Are you interested in using music as a tool to improve the lives of clients of all ages? You can learn to apply your musicianship to use music to help people. Join us today, as your first step toward a successful career in music therapy.

Program Description

The BMus program in music therapy prepares students for a career in health care, community-based and special education settings. Music therapy majors learn to use carefully planned music interventions to achieve desired changes in a client's individualized behavior and functioning.

Music therapy is a profession in which engagement and receptive or active music-making help a client achieve individual therapeutic goals. Music therapy students develop a wide range of musical, verbal and nonverbal skills through the programs' many opportunities to work in clinical settings. Students also study:

- human anatomy
- musical improvisation
- popular music styles
- psychology
- songwriting
- special education
- world music

At a Glance

- **College/School:** [Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts](#)
- **Location:** Tempe

- **Additional Program Fee:** Yes
Second Language Requirement: No
First Required Math Course: Any math course that meets the MA designation.
Math Intensity: General

Required Courses (Major Map)

2022 - 2023 Major Map
Major Map (Archives)

Concurrent Program Options

Students pursuing concurrent degrees (also known as a "double major") earn two distinct degrees and receive two diplomas. Working with their academic advisors, students can create their own concurrent degree combination. Some combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum.

Admission Requirements

General University Admission Requirements:
All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.
First-year | Transfer | International | Readmission

Additional Requirements:

Important: Applicants must submit an ASU application for undergraduate admission in addition to a separate School of Music, Dance and Theatre application. Students should visit https://musicdancetheatre.asu.edu/admissions/music/undergraduate-steps-to-apply for details. Admission to the School of Music, Dance and Theatre is based on an audition. Auditions take place in November (spring admission) and in January and February (fall admission) of each year. Applicants may review audition information at https://musicdancetheatre.asu.edu/admissions/music/undergraduate-auditions.

Admission to the music program is highly selective and based on an audition process. Students are admitted as music audition students and must successfully complete the audition before enrolling in music major courses. Upon admission to both ASU and the School of Music, Dance and Theatre, the applicant's major is changed to music. In the event a student is admitted to ASU but not to the School of Music, Dance and Theatre or misses the audition deadline, the student remains as a music audition major and will need to successfully pass the music audition milestone in the first semester in order to gain admission into the program.

Application Deadlines: Students should visit https://musicdancetheatre.asu.edu/admissions/music/undergraduate-deadlines-fees for complete music deadlines.

Spring admission: The deadline to apply for admission to this program is October 15.

Fall admission: The deadline to apply for admission to this program is January 5.
Transfer Admission Requirements:

Transfer Applicants: Transfer of courses from other accredited institutions is subject to the existence of parallel and equal courses in the college’s curriculum, and departmental or school evaluation of studio and class piano courses with respect to performance standards.

Every candidate for the bachelor’s degree must earn a minimum of 30 hours in resident credit at ASU. Transfer students enrolled in the institute must complete a minimum of 15 resident credit hours in the major as approved by the faculty.

Application Deadlines: Students should visit https://musicdancetheatre.asu.edu/admissions/music/undergraduate-deadlines-fees for complete music deadlines.

Spring admission: The deadline to apply for admission to this program is October 15.

Fall admission: The deadline to apply for admission to this program is January 5.

Change of Major Requirements

An ASU student who would like to change majors to one offered by the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 (scale is 4.00 = “A”).

Students should refer to https://changemajor.apps.asu.edu for information about how to change a major to this program.

Transfer Options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use MyPath2ASU™ to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and they help students save time and money in their college journey. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/MyPath2ASU.

Program Learning Outcomes

Program learning outcomes identify what a student will learn or be able to do upon completion of their program. This program has the following program outcomes:
• Apply competent music foundation skills across their secondary instruments of voice, piano, and guitar.
• Apply basic knowledge of the causes, symptoms of, and basic terminology used in medical, mental health, and educational settings to the implementation of therapeutic interventions.
• Write research papers applying the conventions of scholarly discourse in music.

Global Opportunities

Global Experience
With over 250 programs in more than 65 countries (programs vary in length, from one week to one year), study abroad is possible for all ASU students who wish to acquire global skills and knowledge in preparation for a 21st century career. Students earn ASU credit for completed courses, while staying on track for graduation, and they may apply financial aid and scholarships toward program costs.

https://goglobal.asu.edu/

Career Opportunities

Graduates are eligible to sit for the music therapy certification examination given by the Certification Board for Music Therapists. They should visit the ASU professional licensure website for information about licensure in Arizona and other states. https://admission.asu.edu/academics/licensure

Positions are available regionally and nationally in hospitals, schools, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes and other health care facilities. Graduates are prepared to work in the fields of community music therapy and wellness, geriatric care, mental health, physical rehabilitation, special education, or within veteran and military populations.

A music therapy career may also provide an opportunity for private practice with flexible hours.

Career examples include but are not limited to those shown in the following list. Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art Director</td>
<td></td>
<td>$97,270</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art Professor</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>$69,690</td>
</tr>
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<td>Healthcare Professor</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td>$99,090</td>
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<td>High School Teacher</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
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<td>Middle School Teacher</td>
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<td>Music Producer</td>
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<td>Music Therapist</td>
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<td>$57,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musician/Singer</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Professional Licensure

ASU programs that may lead to professional licensure or certification are intended to prepare students for potential licensure or certification in Arizona. Completion of an ASU program may not meet educational requirements for licensure or certification in another state. For more information, students should visit the ASU professional licensure webpage: [https://admission.asu.edu/academics/licensure](https://admission.asu.edu/academics/licensure).

### Contact Information

- **School of Music, Dance and Theatre** | MUSIC E167
- **MDTAdmissions@asu.edu** | 480-965-5069