

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MUSIC THERAPY

## Program Overview

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Program Coordinator     | Kathleen Murphy, (845) 257-2708, <a href="mailto:murphyk@newpaltz.edu">murphyk@newpaltz.edu</a>                                    |
| Program ID              | 285 (48 Credit program); 285C (55 credit concentration); 285P (61 credit concentration)  |
| Credits                 | 48 credits (music therapy majors and/or MTBC); 55 credits (SUNY New Paltz Clinical Musicianship majors); 61 credits (music majors) |
| Program Length          | MS can be completed in 2 years if enrolled full-time, 3 years if part time, but students must complete degree within 7 years       |
| Modality                | In-person  |
| Full-time/Part-time     | Full-time or Part-time   |
| Transfer Credits        | 9  |
| Capstone                | Thesis & Internship  |
| Licensure/Certification | NYS Creative Arts Therapist Licensure  |

## Program Description

The Master of Science degree in Music Therapy comprises 48-61 credits and provides students with a baccalaureate degree in music or closely related field with the opportunity to study music therapy at an advanced level. In this program, students acquire musical, clinical, and research skills essential for advanced professional practice. The program is approved by the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA), registered by the New York State Department of Education, and accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music.

Students who enter the program with an undergraduate degree in music therapy or with music therapy board certification complete the required 48 credit curriculum and a minimum of 500 hours advanced internship as required by Article 163 of the Mental Health Practitioner's Law. Upon successful completion of all coursework and clinical hours, students are eligible to apply for licensure as a Creative Arts Therapist in the State of New York.

Students who do not enter the program with a bachelor's degree in music therapy will be required to complete extra coursework, and an additional 700 hours of clinical training and 550 hours of internship for a total of 1250 clinical hours. Upon completion of all required coursework and clinical hours, students are eligible to sit for the certification exam offered by the Certification Board for Music Therapists, Inc, and apply for licensure as a Creative Arts Therapist in the State of New York.

## Admission Requirements

- One official transcript of all undergraduate and graduate work providing evidence of a baccalaureate degree in music therapy, music: clinical musicianship from SUNY New Paltz, or music or a closely related field from an accredited institution with at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0.

\* Interested non-music majors should contact the Program Coordinator, Dr. Kathy Murphy, before applying. Students without a degree in music, music therapy, or related discipline and a music minor may be considered for admission on a case-by-case basis, but they should expect to take additional coursework.

- Admissions essay in response to the following prompts:
  - Describe what has influenced your decision to study music therapy. Consider the impact of your life experiences and challenges and how you handled them.
  - Describe your relationship to music.
- Contact information for three references
- Applicants should submit two videos (or links to 2 videos) demonstrating musical skills.
  - The first video should contain the following: Two musical compositions demonstrating your musicality. These can be on any instrument of the applicants choosing. They can be vocal or instrumental. Applicants may submit their original compositions. Each example should be no longer than 5 minutes.
  - In the second video you should demonstrate the ability to sing and accompany yourself on piano (2 songs), the ability to sing and accompany yourself on guitar (2 songs) and the ability to sing and accompany yourself on percussion (2 songs). Percussion includes hand held instruments (such as a hand drum, shaker, or tambourine), or a body percussion pattern (a combination of clapping, stomping, tapping or snapping). Each song should be from a different genre. *Song list is available in your applicant portal.*
- Interview with music therapy faculty.
- Music Theory Placement Test (sent to applicants after their interview; *if applicable*)
- Evidence of Music Therapy Board Certification (*if applicable*)

## Application Deadlines

|             |                  |
|-------------|------------------|
| May 30      | Fall Admission   |
| November 30 | Spring Admission |
| April 30    | Summer Admission |

**NOTE: Musician Track (285P) is a SUMMER ONLY start.**

## Sample 48-credit Degree Plan - Major 285

For students entering the program who majored in Music Therapy or are board-certified.

### 1st Year

| Code                       | Title                                 | Credits |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>Fall (12 Credits)</b>   |                                       |         |
| MTX535                     | Advanced Clinical Musicianship        | 3       |
| MTX540                     | Music Therapy Foundations             | 3       |
| MTX550                     | Advanced Receptive Methods            | 3       |
| COU575                     | Human Growth and Development (Spring) | 3       |
| <b>Spring (11 Credits)</b> |                                       |         |

|                           |                                     |           |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| MTX555                    | Music Therapy in Mental Health      | 3         |
| MTX742                    | Music Therapy Research              | 3         |
| MTX750                    | Cultural Humility in Mus Ther       | 2         |
| COU540                    | Psychopathology                     | 3         |
| <b>Summer (4 Credits)</b> |                                     |           |
| MTX747                    | Music Therapy Thesis Topic Proposal | 1         |
| Elective                  |                                     | 3         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>      |                                     | <b>27</b> |

**2nd Year**

| Code                      | Title  | Credits   |
|---------------------------|--|-----------|
| <b>Fall (12 Credits)</b>  |  |           |
| MTX546                    | Advanced Clinical Improvisation                  | 3         |
| MTX553                    | Contemporary Ethical Issues in Music Therapy     | 2         |
| MTX746                    | Music Therapy Internship II                      | 3         |
| MTX749                    | Thesis   | 1         |
| MTX754                    | Music Therapy Across the Lifespan                | 3         |
| <b>Spring (9 Credits)</b> |  |           |
| MTX544                    | Medical Music Therapy                            | 3         |
| MTX752                    | Music Therapy Program Development and Evaluation | 2         |
| MTX756                    | Music Therapy Group Work                         | 3         |
| MTX749 Thesis             |  | 1         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>      |  | <b>21</b> |

**Part-Time Plan of Study**

**1st Year**

| Code                      | Title                          | Credits   |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Fall (6 Credits)</b>   |                                |           |
| MTX535                    | Advanced Clinical Musicianship | 3         |
| MTX550                    | Advanced Receptive Methods     | 3         |
| <b>Spring (6 Credits)</b> |                                |           |
| MTX555                    | Music Therapy in Mental Health | 3         |
| COU540                    | Psychopathology                | 3         |
| <b>Summer (3 Credits)</b> |                                |           |
| Elective                  |                                | 3         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>      |                                | <b>15</b> |

**2nd Year**

| Code                      | Title  | Credits   |
|---------------------------|--|-----------|
| <b>Fall (5 Credits)</b>   |  |           |
| MTX540                    | Music Therapy Foundations                    | 3         |
| MTX553                    | Contemporary Ethical Issues in Music Therapy | 2         |
| <b>Spring (8 Credits)</b> |  |           |
| MTX742                    | Music Therapy Research                       | 3         |
| MTX750                    | Cultural Humility in Mus Ther                | 2         |
| MTX746                    | Music Therapy Internship II                  | 3         |
| <b>Summer (4 Credits)</b> |  |           |
| MTX747                    | Music Therapy Thesis Topic Proposal          | 1         |
| COU575                    | Human Growth and Development                 | 3         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>      |  | <b>17</b> |

**3rd Year**

| Code                      | Title  | Credits      |
|---------------------------|--|--------------|
| <b>Fall (7-8 Credits)</b> |  |              |
| MTX546                    | Advanced Clinical Improvisation                  | 3            |
| MTX749                    | Thesis   | 1-2          |
| MTX754                    | Music Therapy Across the Lifespan                | 3            |
| <b>Spring (9 Credits)</b> |  |              |
| MTX544                    | Medical Music Therapy                            | 3            |
| MTX749 Thesis             |  | 1            |
| MTX752                    | Music Therapy Program Development and Evaluation | 2            |
| MTX756                    | Music Therapy Group Work                         | 3            |
| <b>Total Credits</b>      |  | <b>16-17</b> |

## Sample 55-credit Degree Plan - Code 285C

For students majoring in the SUNY New Paltz Music: Clinical Musicianship program.

**1st Year**

| Code                     | Title                          | Credits |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| <b>Fall (11 Credits)</b> |                                |         |
| MTX502                   | Music Therapy Practicum I      | 2       |
| MTX535                   | Advanced Clinical Musicianship | 3       |
| MTX540                   | Music Therapy Foundations      | 3       |

|                            |                                     |           |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| MTX550                     | Advanced Receptive Methods          | 3         |
| <b>Spring (13 Credits)</b> |                                     |           |
| MTX503                     | Music Therapy Practicum II          | 2         |
| MTX555                     | Music Therapy in Mental Health      | 3         |
| MTX742                     | Music Therapy Research              | 3         |
| MTX750                     | Cultural Humility in Mus Ther       | 2         |
| COU540                     | Psychopathology                     | 3         |
| <b>Summer (7 Credits)</b>  |                                     |           |
| MTX747                     | Music Therapy Thesis Topic Proposal | 1         |
| COU575                     | Human Growth and Development        | 3         |
| Elective                   |                                     | 3         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>       |                                     | <b>31</b> |

**2nd Year**

| Code                     | Title  | Credits |
|--------------------------|--|---------|
| <b>Fall (12 Credits)</b> |  |         |
| MTX546                   | Advanced Clinical Improvisation              | 3       |
| MTX553                   | Contemporary Ethical Issues in Music Therapy | 2       |
| MTX747                   | Music Therapy Thesis Topic Proposal          | 1       |
| MTX745                   | Music Therapy Internship I                   | 3       |
| MTX754                   | Music Therapy Across the Lifespan            | 3       |

|                            |  |           |
|----------------------------|--|-----------|
| <b>Spring (12 Credits)</b> |  |           |
| MTX544                     | Medical Music Therapy                            | 3         |
| MTX749                     | Thesis   | 1         |
| MTX756                     | Music Therapy Group Work                         | 3         |
| MTX752                     | Music Therapy Program Development and Evaluation | 2         |
| MTX746                     | Music Therapy Internship II                      | 3         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>       |  | <b>24</b> |

**Part-time Plan of Study**

**1st Year**

| Code                    | Title                          | Credits |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| <b>Fall (8 Credits)</b> |                                |         |
| MTX502                  | Music Therapy Practicum I      | 2       |
| MTX535                  | Advanced Clinical Musicianship | 3       |

|                           |                                |           |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| MTX550                    | Advanced Receptive Methods     | 3         |
| <b>Spring (8 Credits)</b> |                                |           |
| MTX503                    | Music Therapy Practicum II     | 2         |
| MTX555                    | Music Therapy in Mental Health | 3         |
| COU540                    | Psychopathology                | 3         |
| <b>Summer (3 Credits)</b> |                                |           |
| Elective                  |                                | 3         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>      |                                | <b>19</b> |

**2nd Year**

| Code                    | Title  | Credits |
|-------------------------|--|---------|
| <b>Fall (8 Credits)</b> |  |         |
| MTX540                  | Music Therapy Foundations                    | 3       |
| MTX553                  | Contemporary Ethical Issues in Music Therapy | 2       |
| MTX745                  | Music Therapy Internship I                   | 3       |

|                           |                               |   |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>Spring (8 Credits)</b> |                               |   |
| MTX742                    | Music Therapy Research        | 3 |
| MTX750                    | Cultural Humility in Mus Ther | 2 |
| MTX746                    | Music Therapy Internship II   | 3 |

|                           |                                     |           |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Summer (4 Credits)</b> |                                     |           |
| MTX747                    | Music Therapy Thesis Topic Proposal | 1         |
| COU575                    | Human Growth and Development        | 3         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>      |                                     | <b>20</b> |

**3rd Year**

| Code                      | Title                             | Credits |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| <b>Fall (7-8 Credits)</b> |                                   |         |
| MTX546                    | Advanced Clinical Improvisation   | 3       |
| MTX749                    | Thesis                            | 1-2     |
| MTX754                    | Music Therapy Across the Lifespan | 3       |

|                           |  |   |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Spring (9 Credits)</b> |  |   |
| MTX544                    | Medical Music Therapy                            | 3 |
| MTX749                    | Thesis   | 1 |
| MTX752                    | Music Therapy Program Development and Evaluation | 2 |
| MTX756                    | Music Therapy Group Work                         | 3 |

|                      |  |              |
|----------------------|--|--------------|
| <b>Total Credits</b> |  | <b>16-17</b> |
|----------------------|--|--------------|

## Sample 61-credit Degree Plan - Code 285P

For students entering the program who majored in music or related discipline.

*Depending upon the results of the Music proficiency assessment, students may be required to take additional voice, piano, or guitar lessons. The need for prerequisite courses will be determined after a review of undergraduate transcripts. Depending upon deficiencies in undergraduate preparation, students may be required to enroll in any or all of the following courses:*

- Music Theory I & II, Sight Singing I & II, Ensemble, Music History, Psychology of Music, Inclusive Arranging & Conducting, Introduction to Psychology, Abnormal Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Statistics

### 1st Year

| Code                       | Title                                     | Credits   |
|----------------------------|---|-----------|
| <b>Summer (6 Credits)</b>  |   |           |
| MTX500                     | Music Therapy Practice & Methods          | 3         |
| MTX501                     | Music Therapy Assessment & Treatment Plan | 3         |
| <b>Fall (11 Credits)</b>   |   |           |
| MTX502                     | Music Therapy Practicum I                 | 2         |
| MTX535                     | Advanced Clinical Musicianship            | 3         |
| MTX540                     | Music Therapy Foundations                 | 3         |
| MTX550                     | Advanced Receptive Methods                | 3         |
| <b>Spring (13 Credits)</b> |   |           |
| MTX503                     | Music Therapy Practicum II                | 2         |
| MTX555                     | Music Therapy in Mental Health            | 3         |
| MTX742                     | Music Therapy Research                    | 3         |
| MTX750                     | Cultural Humility in Mus Ther             | 2         |
| COU540                     | Psychopathology                           | 3         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>       |   | <b>30</b> |

### 2nd Year

| Code                      | Title                               | Credits |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>Summer (7 Credits)</b> |                                     |         |
| MTX747                    | Music Therapy Thesis Topic Proposal | 1       |
| COU575                    | Human Growth and Development        | 3       |
| Elective                  |                                     | 3       |
| <b>Fall (12 Credits)</b>  |                                     |         |
| MTX546                    | Advanced Clinical Improvisation     | 3       |

|                            |  |           |
|----------------------------|--|-----------|
| MTX553                     | Contemporary Ethical Issues in Music Therapy     | 2         |
| MTX749                     | Thesis   | 1         |
| MTX754                     | Music Therapy Across the Lifespan                | 3         |
| MTX745                     | Music Therapy Internship I                       | 3         |
| <b>Spring (12 Credits)</b> |  |           |
| MTX544                     | Medical Music Therapy                            | 3         |
| MTX749                     | Thesis   | 1         |
| MTX756                     | Music Therapy Group Work                         | 3         |
| MTX752                     | Music Therapy Program Development and Evaluation | 2         |
| MTX746                     | Music Therapy Internship II                      | 3         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>       |  | <b>31</b> |

### Part-Time Plan of Study

#### 1st Year

| Code                      | Title                                     | Credits   |
|---------------------------|---|-----------|
| <b>Fall (6 Credits)</b>   |   |           |
| MTX500                    | Music Therapy Practice & Methods          | 3         |
| MTX501                    | Music Therapy Assessment & Treatment Plan | 3         |
| <b>Spring (8 Credits)</b> |   |           |
| MTX502                    | Music Therapy Practicum I                 | 2         |
| MTX535                    | Advanced Clinical Musicianship            | 3         |
| MTX550                    | Advanced Receptive Methods                | 3         |
| <b>Summer (8 Credits)</b> |   |           |
| MTX503                    | Music Therapy Practicum II                | 2         |
| MTX555                    | Music Therapy in Mental Health            | 3         |
| COU540                    | Psychopathology                           | 3         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>      |   | <b>22</b> |

#### 2nd Year

| Code                      | Title  | Credits |
|---------------------------|--|---------|
| <b>Summer (3 Credits)</b> |  |         |
| Elective                  |  | 3       |
| <b>Fall (8 Credits)</b>   |  |         |
| MTX540                    | Music Therapy Foundations                    | 3       |
| MTX553                    | Contemporary Ethical Issues in Music Therapy | 2       |

|                           |                               |           |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| MTX745                    | Music Therapy Internship I    | 3         |
| <b>Spring (8 Credits)</b> |                               |           |
| MTX742                    | Music Therapy Research        | 3         |
| MTX750                    | Cultural Humility in Mus Ther | 2         |
| MTX746                    | Music Therapy Internship II   | 3         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>      |                               | <b>19</b> |

**3rd Year**

| Code                      | Title  | Credits      |
|---------------------------|--|--------------|
| <b>Summer (4 Credits)</b> |  |              |
| MTX747                    | Music Therapy Thesis Topic Proposal              | 1            |
| COU575                    | Human Growth and Development                     | 3            |
| <b>Fall (7-8 Credits)</b> |  |              |
| MTX546                    | Advanced Clinical Improvisation                  | 3            |
| MTX749                    | Thesis   | 1-2          |
| MTX754                    | Music Therapy Across the Lifespan                | 3            |
| <b>Spring (9 Credits)</b> |  |              |
| MTX544                    | Medical Music Therapy                            | 3            |
| MTX749 Thesis             |  | 1            |
| MTX752                    | Music Therapy Program Development and Evaluation | 2            |
| MTX756                    | Music Therapy Group Work                         | 3            |
| <b>Total Credits</b>      |  | <b>20-21</b> |

- Complete your degree within the specified time limit outlined in the Program Overview.

## Program Learning Objectives

- Build a foundation of musicianship based on performing, composing, interpreting, and improvising.
- Engage in a diverse range of multi-ethnic musical styles through study and participation that gives students a broad understanding of cultural, historical, political, and health-wellness contexts.
- Work effectively as a contributing member of a small team and larger group.
- Cultivate organizational and team-building skills to create and serve future communities.
- Synthesize foundational skills and knowledge to empower creative risk-taking in developing artistic career paths.

## Graduate Checklist

- Apply for graduation via [my.newpaltz.edu](http://my.newpaltz.edu) under "Graduation" tab according to the schedule in the [academic calendar](#).
- Resolve any pending admission conditions (outlined in your acceptance letter) and/or missing documents if applicable.
- Review your progress report via [my.newpaltz.edu](http://my.newpaltz.edu) to ensure that you have completed all program requirements.
- Remember that only two grades below a B- may be applied to your [plan of study](#).
- Contact your advisor if you need to amend your plan or process a [transfer credit](#).
- Ensure that you are in [good academic standing](#) with a GPA (Grade Point Average) of 3.0 or higher and that you are making satisfactory academic progress towards your degree completion.
- Pass your capstone or culminating assessment.