Graduate

Art Therapy Counseling

Degree Available at SIUE
• Master of Arts in Art Therapy Counseling

Art Therapy Counseling at SIUE
The master’s in art therapy counseling program, combines classroom instruction, practicum experience and research. During the first year, students begin with fieldwork. Our students have served as art enrichment specialists in Head Start settings working with children, teachers and staff to support social and emotional learning. During the second and third years, art therapy students are placed at practicum sites that span in practice and settings.

Our mission is to provide experiential learning to foster socio-culturally attuned, creative practices in the theory, reflection and application of art therapy counseling. Our vision is that art therapy counselors cultivate creative, just and healthy communities. The SIUE art therapy counseling program goal is to prepare competent, entry-level art therapists in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills) and affective (behavior) learning domains as per ACATE Educational Standards.

Because the program is based in the Department of Art and Design, there is an emphasis on art-making. Classes are small and experiential learning is integral to the program. In order to ensure individualized instruction, only 10 students are accepted into the program each fall.

Advantages of studying at SIUE include availability of graduate assistantships, which can include tuition waivers and stipends; a rich array of urban, suburban and rural practicum settings; and a vibrant community arts scene. Scholarships are also available to art therapy students. Learn more at siue.edu/art-therapy-scholarships. Our student-to-faculty ratio is low, and students have the opportunity to learn from numerous visiting art therapists.

Career Opportunities
Art therapy counselors work with people of all ages: children, adolescents, adults, couples, families, groups and communities. They provide services in settings that include mental health centers, hospitals, rehabilitation, forensic institutions, community outreach programs, wellness centers, schools, nursing homes, open studios and independent practices.

Art therapy counseling is an expanding field and employment opportunities continue to increase as it becomes recognized by professionals, work settings and clients. The salary for art therapy counselors varies geographically and with experience. Entry-level annual income is approximately $40,000-$50,000.

Contact Information
Art Therapy Counseling
Department of Art and Design
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
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Art Therapy Graduate Faculty
Graduate Program Director
Megan A. Robb, MA, ATR-BC, LPC, NCC

Jayashree George, DA, ATR-BC, LMFT, SEP
2000, New York University

Shelly E.M. Goebel-Parker, MSW, ATR-BC
1991, Washington University in St. Louis

Graduate Assistantships Available

siue.edu/grad-assistantships

90% five-year job-placement trend within six months of graduation,
100% placement within a year

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What our students say about art therapy at SIUE

“With the hands-on learning opportunities I’ve experienced in the art therapy counseling program, I feel like I’m ready to jump into the workforce after graduation. The practicum experiences have also been wonderful and helped me grow as a professional.”  -Libby Fisher

“Faculty members do all they can to support and challenge me, while also learning alongside me to grow the art therapy community and profession.”  -Eva Sedjo

“SIUE offers a close-knit cohort experience you don’t find in other programs. I have found it helpful to have people who are going through this experience with me and the sense of community and connection that brings.”  -Kayla Grobe

Application Deadline
The application deadline for the following fall admission is January 15.

Admission Requirements
• Graduate School application and $40 fee
• Submission of all postsecondary academic transcripts
• Successful completion of a bachelor’s degree prior to enrollment in one of the following:
  ° Art Studio
  ° Art Education
  ° Psychology
  ° A related field
• Minimum GPA of 2.50
• Scores from Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
• International Applicants: Proof of English Proficiency, minimum requirements are TOEFL (79), IELTS (6.5) or equivalent
• 12-15 digital images of personal artwork
• 500-word Statement of Purpose
• Three letters of recommendation from professional or academic references (there is no set form)
• Resume
• Personal and group interviews with faculty are also required after application materials have been received

Program application materials may be uploaded during the application process, but official transcripts must be sent directly from the school attended and test scores must be verifiable with the appropriate testing service. Please contact the Graduate Admissions Office with questions regarding the application submission process at graduateadmissions@siue.edu.

Prospective students must show evidence of having completed the following prior to admission to the program:
• 18 hours of art studio
• Minimum of 12 hours of psychology, including developmental and abnormal psychology, as well as psychological statistics. Statistics in a related social or health field may be considered

Applicants with deficiencies will be required to take prerequisite coursework before admission to the program.

Required Courses (42 hours)
• ART 550 Counseling Techniques in Art Therapy
• ART 552 Assessment of Individuals and Families
• ART 553 Advanced Art Therapy Counseling: Diagnosis and Techniques with Children and Adolescents
• ART 554 Advanced Art Therapy Counseling: Diagnosis and Techniques with Adults
• ART 555 Art Therapy with Groups
• ART 556 Family Art Therapy
• ART 557 Developmental Theory and Art Therapy
• ART 561 Multicultural Issues in Art Therapy
• ART 566 Research Methodology in Art Therapy
• ART 573 Counseling Theory and Art Therapy
• ART 574 Career Counseling
• ART 575 Professional Ethics and Legal Issues
• ART 595 Research Projects
• SOCW 564 Substance Use Services

Required Options (Six hours)
• (3) Studio Art
• (3) Psychopathology (PSYC 431, 531, or 553; or SOCW 537)

Required Fieldwork (Three hours minimum)
• ART 564

Required Practicum (Seven hours minimum)
• ART 559

Electives
• Two or more hours in studio art, psychology, social work, or a related field

The SIUE art therapy counseling graduate program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) upon the recommendation of the Accreditation Council for Art Therapy Education (ACATE).

This information is concurrent with the 2020-2021 Academic Catalog. Courses are subject to change at any time.

siue.edu/grad/art-therapy