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**School of Therapeutic Sciences  
Program of Study Information**

# **Master of Arts (Music Therapy)**

**Applied Master's Program  
Music Therapy (2 years, full-time)**



**Music is the shorthand of emotion.**

Leo N. Tolstoi (1828 – 1910) Russian author

## Music Therapy

Music Therapy is the evidence-based therapeutic use of music for promoting emotional, cognitive, social and physical integration and recovery. As an arts therapy approach it has the potential to contribute to activation, stabilization and recovery in the context of prevention, acute intervention, and rehabilitation. In both research and clinical practice, there is an increasing interest in music therapy approaches as an important addition to standard care.

The professional context of music therapists is not limited to traditional areas of practice such as psychiatry, psychosomatic medicine, or special education. Music therapy is also applied in classical medicine and to an increasing degree in preventive care.

In recent decades music therapy has been established in the following fields:

- Psychiatry
- Psychosomatics and psychotherapy
- Neurology (early and general rehabilitation)
- Geriatrics
- Palliative and hospice care
- Pediatrics
- Intensive medicine centers (for example neonatology, oncology, pain) and sub-acute care facilities
- Psychosocial institutions for children and families with special needs, disabilities and early intervention
- Institutions of prevention and education (e.g., music schools, youth centers, kindergartens)

## The School of Therapeutic Sciences

The School of Therapeutic Sciences offers degrees in traditional therapies (physiotherapy, occupational therapy) and arts therapies (music therapy, dance movement therapy).

Degrees in the School of Therapeutic Sciences were first accredited by the AHPGS (Accreditation Agency for Degree Programs in Health and Social Sciences) and the German Accreditation council and approved by the Baden-Wuerttemberg Ministry of Science and Arts in 2005.

It has been our philosophy to combine teaching, practice, and research under one umbrella

- **Teaching** – Music therapy, music, and psychology/medical subjects are aligned with a variety of topics and are combined with opportunities for the students to develop their therapeutic personality (e.g., music therapy experiential and self-experience groups)
- **Practice** – The music therapy outpatient center on campus and clinical placements (in cooperation with national and international partner facilities) offer training opportunities closely linked to everyday practice
- **Research/Science** – Our in-house psychophysiological laboratory and the collaborative research projects with national and international partners provide the opportunity for students to become familiar with and contribute to scientific work and research under the supervision of our scientists.

The interdisciplinary team of lecturers offers the ideal environment for studying in a field where music therapy, medicine, psychology, and music overlap.

### International Network

We have a close-knit international network and cultivate the exchange of ideas and personnel with several teaching and research facilities working nationally and internationally in education, practice and research including:

- The Heidelberg University Hospitals (child and adolescent psychiatry, neonatology, pain and palliative care)
- IMC University; Krems, Austria
- Ohio State University, USA
- Temple University, Philadelphia, USA
- Colorado State University, Fort Collins, USA
- The University of Cadiz, Spain
- The University of Bergen, Norway
- The University of Louisville, USA
- Georgia College & State University, USA

## Quality education

We offer

- Small study groups
- Competence model: competencies as required by employers and practice are the foundation of the curricular structure
- 5-week units align with one applied subject
- Transparent study organization with evaluation and clearly defined, competence-oriented exam settings specifically tailored to content
- Active learning methods, including case studies, seminars, group work, presentations, role-play, etc.
- Education partnership: academic/professional, organizational and personal support by mentors
- Specially-equipped facilities, including computer labs and practice rooms, allow media support for music notation, therapy analysis, etc.
- State-of-the-art musical equipment
- International study flair with student exchange with selected universities and clinics
- Opportunity for an individual focus within the study program
- Close collaboration between the music therapy outpatient center and programs of study
- Quality assurance through regular, confidential evaluation and open exchange between lecturers and students
- Insight into research projects within and beyond the School of Therapeutic Sciences
- Guest lecturers in the context of academic colloquia, teaching exchange or research partnerships

## Information Days

Our university offers regular Information Days from January to September, where potential students can learn about studying at the SRH (**Master of Arts in Music Therapy**) in Heidelberg.

The dates for this year are as follows:

- Saturday, 21.01.2017
- Wednesday, 15.02.2017
- Saturday, 11.03.2017
- Wednesday, 10.05.2017
- Wednesday, 21.06.2017
- Saturday, 15.07.2017
- Saturday, 09.09.2017.

The information days are organized by lecturers and provide information on:

- Application and admission procedures
- Study content and structure
- The opportunities for financial counselling

The lecturers answer individual questions. Furthermore, you can meet students or arrange a date to visit particular lessons for an inside perspective into the studies.

## **M.A. in Music Therapy (applied) Curriculum**

The applied master course of music therapy at the SRH University Heidelberg was developed within the framework of the European alignment and recognition of university degrees (Bologna Process) in 2005, adjusted and finally accredited in 2010. It offers graduates of artistic or psychosocial study programs a qualified education in music therapy.

In contrast to other master courses in Germany, this program is designed as a 2-year full-time program and generally begins in the winter semester on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October. The program is governed by the official program handbook. The study program contains 120 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) points, and concludes with a state-approved degree. The language of the program is English.

### **Master of Arts (Music Therapy)**

The applied master's program is anchored in the evidence-based practice model within medical and health science-related contexts. Students receive a comprehensive therapy education, including psychodynamic / depth psychology models, cognitive-behavioral approaches and systemic, humanistic and genuine arts-therapies approaches. Fundamental musical and clinical competencies are taught on the basis of manualized therapy concepts and practiced in small groups. The development of students' therapeutic personality is encouraged and supported by music therapy self-experience and therapy supervision.

The applied master's degree in music therapy contains the following modules:

- Module 1: Fundamentals of scientific research
- Module 2: Fundamentals of music therapy
- Module 3: Psychology
- Module 4: Fundamentals of instrumental skills I
- Module 5: Clinical psychology I (psychotherapy approaches)
- Module 6: Clinical psychology II (psychiatry, psychosomatics, psychotherapy)
- Module 7: Neurology & Quantitative research Methods
- Module 8: Fundamentals of instrumental skills II
- Module 9: Clinical placement
- Module 10: Evidence-based clinical practice (pain)
- Module 11: Assessment and clinical field children
- Module 11: Arts therapies (field specific application)
- Module 12: Advanced instrumental skills
- Module 13: Advanced internship
- Module 14: Professionalization, law and ethics
- Module 15: Thesis

## **Clinical Training**

Clinical training (300 hours under guidance and therapy supervision) provides an intense and exclusively practical experience beyond the school, accompanied closely by external mentors. These mentors are academically educated music therapists working in Germany and abroad.

Between the first and second year and in the middle of the second year, students will be in their placement phases. The clinical placement may also be taken within one block from July to September at the end of the first year. The organization is handled by the students in consultation with the School. Every placement requires prior approval of the School.

## **Music lessons**

During the two years on campus, all students receive mandatory lessons in percussion. Additionally, there will be supporting lessons for the elective instrument (guitar and/or piano) and voice.

## **Self-experience / Supervision**

The master's course includes approximately 108 hours of group self-experience and approx. 40 hours of group supervision.

## **Perspectives**

### **Clinical Practice**

The applied master's program qualifies the student for clinical practice, working with children and adults in the following core fields:

- Psychiatry
- Psychosomatic medicine and psychotherapy
- Pediatrics, children and youth psychiatry and psychotherapy
- Neurology (early rehabilitation, rehabilitation, and psychosocial post-care)
- Pain, psycho-oncology, palliative care
- Trans- and interdisciplinary, evidence-based practice

This foundation allows students to transfer skills to other areas of practice.

### **Research**

Research projects are conducted regularly at the School of Therapeutic Sciences. They are organized, carried out and published in close cooperation with universities, research centers and clinical partners. There is a particular interest in research evaluating music therapy treatment, which takes place in the music therapy clinic within the School.

Students can collaborate on these projects, provided they have the necessary skills and interest, and can thereby qualify for a career in research. Together with our partners it is possible to offer cooperative doctoral studies.

## Cost and Financing

### Tuition

The tuition fee is set at 620 EUR per month + one-time immatriculation fee of 650 EUR. This is binding for the full length of the course. The cost of self-experience groups and supervision are included in this sum. Applicants from countries with visa obligation must pay fees in two rates: one before the study program starts and the other one after the first year.

### Financial aid

The School of Therapeutic Sciences supports students in applying for scholarships and stipends after the first term.

## Admission Process

### Admission Requirements

- A university degree from an accredited institution of higher learning, of at least six semesters' duration in one of the following disciplines: music/music studies, psychology, medicine, social pedagogy and similar degrees
- Individual exceptions are possible, but require special approval
- Personal and artistic eligibility
- Documented proof of good English skills (TOEFL /or similar)

### Placement

Candidates are advised to complete a period of observation in a clinical or therapeutic facility (about 4-6 weeks in length) prior to application, to test their suitability for this line of work.

### Application

Please apply via our online system <http://www.hochschule-heidelberg.de>

- Applications are accepted throughout the year
- Please scan transcripts and curriculum vitae. They will be uploaded in the process of online application.
- Documents in a foreign language require an attachment of an approved translation into German or English.

### For Applicants with non-German Graduation Certificates



The assessment of foreign education certificates the SRH University Heidelberg is the domain of the Central Office for Foreign Education. You will find country-specific information on foreign education certificates on the Central Office for Foreign Education website: <http://www.anabin.de/>

### **Language skills**

Documented English skills (TOEFL or similar) are preferred.

### **Assessment process**

After we receive your completed application, we will invite you for an assessment. A successful assessment is a prerequisite for acceptance into the applied master's program in Music Therapy. Invitations for the assessment will be issued in written form.

The assessment process takes half a day.

The dates for this year are as follows:

- Friday, 24.03.2017
- Friday, 19.05.2017
- Friday, 30.06.2017
- Monday, 24.07.2017
- Tuesday, 25.07.2017
- Monday, 11.09.2017

If you are unable to be present on these dates (e.g. because of visa difficulties etc.), please contact us. Alternatively an interview can be arranged either in person at the university or via Skype.

### **Assessment Procedures**

<b>Welcome for applicants</b>
<b>Exam in music theory and aural skills</b>
<b>individual auditions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>› <b>required instrument (Percussion)</b></li><li>› <b>elective instrument (piano/guitar)</b></li><li>› <b>individual instrument or voice</b></li></ul>
<b>break</b>
<b>group examination</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>› <b>music therapy group session</b></li></ul>

**closing remarks**

**The assessment includes the following parts:**

1. Written test: music theory and listening tasks

- Rhythmic dictation
- Harmonic dictation
- Melodic dictation
- Harmonization
- Transposition of a melody
- Cadences

2. Individual audition: mandatory instrument (percussion)

Recreating or improvising the following

- Imitating improvisation (small drum)
- Variations in dialogue (drum set)
- Rhythmic improvisation (drum set)
- Sight-reading of a rhythmic sequence (Conga/Djembe)

3. Individual audition on elective instrument (piano/guitar) and primary instrument or voice

Requirements:

- Artistic performance of a prepared piece of your choice on primary instrument or voice
- Accompanying oneself on instrument of choice (piano or guitar): sing a simple prepared song with chordal accompaniment.
- Spontaneous melodic improvisation on preferred instrument over an ostinato to be selected by auditioning faculty

\*If the primary instrument is piano or guitar, it may serve as the instrument of choice for accompaniment. If the primary instrument is another instrument (e.g., cello) or voice, applicants must demonstrate basic skills on piano or guitar during the assessment

4. Individual Interview Topics

- Motivation for pursuing the study of music therapy
- Personal biographic topics

5. Music therapy group

Spontaneous responses to the following:

- Free group improvisation and group discussion
- Musical self-portrait (solo) and group reflection
- Musical interaction and group reflection

Note: The course „Musiktherapie in Aktion“ offered at the Landesakademie Ochsenhausen, in cooperation with the SRH Heidelberg, offers students insight and practical experience with the assessment tasks. For more information, visit: <http://www.landesakademie-ochsenhausen.de>

## Accommodation

Following offices will help you to arrange accommodation:

- Jugendherberge Heidelberg International (Youth hostel)  
Tel: +49 6221 651190  
[www.jugendherberge.de](http://www.jugendherberge.de)
- Tourist Information am Hauptbahnhof  
Hotline 06221 - 5844444  
<http://www.heidelberg-marketing.de/>
- Gästezimmer-Zentrale  
Telefon/Fax 06221 – 16 03 63  
[www.gaestezimmer-zentrale.de](http://www.gaestezimmer-zentrale.de)

## Our address

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For individual advising you can arrange an appointment with  
Dorothee von Moreau ([dorothee.moreau@hochschule-heidelberg.de](mailto:dorothee.moreau@hochschule-heidelberg.de))