Pacific’s music therapy program offers post baccalaureate education for advanced training at a Master’s level, which supports career advancement beyond attainment of the Board Certification. Flexible learning options support a broad range of career options for rapidly developing health care arenas. MA coursework affords students greater depth and breadth in knowledge and skills for advanced clinical competency and identifying areas of specialization through individualized mentoring.

Overview of Post-Baccalaureate Music Therapy Options

1. **Master of Arts Degree in Music Therapy** (See complete program description below). This program is for Board-Certified Music Therapists seeking preparation for advanced-level practice, with specialization in either clinical or research areas.

2. **Equivalency Program Plus Master’s Degree in Music Therapy** (These students are classified as graduate students and are referred to as Equivalency Plus Master’s Students.) This program supports rapid development of advanced clinical competencies in music therapy. Candidates who already have an undergraduate degree, demonstrate strong musicianship, and who qualify to enter the Graduate School may apply for this program. The Music Therapy Equivalency Plus Master’s students must first complete the Equivalency requirements. Graduate-level classes such as MUSC 202 or MUSC 203, music electives, or specialization field courses may be taken concurrently. However, all music therapy graduate-level core courses can only be taken after successful completion of all Equivalency courses and the clinical internship (MTHR 187). Equivalency Plus Master’s students usually earn the MT-BC credential and start practicing music therapy shortly after completing internship. This “real life” experience is extremely valuable in conjunction with the advanced coursework in music therapy.

**Master of Arts Degree in Music Therapy**

**Program Description**

The Master of Arts in music therapy requires a minimum of 36 units and provides a balance across three main areas, with at least 13 units in music therapy foundation courses, 13 units in specialization field courses, and 10 or more units of free electives.

Students are able to focus on their specific personal career goals by selecting one of two tracks supporting:

1. Preparation for eventual entry into teaching and research careers (Generally, this requires completion of the master’s degree in music therapy first, followed by doctoral level work available in other programs.) or
2. Development of advanced clinical, administrative, and program development skills.

**Application Procedure**

Application is submitted to the graduate school; applicants who have a cumulative college GPA of 3.5 or higher are not required to take the GRE. For candidates with the MT-BC credential, an informal musicianship assessment and interview with the music therapy faculty is required.

**Plan of Study**

Both tracks in the Master of Arts in music therapy program allow for flexible designs for the individualized plan of study. Master of Arts students should consult with their advisor during the first term in residency, to determine their overall plan of study, and to detail their schedule of classes for each semester.

**Program Policies**

1. The work for the master’s degree must be completed within 7 years from the date when the first 200 level course was taken at Pacific.
2. Students must pass the Board Certification Examination or provide evidence of current re-certification (MT-BC) status prior to completion of the Master of Arts degree in music therapy.
3. Students who provide evidence of equivalent prior coursework may substitute a free elective for any required course, with permission of advisor and music therapy program director.
4. In order to provide Protection of Human Research Subjects, IRB oversight, student liability insurance coverage, and ongoing faculty mentoring of students during Thesis and Clerkship work:
   - Students must be continuously enrolled for a minimum of 1 unit of credit each Fall or Spring semester while working with human subjects on thesis or clinical clerkship projects.
   - Students must be enrolled for a minimum of 1 unit of credit during the semesters in which the thesis or clinical clerkship is proposed and when it is defended. Thesis and Clerkship proposal and defense meetings with the student’s faculty committee must be scheduled between September 1 and May 1.

**Required Advanced Clinical Competencies**

Students must demonstrate advanced clinical competencies as defined by the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA). Particular emphasis is placed upon the acquisition of advanced competencies relevant to the student’s area of specialization.

**Master of Arts in Music Therapy**

Students must complete a minimum of 36 units with a Pacific cumulative and major/program grade point average of 3.0 or higher in order to earn the Master of Arts degree in music therapy.

**Music Therapy Foundational Courses:**

Minimum 13 units

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MTHR 231</td>
<td>Individual Music Therapy: Advanced Theory and Techniques</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTHR 232</td>
<td>Group Music Therapy: Advanced Theory and Techniques</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTHR 260</td>
<td>Advanced Clinical Practice in Music Therapy*</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTHR 251</td>
<td>Music Therapy Supervision I: Introduction to Theory and Applications</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTHR 252</td>
<td>Music Therapy Supervision II: Applied Experience</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSC 203</td>
<td>Contemporary Issues in Music Education and Music Therapy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*1. Two semesters, one unit each semester.
2. Students may fulfill one unit of this requirement by completing a Special Topics course in a clinical practice area.

Choose one of the following Options:

**Academic/Research Track (Option A, Thesis Plan)**

Studies in this track prepare the graduate student to go on to doctoral level studies that lead to careers in academia and/or research. Students
may receive mentored experience in college teaching as well as develop skills for research and scholarly work. Studies culminate in a research thesis. The thesis may consist of either experimental or applied research related to the student's specialization.

### Required Courses

**Minimum 13 units**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MTHR 240</td>
<td>Psychology of Music</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Research Design &amp; Statistics Course Electives</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTHR 299</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Free Electives

**Minimum 10-14 units**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MTHR 291</td>
<td>Graduate Independent Study</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTHR 275</td>
<td>College Teaching in Music Therapy: Curriculum, Competencies and Classroom</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Other Music Electives

* May be waived if prior upper division undergraduate coursework covered this course content

** Generally students take MUSC 202 unless they have already had extensive coursework/experience in the research mythologies

*** All Music Therapy graduate students select a minimum of 6 elective units to support their chosen area of specialization and can benefit from graduate coursework selected from among many program offerings across the University in such areas as: educational psychology, experimental psychology, behavior analysis, special education, speech-language pathology, and other health sciences, as well as applied music studies or ensembles in the Conservatory. Electives in business management or music business are also options for Clinical Track students.

### Music Therapy Courses

**MTHR 135. Music with Children in Inclusive Settings: Therapeutic and Educational Applications. 3 Units.**

This course presents specific music therapy techniques and skills for development of programs for children's successful integration within home/school/community environments. Students will identify and create therapeutic music strategies to effect changes in children's academic, social, motor, and leisure skills development. This course also acquaints students with music therapy/education research and current legislation regarding children within inclusive settings. Open to non-majors. Prerequisites: SPED 123 and either MTHR 018 or MCOM 002; or with instructor permission.

**MTHR 140. Psychology of Music. 3 Units.**

This course introduces the psychological foundations of music that include the study of acoustics, perception of sound, and physical and psychosocial responses to music. Students survey current research in music/music therapy and develop skills in applied research methodology. The course is open to non-majors. Prerequisite: MCOM 002 or permission of the instructor.

**MTHR 141. Music Therapy in Mental Health and Social Services. 3 Units.**

MTHR 141 examines theory, research, and clinical skills related to music therapy for adults, children, and adolescents in various mental health and social service treatment settings. It also includes an introduction to current DSM criteria for mental disorders commonly encountered by music therapists, and an overview of major theories of psychotherapy as they relate to music therapy. The course introduces music therapy techniques for group treatment which includes music improvisation, songwriting, and basic relaxation methods. This course is for music therapy majors only and it must be taken concurrently with Fieldwork in Music Therapy. Prerequisites: MTHR 011, MTHR 018, MTHR 135, and MTHR 140, PSYC 111 and completion of Voice, Guitar, and Piano competencies.
MTHR 142. Music Therapy in Medicine and Health Care. 3 Units.
This course provides an overview of music therapy with children, adults, and older adults in medical settings. Students survey theories, methods, and empirically supported treatments in settings such as acute care, physical rehabilitation, gerontology, palliative care, preventative medicine, and health maintenance. It also includes the study of physical and psychosocial processes natural to aging and end of life, and assists students in developing skills in improvised music for relaxation and palliative care. The course is for music therapy majors only. Prerequisites: MTHR 141, BIOL 011 and completion of Voice, Guitar, and Piano competencies.

MTHR 143. Supervisory Techniques. 1 or 2 Unit.
This course offers techniques in the supervision of music therapy fieldwork. The course is only open to music therapy majors by permission of the instructor. Prerequisites: MTHR 020, MTHR 140 and MTHR 150.

MTHR 150. Fieldwork in Music Therapy. 1-2 Units.
Fieldwork provides students with structured clinical experiences in music therapy under the supervision of a music therapist in varying community settings. This course repeated for credit and taken concurrently each semester students are enrolled in MTHR 135, MTHR 140, MTHR 141 and MTHR 142. Prerequisites: MTHR 011 and MTHR 018. This course is open only to music therapy majors, and a minimum of 4 units of Fieldwork (MTHR 150) is required for completion of the music therapy degree program.

MTHR 187. Internship in Music Therapy. 1 Unit.
This course consists of clinical training experience at an internship site approved by the AMTA. Successful completion of required hours and competencies allows students to sit for the Music Therapy Board Certification Examination. Prerequisites: Successful completion of all coursework and functional music skills, competency evaluation and individualized internship training plan. Students are required to enroll in MTHR 150 within the period of one year prior to the start of internship.

MTHR 191. Independent Study. 1-2 Units.

MTHR 197D. Undergraduate Research. 1-4 Units.

MTHR 230. Bonny Method of Guided Imagery and Music Level I Training. 3 Units.
Intensive 5-day residential seminar introduces theory and clinical applications of the Bonny Method of Guided Imagery and Music (BMGIM) and other music and imagery techniques. Participants gain intensive personal experience with BMGIM. Hands-on experiential exercises, demonstrations, and clinical examples introduce simple imagery techniques to add to participants’ existing repertoire of therapeutic interventions. This residential phase of the course meets the Association of Music and Imagery (AMI) requirements for introductory training in the Bonny Method. The on-line learning component extends and deepens the student’s understanding through exposure to literature in the Bonny Method, sharing of discoveries from readings and music listening, as well as personal reflection and integration of experiential learning. Due to the experiential nature of this course, participants must be willing to participate in all learning activities and in the group sharing process, and attend all seminar sessions as listed in the residential seminar course schedule. All students and instructors are expected to maintain confidentiality of personal material shared by group members. Prerequisites: Evidence of clinical experience and permission of instructor.

MTHR 231. Individual Music Therapy: Advanced Theory and Techniques. 3 Units.
This course explores current theories and techniques of music-centered psychotherapy for supportive, re-educative/rehabilitative, and re-constructive levels of clinical practice with a variety of populations. The course includes development of therapeutic relationship through music improvisation, and focused music-evoked imagery to address supportive and re-educative goals for individual clients. Experiential learning includes classroom simulations and supervised clinical practice. Prerequisites: MTHR 187 (or an AMTA-approved clinical internship) and MTHR 230 (or Level I training in the Bonny Method of Guided Imagery and Music) or permission of instructor.

MTHR 232. Group Music Therapy: Advanced Theory and Techniques. 3 Units.
This course examines theories and models for group music therapy with applications for a variety of clinical populations. The course includes approaches for quick group assessment and brief treatment environments. The focus is on therapist and member roles and tasks within group development processes. Students refine group facilitation skills that use music-centered techniques of improvisation and music-evoked imagery through in-class simulations and supervised clinical practice. Prerequisite: MTHR 231 with a “B” or better permission of instructor.

MTHR 240. Psychology of Music. 3 Units.
Students examine the psychological foundations of music. Topics include the study of acoustics, perception of sound, and physical and psychosocial responses to music. Students survey current research in music/music therapy and develop skills in applied research methodology. Students enrolled for graduate credit also complete a formal research project proposal and mock IRB proposal as preparation for eventual research activities within the graduate program or professional venues. This course is recommended for graduate students in music therapy or music education, but it is open to students in other majors. Prerequisite: competency in basic music reading skills.

MTHR 245. Clinical Clerkship in Music Therapy. 1-4 Units.
As an alternate requirement for Thesis, Clinical Clerkship is designed for students who may want to focus on clinical skills and knowledge. Students complete a major project related to an applied therapeutic or educational setting.

MTHR 251. Music Therapy Supervision I: Introduction to Theory and Applications. 1 Unit.
This course provides a foundation for effective music therapy clinical supervision. It introduces multicultural, ethical, and legal considerations and explores factors unique to music therapy supervision. Readings, workbook assignments, field observations and in-class discussion of theories and techniques prepare students for MTHR 252, and practical experience supervising undergraduate students in clinical training settings. Prerequisite: MTHR 187 or an AMTA approved clinical internship.

MTHR 252. Music Therapy Supervision II: Applied Experience. 1 Unit.
This course provides mentored practice in clinical supervision and it supports individualized skill development of competencies for professional participation in clinical management and student, volunteer, or peer supervision situations. Learning experiences include direct on-site supervision of undergraduate music therapy students in fieldwork placements, maintaining the on-site learning environment, monitoring student progress, conducting formal evaluations, conducting group student supervision and regular participation in supervisors group consultation meetings with faculty. Prerequisite: MTHR 251 with a "B" or better.
MTHR 260. Advanced Clinical Practice in Music Therapy. 1 Unit.  
This course provides individualized experiences for development of advanced clinical skills in music therapy. Students may focus on a new area of specialization, or may work within a familiar clinical environment that develops skills at a more advanced level. Experiences may include supervised practice in advanced music therapy techniques, interdisciplinary collaboration, new program development, or expansion of an existing clinical program. Prerequisites: two semesters of MTHR 187 or clinical internship.

MTHR 265. Human Research in Music Therapy: Supervised Experience. 1 Unit.  
This course offers individualized experiences for development of advanced research skills in music therapy. It provides faculty oversight and supervision of human research in clinical or laboratory settings. Students may focus on their own independent research project or may work within a collaborative or faculty-directed research environment. It is required for students who conduct summer research activities with human subjects and includes projects that contribute to completion of the master’s thesis or clinical clerkship. This course may be repeated. Prerequisites: Completion of University Human Subjects (IRB) training for student investigators, and permission of instructor.

MTHR 275. College Teaching in Music Therapy: Curriculum, Competencies and Classroom. 3 Units.  
Students review the AMTA requirements for music therapy undergraduate program curriculum and for competency-based education and clinical training. The course provides mentored practice in teaching foundational level music therapy college courses, and it supports individualized skill development for professional participation in academic music therapy programs as an instructor. Permission of instructor.

MTHR 291. Graduate Independent Study. 1-4 Units.

MTHR 299. Thesis. 1-4 Units.  
Students create an original monograph that embodies original research.

General Music Courses

MUSC 202. Introduction in Music Research. 3 Units.  
This course is designed for the graduate level student to develop music research skills.

MUSC 203. Contemporary Issues in Music Education and Music Therapy. 3 Units.  
Graduate students research, analyze, and reflect on current values, philosophical issues, and contemporary trends in the professions of music education and music therapy.