The MA in Counseling - Art Therapy program is approved by National Association of School of Art and Design (NASAD) Commission on Accreditation and meets the educational requirements, according to the ART Therapy Credentials Board (ATCB), to qualify you for your Registration as an Art Therapist (ATR). This program is designed to meet American Art Therapy Association (AATA) requirements; we will be applying for AATA approval after the required three graduating classes.

The Edinboro University Counseling Programs provide courses of study leading to a Master of Arts degree in Counseling with emphases in Art Therapy. This master’s degree meets the educational requirements for licensure as a counselor in Pennsylvania and for credentialing as a Registered Art Therapist nationally.

**Overarching Mission Statement.** The students and faculty of the Counseling Programs at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania are a diverse community of learners collaboratively engaged in research, scholarship, leadership and service. Faculty are committed to providing developmentally sound academic and clinical experiences to educate counselors to be effective leader-practitioners in a pluralistic society. Collectively, our mission is to prepare professional counselors who embody ethical behavior, provide services to enhance the mental health and well-being of families, groups, couples, and individuals, and advocate on behalf of both the counseling profession and those who are served.

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS and PROCEDURES**
Visit the Graduate School webpage and click the “Apply” link on the left side of the screen. Begin by creating an account on CollegeNET by clicking the “account” link on the Apply page.

CollegeNET is a self-managed application system. It will allow you to submit admission materials, check the status of your application, and view your decision letter using this account. If you have issues with your CollegeNET account, consult the CollegeNET help desk by submitting a Help Request Form or email help@collegenet.com.

Individuals seeking admission as degree students in this program must comply with the general admission requirements for graduate students at Edinboro University and with the following specific admission requirements for this program:

1. Complete the online application. And pay the application fee of $30.
2. Provide an official transcript verifying an earned baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.
3. Provide the name, email address, and place of employment for three (3) references (electronic reference requests will be emailed to each)
4. Complete an APA formatted writing sample of 500 – 750 words, with a minimum of two (2) references and citations answering the question:
   Tell us why you want to study your chosen counseling concentration at Edinboro University. What are the personal and professional experiences that have led you to this career choice? In your research, what have you learned about your chosen concentration?
5. A personal interview, if notified by the department
6. A link to an online portfolio (ex. flickr, dropbox, snapfish) of 20 images of applicant’s art.
7. Psychology Credits: (12) graduate or undergraduate credits - Abnormal Psychology is required along with 9 additional psychology credits. Twelve credits must be taken before candidacy.
8. Studio Art credits: (18) graduate or undergraduate credits in 2 and 3-D studio art areas. Twelve credits must be completed before art therapy courses may be taken. Six credits can be taken in the first year of the program, but must be finished before candidacy. Six credits can be done as portfolio approval.

For full consideration the application for a fall semester start must be received by February 15th; late applications will be considered on a space available basis until April 1st. Spring semester application must be received by October 15th; late applications will be considered on a space available basis until November 15th.

**CURRICULUM**
60 semester hours of prescribed graduate credit is required as a partial requirement for the degree.

These required graduate credits should be earned as follows:
Core Courses 33 Credit Hours
COUN 710 Appraisal Techniques in the Helping Professions
COUN 712 Human Development across the Lifespan
COUN 715 Career Development and Life Planning
COUN 720 Counseling and Consultation Theories
COUN 730 Supervised Counseling Practice
COUN 735 Counseling Practicum
COUN 745 Multicultural Counseling
COUN 755 Diagnosis and Assessment
COUN 794 Research Seminar in Guidance and Counseling or EDUC 788 Research in Education
COUN 795 Internship in Counseling*

Required Specialized Courses 27 Credit Hours
ARTT 710 History and Theory of Art Therapy
ARTT 720 Media and Materials in Art Therapy
ARTT 730 Art Therapy Practice and Assessment
ARTT 735 Clinical and Group Art Therapy
ARTT 740 Professional Functioning, Standards, and Ethics in Art Therapy
ARTT 750 Current Trends in Art Therapy
ARTT 760 International Art Therapy
ARTT 791 Research Project in Art Therapy

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
Candidacy: Because of the nature of the role of the professional counselor, degree candidates of the programs must demonstrate such qualities as: genuineness, warmth, empathy, ethics, professionalism, and interpersonal skills. Students will be evaluated on Knowledge, Skills and Dispositions necessary for professionals at various transition points through the program. Candidacy is the first point where these qualities will be formally evaluated. Both the individual student and faculty will have input into this evaluation. Review of the Application for Admission to Candidacy is seen as very important and this review will include interpersonal skills as well as academic progress. The advisor presents the candidacy application for program staff recommendation. A degree student may not be admitted to Candidacy until (1) at least 12 semester hours of degree credit have been completed, (2) an Application for Admission to Candidacy has been filed with the advisor, and (3) the student has made satisfactory progress in her or his degree program (minimum of a 3.0 QPA).

Comprehensive Exams: The student must satisfactorily complete a comprehensive examination. Specific requirements for the comprehensive exams are outlined in the Counseling Advisement Guide, which will be made available to each student.

Culminating Project: A Master’s Project or Thesis is required for graduation. Additional information concerning this requirement can be found in the Counseling Advisement Guide.

Internship: All degree seeking students must complete an internship. All students must have completed all core required courses in the area of specialty unless otherwise approved by the advisor and instructor. Generally speaking, the internship hours must be completed within the time frame of the 15 week semester. Thus, the interns would be on-site 40 hours per week (15 x 40 = 600). The student must make the necessary plans and arrangements in order to complete an internship. The Internship Manual contains more information regarding the internship experience. NOTE: Graduate assistantships are NOT available during internship. NOTE: Students may opt to divide the internship over two semesters. Students should discuss this option with their advisors. Additional information on 300 hours internships can be found in the Internship Manual.

For More Information: If you have questions about the application process, please contact Edinboro University’s School of Graduate Studies at gradstudies@edinboro.edu or at (814) 732-2856 or toll-free (888) 845-2890. For questions specific to the MA in Counseling – Art Therapy, please contact Dr. Penelope Orr at (814) 732-1684 or porr@edinboro.edu.

Office for Accessibility Services: For information or assistance regarding services, activities and facilities that are accessible to and usable by persons with a disability, contact the Office for Accessibility Services (OAS), at (814) 732-2462. For additional information, visit the OAS web page.

Graduate Assistantships: Graduate Assistantships are available for campus based students only. They are awarded on a competitive basis. Admission applications must be completed by February 15th to be considered for an assistantship. Additional information about assistantships is available through the School of Graduate Studies and Research, (814) 732-2856 or toll-free (888) 845-2890.

Financial Aid Considerations: An academic year consists of fall, spring, and summer. Graduate students taking graduate level courses may receive up to $20,500 in the Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan Program. Students will want to be mindful of their financial aid to allow for funding for 12 months if planning on enrolling during the summer term. For more specific information, please contact the Financial Aid Office at (888) 611-2680 or finaid@edinboro.edu.

Employer Reimbursement: The purpose of the employer tuition reimbursement agreement is to allow employees who receive reimbursement to defer payment of their tuition and fees until after grades are available at the end of the semester. Edinboro University accepts employer benefit plans through arrangements with the Student Accounts Office.