courses in related prerequisite electives. The following curriculum lists the core and their prerequisite courses.

Please note that prerequisite courses are selected as per advisement with the art therapy advisor. Students should seek faculty advisement prior to registration for each semester they are enrolled in the minor. Students planning on graduate studies in art therapy will be advised to take prerequisite courses that will fulfill graduate entrance requirements.

Other majors—only courses in psychology, exceptional education, and social work may fulfill the prerequisite contingent upon approval of the art therapy minor coordinator. Also note that the minor program of study may contain no more than three courses at the 100 or 200 level.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required Core Courses in Art Therapy (9 credit hours)		
ATS 320	INTRODUCTION TO ART AND THERAPY	3
AED 310	ART MEDIA AND METHODS EXPLORATION	3
ATS 325	ART FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL LEARNING NEEDS	3
<i>Prerequisite Courses for ATS 320 (6 credit hours)</i>		
Select two from the following:		
PSY 101	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY	3
PSY 311	PERSONALITY: THEORY AND RESEARCH	3
PSY 327	ADULT DEVELOPMENT AND AGING I	3
PSY 340	COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY	3
PSY 355	LIFESPAN DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY	3
PSY 356	CHILD DEVELOPMENT	3
PSY 357	ADOLESCENT AND YOUNG ADULT DEVELOPMENT	3
PSY 388	PSYCHOLOGY OF DEATH AND DYING	3
SOC 100	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	3
SOC 320	SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY	3
SOC 321	THE AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY	3
SOC 370	SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANT BEHAVIOR	3
SOC 391	SOCIOLOGY OF ADDICTION	3
SOC 393	SOCIOLOGY OF MENTAL ILLNESS	3
SWK 105	INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS	3
SWK 220	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL WORK	3
SWK 307	HUMAN BEHAVIOR IN THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT I	3

SWK 308	HUMAN BEHAVIOR IN THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT II	
SWK 335	MENTAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL WORK	
SWK 346	CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT	
SWK 425	SOCIAL WORK WITH FAMILIES	
<i>Prerequisite Courses for AED 310 (3 credit hours)</i>		
Select one from the following:		3
Note: Art History courses do not satisfy this requirement. The course must be studio-based, hands-on art materials and media. Representative course listing below.		
AED 100	ESSENTIALS OF VISUAL ARTS	
DES 114	WORKSHOP IN CRAFTS	
DES 220	CERAMICS I	
FAR 101	DRAWING I	
FAR 103	MODELING	
FAR 210	INTRODUCTORY PAINTING	
FAR 240	INTRODUCTORY SCULPTURE	
<i>Prerequisite Courses for ATS (3 credit hours)</i>		
Select one from the following:		3
EXE 100	NATURE AND NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS	
EXE 245	COMMUNITY SERVICE WITH INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS	
SPF 202	CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION	
SPF 311	FAMILY VIOLENCE	
SPF 353	HUMAN DEVELOPMENT DURING EARLY ADOLESCENCE AND ADOLESCENCE	
Total Credit Hours		21