Professional Licensure Program in Creative Arts Therapy

The Department of Music at SUNY New Paltz offers a master’s degree in Music Therapy. Music Therapy applicants pursue a program of study leading to candidacy for licensure as a creative arts therapist (LCAT) through the New York State Education Department Office of the Professions. Following completion of the 48-credit degree in Music Therapy, students must pass a professional licensing examination and complete 1500 clock hours of supervised clinical experience in order to qualify for Licensure as a Creative Arts Therapist in New York State.

Graduate Program in Music

- MS in Music Therapy (http://catalog.newpaltz.edu/graduate/fine-performing-arts/music/music-therapy-ms)

MUS521. Applied Music: Piano . 3 Credits.
Individual weekly lessons in piano. Lessons adapted to the needs of the student. A total of 15 hours of private instruction per semester will be given. Offered every semester.

MUS522. Applied Music: Voice . 3 Credits.
Individual weekly lessons in voice. Lessons adapted to the needs of the student. A total of 15 hours of private instruction per student will be given. Offered every semester.

MUS523. Applied Music: Misc. 3 Credits.
Individual weekly lessons in a classical or jazz instrument. Lessons adapted to the needs of the student. A total of 15 hours of private instruction per semester will be given. Offered every semester.

MUS540. Foundations of Music Therapy . 3 Credits.
This course examines varied clinical theories in music therapy service delivery and procedures related to these theories. Students develop musical programming, assessment and treatment plans for clients with varied needs.

MUS541. Repertoire in Therapy . 3 Credits.
Focuses on the music therapist’s development of approaches to new repertoire for personal growth as a musician-therapist in order to better serve clients with diverse musical preferences and needs. Students develop personal philosophical statements relative to ongoing musical learning and prepare varied pieces for performance.

MUS542. Music in Counseling . 3 Credits.
A graduate level course for Music Therapists and Music Therapy majors designed to learn and practice verbal processing within the Music Therapy context. In addition, students will learn creative music therapy strategies in working with psychiatric clients and will develop a working knowledge of group dynamics.

MUS543. Music Therapy for Older Adults . 3 Credits.
A graduate level course for Music Therapists and Music Therapy majors. Clinical needs of the elderly will be explored, including the needs of the well elderly based on the research literature. Music Therapy techniques will be practiced, and students will expand their repertoire in working with clients.

MUS544. Medical Music Therapy Assessment and Treatment . 3 Credits.
Focuses on the common and diverse needs of clients in acute care and rehabilitation medical settings. Assessment and treatment goals and procedures for patients who are verbal or non-verbal will be presented. Students develop music therapy protocols to reduce anxiety indicators and increase desired behaviors by unit.

MUS545. Music Therapy in Special Education . 3 Credits.
Provides an overview of issues and practices in special education service delivery for music therapists. Course content includes: national and state educational policy directives, learning standards-based curricular development and clinical techniques for working in diverse settings with students with special needs in terms of assessment and treatment strategies.

MUS546. Improvisation for Therapy . 3 Credits.
Varied improvisational styles and techniques are presented. Students demonstrate improvisational skills in terms of melody, harmony and rhythm. Techniques include pentatonic, rhythmic, and harmonic improvisation on voice, drums, guitar and piano.

MUS547. Advanced Guitar for Therapists and Educators . 3 Credits.
This course will provide students with advanced guitar skills such as movable chords, jazz chords, lead guitar parts, and various accompaniment patterns unique to given styles and artists.

MUS548. Music Therapy Ensemble . 2 Credits.
This course provides students the opportunity to play and lead pre-composed and improvised musical activities in a variety of styles within a group context. Focus will be directed on leading clients with varying musical abilities, assigning instruments and the parts to be played according to the clinical needs of clients, and the synthesis of jazz, pop and pentatonic improvisation techniques into ensembles.

MUS549. Creative Arts Therapies with Autism Spectrum Disorder. 3 Credits.
A survey of the theory and practice of the New York State licensed creative arts therapies; art therapy, music therapy, dance & movement therapy, poetry therapy, and drama therapy, as specifically applied to clients with ASD.

MUS593. Music Selected Topic. 12 Credits.
Selected topics courses are regularly scheduled courses that focus on a particular topic of interest. Descriptions are printed in the Schedule of Classes each semester. Selected topics courses may be used as elective credit and may be repeated for credit, provided that the topic of the course changes.

MUS594. Fieldwork in Music . 1-12 Credits.

MUS595. Indep Study Music . 1-12 Credits.

MUS742. Music Therapy Research and Program Evaluation . 3 Credits.
Students examine major research styles including quantitative, qualitative, and historical in order to develop a thesis proposal. Issues in program evaluation are discussed and models examined.

MUS743. Fieldwork 1 . 2 Credits.
Supervised continuing clinical experiences of work with groups and individuals at University - affiliated sites. Weekly faculty-directed seminar covers critical issues pertaining to assessment, treatment and evaluation of music therapy.
MUS744. Fieldwork 2. 2 Credits.
Supervised continuing clinical experiences of work with groups and individuals at University-affiliated sites. Weekly faculty-directed seminar covers critical issues pertaining to assessment, treatment and evaluation of music therapy.

MUS745. Music Therapy Internship I. 3 Credits.
Students will be placed in community settings such as local hospitals, schools, and rehabilitation programs to provide opportunities to practice advanced music therapy techniques with clients under the supervision of a Board Certified Music Therapist. Students must complete at least 125 hours of clinical practice.

MUS746. Music Therapy Internship II. 3 Credits.
This second semester course in the music therapy internship sequence places students in clinical settings such as hospitals, schools, and rehabilitation programs providing opportunities that expand the range of experiences resulting from working with a variety of populations and professionals who provide services to them. In addition to clinical work at their respective sites, students participate in a bi-weekly internship seminar held by their supervising academic instructors in which students engage in discussion about music therapy and clinical matters as well as present their clinical work and receive feedback from peers and supervising instructors.

MUS748. Thesis Seminar. 1 Credit.
Provides students with a forum to discuss issues related to the conducting of a thesis project. Topics covered will include legal issues and institutional policies regarding the conducting of research on human subjects.

MUS749. Thesis. 2 Credits.
This is a requirement of all graduate music therapy students. Theses may be conducted in a research project (i.e., evaluating the effects of music therapy on various client needs or outcomes), in a format to guide clinical practice (i.e., a manual of clinical interventions for an identified population), or as a program development project (i.e., creating a new music therapy program within the community).

MUS793. Music Selected Topic. 3-12 Credits.
Selected topics courses are regularly scheduled courses that focus on a particular topic of interest. Descriptions are printed in the Schedule of Classes each semester. Selected topics courses may be used as elective credit and may be repeated for credit, provided that the topic of the course changes.

MUS794. Fieldwork in Music. 1-12 Credits.

MUS795. Indep Study Music. 1-12 Credits.

MUS799. Continued Registration. 6 Credits.