

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. 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:

- Blends theoretical perspectives and practical fieldwork.
- 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 graduate 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 (DMTs) also provide services in private practice.

Dance/movement therapy is 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 Master of Science degree in Dance/Movement Therapy requires completion of 60 credits. Clinical internships totaling 700 hours—with at least 350 hours of direct client contact—are required, as well as a graduate thesis. Students benefit from access to the College's other graduate programs, including Dance, Child Development, Art of Teaching, and Health Advocacy. Clinical fieldwork provides opportunities for observation and practicum experience. Many first semester placements are at the Early Childhood Center, the campus laboratory for preschool children.

Courses include:

- Graduate Seminar: Methods & Theory of DMT I, II, III, & IV
- Movement Observation I, II, & III
- Group Work: Theory & Practice I & II
- Human Growth & Development
- Professional Orientation & Ethics
- Psychopathology
- Research Methods

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. 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 internships 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. Interim Director Elise Risher is a board-certified dance/movement therapist and licensed clinical psychologist. She has 25 years of clinical experience working in both psychiatric and community settings with infants, children, and adults.

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. Sarah Lawrence is also noted for cross-disciplinary study and integrated learning, making it an ideal academic setting for dance/movement therapy education. Students have unprecedented opportunities to study the body-mind relationship in health care, early childhood development, education, and the creative arts.

GRADUATE STUDIES

Slonim House
Sarah Lawrence College
1 Mead Way
Bronxville, NY 10708
914.395.2371

LEARN MORE

We invite you to visit
sarahlawrence.edu/movement-therapy
for more information.

SARAH
LAWRENCE
COLLEGE
GRADUATE
STUDIES