



Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD006318	Version: 1 Date Amended: 01/Aug/2018
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1. Module Title
Principles of Music Therapy

2a. Module Leader
Claire Molyneux

2b. School
Cambridge School of the Creative Industries

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level
5

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	BA Electronic Music, BA Music, BA Popular Music		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

This module is an introduction to the theory and practice of music therapy, as practised by registered professionals in the UK. It does not train you to be a therapist, but will equip you with knowledge of the field and some introductory skills that are useful in considering music therapy as a vocation. It will introduce you to the clinical field and enable informed choices to be made about music therapy and other related professions such as teaching and nursing.

You will be taught through experiential workshops, which will be linked to theoretical lectures and also a possible field trip, and audio-visual presentations will enable work to be viewed in process. Through these activities you will be able to evaluate, develop and analyse your musical potential and explore the application of different media to therapeutic situations.

The knowledge gained on this module can be applied in other modules, which may involve improvisation, role-play or performance, and can contribute to a basic understanding of groups and how they function.

6b. Outline Content

- Introduction to various music therapy approaches
- Develop knowledge of the role of the therapist in a variety of settings through presentations by music therapists, and usually through a field trip
- Reflection on musical skills, and how these are linked to working in groups through improvisation, role-play and talking
- Reflection on the specific qualities of music, and start to analyse the role of pitch, duration, timbre and volume in order to understand what music therapy is
- Introduction to the professional practice of music therapy in different fields from a vocational point of view, and how these compare with other professions, such as other arts therapies, occupational therapy, teaching and nursing

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Dedicated workshop/rehearsal spaces.

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate an understanding of the role of a music therapist, and compare different approaches from the literature.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Understand the role of music as applied in clinical settings, from the literature, and from the experiential components of the module.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Discuss and reflect upon the use of musical improvisation in groups with therapeutic intent, and discuss own responses to this in a group
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Describe and discuss case work in music therapy, showing the relevance of the method used.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2025/6	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	0	None	None
Other teacher managed learning	24	1-4	12 x 1 hour theoretical studies session and 12 x 1 hour experiential group seminar x 12 weeks
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Independent study and collaborative rehearsal
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Practical	1-4	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Group piece exploring musical improvisation as appropriate to a therapeutic context (20mins) (3000 word equivalent)					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

- (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above**
- (b) pass any pass/fail elements**

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]