

School of Music Illinois State University

Bachelor of Music in Music Therapy

Program Objectives

The objectives of the BM with a Sequence in Music Therapy degree program are to assist students to:

- Demonstrate basic knowledge of the purpose, intent and function of music therapy for various client populations;
 - Demonstrate basic knowledge of the causes and symptoms of major exceptionalities and basic terminology used in diagnosis and classification;
 - Demonstrate knowledge of music activity resources useful for special educators and/or therapeutic re-creators working in clinical or school settings with clients who have disabilities;
 - Plan and adapt music activities to meet a variety of non-musical goals for clients and disabilities.
-

Assessment of Student Outcomes

The BM in Music Therapy degree program has a number of assessments all students must pass before they can graduate.

- A most critical initial step is that all students desiring to enter BM programs must first be admitted to the School of Music in some performing medium. It is at this point that a “casual” music student would be eliminated. Only students demonstrating sufficient performance skills and also promise for future growth are admitted to the program.
- Subsequently, all students must progress successfully through the core curriculum at the freshman and sophomore levels. In addition, students must show progress in their applied music studies.
- At the conclusion of their second year all students take the Senior College Exam, a comprehensive music test. The test assesses an appropriate level of mastery of aural dictation, music literature, sight singing, and performance. Failure in one or more areas means that the student will have to re-take the part(s) of the exam failed. Students are given two opportunities to pass this examination. If they fail, they are dismissed from the BS in Music program.
- Students are expected to complete each component of the curriculum in music therapy in an acceptable manner, adhering to the clinical standards established by the appropriate professional association (American Music Therapy Association).
- All students must successfully complete a six-month clinical internship following the completion of the curriculum in music therapy. This is considered a critical capstone experience in which students demonstrate their ability to function as professional music therapists, bringing together the various knowledge, skills, attitude and values dealt with in the curriculum.

