

MA Art Therapy

Additional Application Information

To allow us to assess your application fully, we also require the following documents at point of application:

1.0 Completed [Work Experience Form](#)

2.0 Work Experience

All candidates will be expected to provide evidence of a minimum of 1000 hours of relevant work experience in order to be eligible for the course. These hours need to have been accrued by the date of application and do not include hours within the period of acceptance and the start of the academic year. This work may be paid employment and/or voluntary work, gained in the UK or abroad. The work should provide experience of working with the kinds of vulnerable and special needs clients a student may encounter on clinical placement during the MA training. The work should take place in health, education or community settings.

Work experience must be gained outside the confines of an applicant's own domestic circumstances, so tasks such as caring for children, friends or relatives, although obviously important as life experience, do not qualify for the purposes of entry requirements. Applicants should bear in mind that the purpose of relevant work experience is to give them some insight into the problems involved in working with people who are undergoing some form of emotional or psychological crisis or stress. With this in mind, direct work with such clients should be the main purpose of the applicant's employment and not merely incidental to employment in another capacity. Teaching experience should include a substantial amount of specific special needs work and can include teaching or classroom assistant experience.

3.0 Portfolio of Artwork

The portfolio should contain a range of your work including:

1. A selection of images of significant works/designs (maximum of 5)
2. Images of sketchbook work (maximum of 5)
3. Images that show your development process (maximum of 5)

The portfolio should be clearly annotated with an indication of media used and size. Please visit our website for further information and guidance on how you may present your [Portfolio](#). Further to the portfolio guidance on the website please note that we will be looking for evidence of the development of your art making practice over a number of years, your emotional engagement with your work and your capacity for personal expression through art.

Please choose artwork that represents the diversity of your practice. In the interview, you will be asked to discuss one or two or selected pieces.

4.0 Extended Personal Statement/Essay

You are required to submit an extended personal statement that addresses the following three questions:

1. What is Art Therapy?
2. How has my creative process informed my wish to study Art Therapy?
3. Why is this profession a good fit for me?

The essay must be a maximum of 650 words in length, excluding the bibliography. Please draw on relevant UK Art Therapy literature and use at least one image (this can be your own or drawn from contemporary visual culture).

5.0 Degree Certificate & Transcript

Applicants should have an Honours Degree or its equivalent in Visual Arts, the Humanities, Education or a related field.

6.0 Two references (1 work and 1 academic)

Please ask your referees to send their references to admppc@herts.ac.uk for Home/EU or admint@herts.ac.uk for International students.

7.0 Additional Information for International Students Only

As above with the following exceptions:

The Extended Personal Statement/Essay should be submitted separately as follows:

A 500 word essay titled 'What is Art therapy?' referenced with relevant UK literature on Art Therapy. Use the Harvard referencing system and also please include a bibliography.

A concise personal statement (250 words) that addresses the following four points:

1. Why you wish to study MA Art Therapy
2. Why you wish to study at UH
3. Why you wish to study in the UK
4. What are your career goals and how does this course help you achieve them

After your initial application has been assessed we will contact you to arrange a VSee or Skype interview if you are not based in the UK.

If English is not your first language you will need a minimum IELTS score of 6.5.

If you do not have the required level of English for entry, our [academic English courses](#) can help you to achieve this level.

Selection and Interview:

Interviews are held from December onwards and continue until all places are filled – usually no later than the end of May. Interviews are offered as application forms and additional application information is received and places are allocated on a first come/first served basis. Results of interviews are usually provided within ten days. International students can be interviewed by Skype or VSee if they are unable to attend for a personal interview.

Following the receipt of the application, applicants may be selected to attend an interview. If an applicant is not selected for interview, it is usually because basic entry requirements are lacking and some advice may be given as to how these may be achieved so that an applicant may re-apply.

The interview lasts for approximately two and a half hours. It starts with a group Q&A session and discussion followed by a ten minute individual interview with each of the three interview panel members (two tutors and one service user). Skype /VSee interviews are usually conducted by the MA Art Therapy admissions tutor and last for 30 minutes.

If an applicant is not selected at interview, some advice may be given as to how future applications may be strengthened by additional education and/or work experience. However, staffing resources do not allow for the provision of detailed individual feedback and correspondence regarding the reasons for unsuccessful application cannot be entered into.

If a place is offered, applicants will be asked to complete an application form for an enhanced disclosure certificate from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). Applicants may also be asked for further information concerning any convictions, cautions or other relevant information that it reveals, as well as references from the probation service or other organizations.