Undergraduate Degree and Course Preparation For Graduate Music Therapy Studies

With an undergraduate degree or course work from another academic institution, see your requirements here.

Undergraduate degree and electives required for the graduate program

Students interested in graduate music therapy studies at New Paltz should complete an undergraduate music degree, plus elective courses, and music competencies shown below. Undergraduate studies must be from an accredited college or University.

1) A BS or BA in music, 54 credits minimum
Undergraduate course work must include the following Music therapy electives and competencies

2) Music Therapy Elective Courses*
Introduction to Music Therapy course
Psychology of Music course
Songwriting for Music Therapy
Music Therapy Ethics course
Music Therapy Methods course
Music Therapy Practicum or Clinical Experience course
(60 Hours on site supervised by a Board-Certified music therapist)

3) Voice, Piano, Guitar Competencies**
Piano Class* (3 courses 1, 2, and 3 minimum) or applied lessons...
Guitar Class* (Beginning and intermediate) or applied lessons.....
Voice Class* (beginning and intermediate) or applied lessons..

4) Psychology Courses
Introductory Psychology course
Statistics course (Psychology or Sociology Statistics)

New Paltz music major with music therapy electives

New Paltz, students enroll in the Music (507) concentration. This degree, plus the electives below fulfill the undergraduate completion requirements to apply to the Music Therapy Graduate Program, but do not guarantee admission.

1) BS or BA in Music (507), 54 credits
Courses within this green box are electives included in the Music degree 54 credit total

2) Music Therapy Elective Courses*
MUS 240 Introduction to Music Therapy
MUS 345 Psychology of Music
MUS 342 Songwriting for Music Therapy
MUS 341 Music Therapy Ethics & Professional Development
MUS 340 Music Therapy Methods and Materials
MUS 480 Music Therapy Practicum

3) Voice, Piano, Guitar Competencies**
MUS 202 Piano 1
MUS 301 Piano 2
MUS 302 Piano 3 Jazz & Popular Styles
MUS 218 Guitar 1
MUS 205 Class Voice

4) Psychology Courses***
PSY 277 Introductory Psychology
PSY 275 Psychological Statistics

If you are a New Paltz undergrad, or if you are planning to enroll at New Paltz as an undergrad, see degree and course requirements here.

Click here to see the New Paltz undergraduate Music degree plan.

All coursework included in the green box here counts towards the New Paltz Music degree.

**Competencies in voice, piano, and guitar are determined by placement and advising. Placement for applied lessons is by audition. Placement for competencies is by advisement. For example, a pianist probably only needs to take guitar and voice competency classes.

***NOTE: Effective Fall 2016, all New Paltz undergraduate music majors preparing for the graduate music therapy program are required to complete a minor in psychology (which will include these courses)

Questions regarding undergraduate preparation for graduate studies can be addressed to the Graduate Music Therapy Coordinator:
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845-257-2708 or at gimenom@newpaltz.edu