

Art Therapy Co-Major

For information, contact the Department of Art

The primary goal of the co-major is to prepare students interested in pursuing a career in art therapy to apply to art therapy graduate programs. Art therapists can work in any setting that employs helping professions, for example: hospitals, schools, correctional facilities, domestic violence shelters, geriatric facilities, psychiatric facilities, residential facilities, day programs for developmental disabilities and chronic mental illness, etc. Art therapy uses the art process and the therapeutic relationship between the client and art therapist to process trauma, enhance self-esteem, improve relational abilities, decrease anxiety/depression, and increase an overall enhanced sense of well-being. Students who pursue and complete a master’s degree in art therapy will be eligible for mental health licensure in their state, which grants the ability then to have four broad career opportunities (Art Therapist, Art Educator*, Counselor, and Artist).

The art therapy co-major builds upon the minor and the foundation of three lateral, human-centered perspectives significant to the field of art therapy: art studio, art education, and psychology. Students will explore connections between art production, methods of facilitating art experiences with people across the lifespan, and an understanding of human behaviors. Introduction to Art Therapy will tie the courses together through presenting exploratory art-making activities, foundational readings, and possible pathways to a career in the profession. The co-major curriculum provides students with an interest in art therapy additional skills and competencies from more in depth coursework. Advanced coursework in both a 2D studio area and 3D studio area is required.

The term co-major indicates that students must be currently enrolled in and complete another major at Miami University; the co-major complements the primary major. There is no specific degree designation for the co-major; students receive the designation of their primary major. Students may earn either the Art Therapy minor or Art Therapy co-major. A minimum overall 2.0 GPA is required for courses in the minor and co-major. All courses must be taken for a letter grade (not credit/no credit).

*Check state licensure requirements for public school contexts

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
ART 111	Design and Composition	3
ART 121	Observational Drawing	3
ART 194	Introduction to Art Therapy	3
ART 195	Introduction to Art Education	3
PSY 111 & PSY 112	Introduction to Psychology and Foundational Experiences in Psychology ¹	3-4
or PSY 112M	Foundational Experiences for Majors	
PSY 231	Developmental Psychology	3
PSY 242	Abnormal Psychology	3
Choose one psychology elective from the following:		3
PSY 210	Psychology Across Cultures	
PSY 241	Personality	

PSY 251	Introduction to Biopsychology	
PSY 271	Survey of Perception, Action, and Cognition	
Choose one 2D medium to take at 200 level and 300 level:		6
ART 231 & ART 331	Painting I and Painting II	
ART 241 & ART 341	Printmaking I and Printmaking II	
ART 257 & ART 357	Photography and Photography II	
Choose one 3D medium to take at 200 level and 300 level:		6
ART 261 & ART 361	Ceramics I and Ceramics II	
ART 264 & ART 364	Jewelry Design and Metals I and Jewelry Design and Metals II	
ART 271 & ART 371	Sculpture I and Sculpture II	
Total Credit Hours		36-37

¹ PSY 112 waived for non-psychology majors with AP or transfer credit for PSY111.