

MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN

DANCE/MOVEMENT THERAPY

SARAH
LAWRENCE
COLLEGE

GRADUATE
STUDIES

Dance/movement therapy is the psychotherapeutic use of movement to further the emotional, cognitive, physical, and social integration of the individual. Dance/movement therapy is based on the empirically supported perspective that the body and mind are interconnected and interact in health and illness. Body movement provides both a means of assessment and a mode of intervention for dance/movement therapists, working with individuals or with groups, in the treatment of developmental, medical, social, physical, or psychological impairments.

The Dance/Movement Therapy Program:

- Supports experiential learning through clinical placements and rigorous intellectual inquiry.
- Provides integration of the historical, developmental, cultural, and clinical aspects of dance's ability to heal and promote change.
- Empowers students to explore their own relationships with dance from the perspectives of personal growth, reflective use of self, and social action.
- Enables students to develop their own movement resources, using their cognitive, emotional, and social abilities as a means of building connections with their clients and facilitating growth and change.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A master's degree in dance/movement therapy from Sarah Lawrence College prepares students for careers in medical facilities, psychiatric hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation settings, residential programs, and schools, as well as many other clinical and educational settings. Advanced-level dance/movement therapists also provide services in private practice.

Dance/movement therapists are eligible for licensure and third-party reimbursement in many states. The Sarah Lawrence program prepares graduates to take the New York State licensing examination for Creative Arts Therapists.

THE PROGRAM

The Dance/Movement Therapy Program requires completion of 60 credits. In addition to coursework and a thesis project, students complete 900 hours in the field, working with children and adults in a variety of settings, including the Early Childhood Center, the College's laboratory school for preschool children. Students receive active, one-on-one mentoring from faculty and clinical supervisors.

Courses include:

- Graduate Seminar: Methods & Theory of Dance/Movement Therapy (4 semesters)
- Movement Observation (3 semesters of Bartenieff Fundamentals, Laban Movement Analysis, and Kestenberg Movement Profile)
- Group Work: Theory & Practice (2 semesters)
- Human Growth & Development (1 semester)
- Professional Orientation & Ethics (1 semester)
- Psychopathology (1 semester)
- Research Methods (1 semester)

ADMISSION

Applicants must have earned a Bachelor of Arts or equivalent degree from an accredited college or university. They should have a background in dance, including concentrated study in a classic, contemporary, or world dance form, and some experience in at least one other dance style or a body-mind modality such as yoga. Undergraduate coursework in psychology is strongly encouraged, and one credit in Anatomy & Kinesiology is required. Participation in a service learning program, social service work, a volunteer history, or cross-cultural experience is valued. Students are accepted on a full-time basis only.

FINANCIAL AID

Graduate students are welcome to apply for financial aid. All aid is awarded on the basis of need. Non-teaching assistantships are available.

THE FACULTY

This program is an acknowledgment of the work and leadership of Sarah Lawrence College alumni who have been important to the formation and growth of the field of dance/movement therapy, both nationally and internationally. Faculty in the Dance/Movement Therapy Program bring a range and depth of professional experience to the teaching process. They have worked with infants, children, and adults in hospitals, clinics, residential treatment centers, nursing facilities, and private practice.

The Sarah Lawrence faculty have been consistently recognized among the best in the country by The Princeton Review.

ABOUT SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE

Sarah Lawrence College is located on a wooded campus just 30 minutes north of midtown Manhattan. Offering both graduate and undergraduate degrees, the College is nationally known for academic rigor and commitment to developing students as individuals. The College is also noted for cross-disciplinary study and integrated learning, making it an ideal academic setting for dance/movement therapy education.

GRADUATE STUDIES

Slonim House

Sarah Lawrence College

1 Mead Way

Bronxville, NY 10708

914.395.2371

LEARN MORE

sarahlawrence.edu/movement-therapy

SARAH
LAWRENCE
COLLEGE

GRADUATE
STUDIES