



Art Therapy Major Sophomore Agreement

Student Name:

Date:

Art Therapy is an exciting and rewarding field. This agreement is designed to support your academic success and prepare you for the expectations of an applied major. Please read the form in its entirety before you answer any questions. **This form must be typed and signed in person.**

As an applied major, students must meet increasingly rigorous academic and interpersonal criteria not required of non-applied majors. It is common for students not to be entirely ready for this level of community responsibility, and pursuing a degree at the master's level may be a better career option. All mental health programs must vet students for readiness regarding this level of responsibility. As per national standards, ultimately, it is not the student's decision if you are prepared for the field but the Program Coordinator's decision. This is a safety issue for you, the individuals we serve, and a liability risk for the University.

April 19, 2022, will be the deadline, and no late or incomplete forms will be accepted. An inability to meet the agreed deadline will demonstrate a failure to meet the necessary criteria to be in the major. As a result, a meeting with the Program Coordinator and Chair will be required to create a plan for success. It will be the student's responsibility to coordinate this meeting, and failure to secure this meeting by the end of the semester will result in dismissal from the major. The only exception will be written documentation from the Academic Services office.

Expectations from the American Art Therapy Association and our community partners:

- *What are the Requirements to Become an Art Therapist?* (AATA, 2003a). It is pertinent to answer this question, and personal qualifications are included: An art therapist must have sensitivity to human needs and expressions, emotional and psychological stability, patience, insight into psychological processes [both their own and community members], and an understanding of art media. An art therapist must also be an attentive listener, a keen observer, develop rapport with people, receive feedback and take necessary action. Flexibility and humor are important in adapting to changing circumstances, frustration, and disappointment. (Feen-Calligan article on Canvas).

Academic Performance: (Your academic advisor can provide data. All requests will require a 72-hour turnaround, no exceptions.)

As mentioned in the undergraduate academic catalog, to enroll in ART 453: Art Therapy Field Experience, students must obtain a 3.0 in the major and have permission from the professor.

Major GPA: _____ spring term 20____

If below 3.0, please record the spring midterm GPA: _____.

Undergraduate 3.00 GPA or above is a graduate school requirement.

Cumulative GPA: _____ spring term 20____

Professional Criteria:

Internship placements expect students to meet the professional attendance criteria and capacity for on-time arrival. Please note that no site supervisor will be interested in hosting a consistently late student.

In ART 357, I have _____ absences _____ tardy(s).

If you have more than two listed in this section, your behavior does not meet our community site's professional criteria. Please document your plan to change this behavior.

Student Portfolio: (Students with incomplete websites are welcome to petition for a fall 2022 deadline. The student will create a separate petition and attach it to this agreement.) _____

Each semester students will create a website and add images; please add your website link below. At least one piece from each studio course must be in your portfolio.

Website link:

List studio courses:

ART	Image(s) in portfolio _____
ART	Image(s) in portfolio _____
ART	Image(s) in portfolio _____
ART	Image(s) in portfolio _____
ART	Image(s) in portfolio _____
ART	Image(s) in portfolio _____
ART	Image(s) in portfolio _____

Add more as needed

I have included an unofficial transcript to this agreement _____ Y _____ N

Please articulate your current strengths and areas of growth. Include both interpersonal and academic areas for both sections:

Student Agreement to abide by the AATA Code of Ethics and Multi-Cultural Competencies

The Art Therapy major at Converse University is guided by the American Art Therapy Association's Code of Ethics and the Multi-Cultural Competencies. The tenets of these documents are found throughout the curriculum, and a copy of each is available on Canvas.

I recognize, without reservation, the field of art therapy's notion— that a client's values, beliefs, and actions are influenced by race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, religion, socioeconomic status, political views, sexual orientation, geographic region, physical capacity [or human variation,] and historical or current experiences with the dominant culture. I understand my obligation to engage with respect and dignity for all individuals, regardless of our cultural similarities or differences.

By signing this agreement, I acknowledge having read both documents, I understand the required expectations and meet the expected codes of conduct.

Initial _____

Exhibitions:

As a NASAD accredited department, all students are required to submit artwork to two exhibitions. While we hope you get into the show, acceptance is not a graduation requirement. The Art Society sponsors an annual art exhibition, and other calls for exhibits are emailed and posted on department bulletin boards throughout the year. Please connect with the studio art faculty if you need additional exhibition suggestions. Art Therapy students can submit work to one Art Society Exhibition, and the other must be an off-campus exhibition. Students must be able to present submission documentation.

Exhibition #1 _____ Date: _____

Exhibition #2 _____

Date: _____

Please create a plan to complete any missing requirements?

Is there anything you need from the major?

If you have no comments, please go to the next question.

I am satisfied with my major and currently have no additional needs or suggestions ____.

Background Check:

All students complete a criminal background check before the site visit in ART 453. According to your internship's protocol, students will complete an additional background check in ART 454.

Have you ever been arrested, convicted, found guilty, entered a plea of no contest, or had adjudication withheld in a criminal offense (including DUI) other than minor traffic violations, or are there any criminal charges pending against you? Please include both felonies and misdemeanors.

Yes _____ No _____

Any failure to answer this question honestly or entirely will result in a denial of admission to the ART 453: Art Therapy Field Experience course. If you check "yes," you must provide a written explanation for each charge. Please attach a separate sheet if you need more space. Any record that has NOT BEEN SEALED or EXPUNGED by a WRITTEN COURT ORDER must be reported in this section. In addition, you agree to have Converse University's Human Resource Department complete an early background check at your expense. Additionally, you agree to share the background results with the Program Coordinator and possibly the Chair.

Additional Agreements:

I understand the following, and if in agreement, initial next to each:

_____ Art therapists work with marginalized individuals, including and is not limited to individuals with significant psychiatric disorders, poverty, and abusive situations. I am comfortable and committed to serving these populations.

_____ There are both physical and emotional risks involved in working with individuals with mental illness, and I can remain calm and solve problems in these types of situations.

_____ All students must provide transportation and gas to and from an internship, 2-3 days a week. No student can be guaranteed an internship in Greenville or Spartanburg but in the Upstate region.

_____ Internships are based on the volunteer hours and availability of professionals in the community. Due to COVID-19 and staffing shortages, currently, youth internships are extremely limited. Students understand that internship availability changes yearly and agree to be willing and able to work with any age group or population.

_____ Converse University will not be able to place any student in a field experience/internship if they meet the "impaired provider criteria" due to any mental health or substance abuse issues, regardless of what year or semester in the major.

If any concerns regarding impairment exist, the Program Coordinator will notify the student in writing. It will then be the student's responsibility to schedule a meeting with the Program Coordinator and the Chair. Coordinating several schedules can be complicated, so don't wait to email the required parties. Failure to schedule an appointment by the end of the semester will result in dismissal from the major.

If a student can't entirely agree with the Program Coordinator and Chair's opinion, in that case, the student is welcome to discuss the situation with the Dean of the School of the Arts. As part of this meeting, you will be able to provide a letter from a licensed mental health provider in South Carolina that, in their clinical judgment, states you are fit to be placed in the field.

Furthermore, the student understands ultimately, and it will be the site supervisors' decision if they are willing to host a student with noted mental health or substance abuse concerns.

_____ While enrolled in ART 453: Art Therapy Field Placement and ART 454: Art Therapy Internship courses, students must be able and willing not to disclose any psychiatric history or diagnosis on-site or through social media. (A general rule of thumb, if you need to disclose in class, there is a good chance you will be unable to meet these criteria on-site.) Failure to meet this expectation will result in an assessment regarding impairment by the Program Coordinator.

_____ Each student understands if their behavior results in termination from the Field Placement or Internship, this action will also result in automatic dismissal from the major. The student will be required to drop the course if it is within the add/drop period. Otherwise, you will receive an F in ART 453 or ART 454 and will not be able to remain in the course.

If you have any questions or cannot agree and check any of these criteria, please make an appointment with the program coordinator, Professor Laura Zeisler. You can also discuss any concerns with the Art and Design Department Chair, Dr. Susanne Gunter, susanne.gunter@converse.edu or the Dean of the School of the Arts, Dr. Chris Vaneman, chris.vaneman@converse.edu.

Please note that an inability to agree to these criteria is a strong indicator that this major is not a good fit. You are recommended to make an appointment with the Program Coordinator or Chair to discuss the option of changing your major.

I certify that the above information is true and accurate to my knowledge. My signature verifies that I understand and am familiar with the policies and requirements for completing the applied major. I agree to keep a paper and electronic copy of this form for my records.

Student Signature

Date

Professor Laura Zeisler, ATR-BC, LISW-CP

Date

Dr. Susanne Gunter, Ed.D. (If GPA in the major is below 3.0)

Date

Completed by the department:

Recommendation of the Art Therapy Program Coordinator:

I have reviewed the candidate's qualifications and have no concerns regarding their status in the art therapy major. _____

I have reviewed the candidate's qualifications and have the following concerns and recommend areas of improvement regarding their status in the art therapy major.

1.

2.

3.

An additional meeting with the student is required: _____ N _____ Y

The Art Therapy Program Coordinator emailed a signed copy of this form to the student _____.

Program Coordinator's Signature: _____ Date: _____