



Mind Body Education

Master Practitioner of Holistic Art Therapy Online

Course Modules

Program Contents

Course Duration: 400 hours

40 modules + 10 hours of clinical practice

Full-time (12 months): 10 hours of study per week, with one submission due every week.

Part-time (Two years): 5 hours of study per week, with one submission due every fortnight.

Every Module includes a theoretical session to explore ideas, evidence-based research and theories, as well as practical session to experience and develop art therapy techniques.

By the end of this course, students will be well equipped, confident and qualified to practice as professional Holistic Art Therapist in Australia. They will have created resources and made plans that will assist them in setting up their own private practice. They will also be able to join professional organizations and associations and get insurance and use the title Holistic Art Therapist.

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Module Content

Module 1: Principles of Art Therapy

The History and Principles of Art Therapy: This topic will provide an overview of the origins and evolution of art therapy as a discipline. Participants will explore key figures and pioneers in the field, as well as the fundamental principles and theories that underpin the practice of art therapy.

Art Therapy Research and Evidence-Based Practices: This segment will focus on the current research and evidence supporting the effectiveness of art therapy. Participants will learn about empirical studies and best practices that validate the use of art therapy in various therapeutic contexts, enhancing their understanding of the evidence-based approach to art therapy.

Understanding the Art Therapist's Role: This module will cover the roles and responsibilities of art therapists in various settings. Participants will explore ethical considerations, professional boundaries, and the importance of ongoing self-reflection and supervision to maintain a client centered and competent art therapy practice.

Integrating Art Therapy with Holistic Counselling: This topic will delve into the integration of art therapy with holistic counselling approaches. Participants will explore how art therapy can complement other therapeutic modalities, considering the interconnectedness of mind, body, emotions, and spirit in the healing process.

Drawing as a Form of Self-Expression and Exploration: This module will focus on the use of drawing as a powerful tool for self-expression and exploration in art therapy. Participants will learn how clients' artwork can reveal unconscious thoughts and emotions, providing valuable insights into their inner world.

Techniques for Using Drawing in Art Therapy Sessions: This topic will cover specific techniques for using drawing in art therapy sessions. Participants will explore a range of art exercises and interventions that can be adapted to different populations and therapeutic goals, promoting self-awareness, emotional processing, and personal growth through the creative process.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands-on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Drawing (Coloured Pencils)

Module 2: Stress and the Fight or Flight Response

Understanding Stress and the Fight or Flight Response: This topic will provide an in-depth exploration of stress and the body's fight or flight response. Participants will gain insights into the physiological and psychological aspects of stress and how the body reacts to perceived threats or challenges.

The Impact of Stress on Mental and Physical Health: This segment will focus on the effects of chronic stress on mental and physical health. Participants will explore how prolonged activation of the fight or flight response can lead to various health issues and impact overall well-being.

Art Therapy as a Tool for Stress Reduction: This module will cover the role of art therapy in stress reduction and relaxation. Participants will learn about creative interventions that can help clients manage stress, engage in self-care, and promote overall emotional well-being.

Flow and Engagement in Art Therapy: This topic will delve into the concept of flow, a state of focused concentration and engagement in a creative activity. Participants will explore how art therapy can facilitate flow experiences, helping clients immerse themselves in the creative process and experience a sense of calm and fulfillment.

Mindfulness and Stress Management in Art Therapy: This segment will focus on integrating mindfulness practices into art therapy sessions to manage stress. Participants will learn how mindfulness techniques can enhance present-moment awareness, reduce anxiety, and support stress management in clients.

Cultivating Resilience through Art: This module will emphasize the role of art therapy in cultivating resilience and coping skills to deal with stressors effectively. Participants will explore creative exercises that encourage clients to explore their inner strengths, build emotional resilience, and develop positive coping strategies to navigate life's challenges.

Therapeutic Benefits of Journaling and Collage: This additional topic will focus on the therapeutic benefits of journaling and collage as creative and expressive tools in art therapy. Participants will explore how journaling can help clients process emotions, clarify thoughts, and promote self-reflection. They will also learn about the therapeutic value of collage-making, including how it can be used to externalize feelings, explore symbolism, and create visual narratives that provide insights into clients' inner worlds. Participants will discover how both journaling and collage can enhance the art therapy process, facilitating deeper self-awareness, emotional healing, and personal growth.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands-on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Mixed Media Collage

Module 3: Anatomy of a Brain

Physiology of the Brain: This topic will provide a comprehensive overview of the anatomy and physiology of the brain. Participants will explore the different regions of the brain, their functions, and how neural networks work to support various cognitive and emotional processes.

The Brain-Body Connection: This segment will focus on the brain's connection to the body and the reciprocal relationship between mental and physical well-being. Participants will learn about how the brain influences bodily functions and how bodily experiences can impact mental health.

The Role of Arts on Brain Function: This module will cover the impact of arts on the brain and its cognitive and emotional processes. Participants will explore research on how engaging in creative activities, such as artmaking, music, and dance, can stimulate brain function, enhance neural connections, and support mental well-being.

Neuroplasticity and Brain Changes: This topic will delve into the concept of neuroplasticity and the brain's ability to change and adapt throughout life. Participants will learn how experiences, including art therapy, can promote neuroplasticity and lead to positive changes in brain structure and function.

Unconscious Beliefs and Mental Patterns: This segment will focus on the influence of unconscious beliefs and mental patterns on brain activity and behaviour. Participants will explore how art therapy can help individuals access and process unconscious material, leading to transformative change and personal growth.

Integrating Brain Awareness into Art Therapy: This module will cover how art therapists can integrate knowledge of brain anatomy and function into their practice. Participants will explore how understanding brain processes can inform therapeutic interventions, enhance client outcomes, and support holistic approaches to mental health and well-being.

The Therapeutic Benefits of Sculpture and Working with Clay: This topic will focus on the unique therapeutic benefits of sculpture and clay work in art therapy. Participants will explore how the tactile and three-dimensional nature of sculpture and clay can offer a different mode of expression and exploration compared to other art mediums. They will learn about the sensory and grounding experiences that sculpture, and clay can provide, allowing clients to release emotions, process trauma, and connect with their inner selves in a profound way. Participants will discover how engaging in sculptural work can promote mindfulness, enhance body awareness, and foster a sense of empowerment and control, making it a valuable tool for self-discovery and emotional healing in art therapy sessions.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands-on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Sculpture (Clay)

Module 4: Assessment and Diagnosis in Holistic Art Therapy

Overview of Assessment and Diagnosis in Holistic Art Therapy: This topic will provide an introduction to the process of assessment and diagnosis in holistic art therapy. Participants will learn about the importance of gathering comprehensive information to understand clients' needs, strengths, and challenges, and how assessment informs the therapeutic process.

The Art of Interpretation in Art Therapy: This topic will introduce the concept of interpretation in art therapy, emphasizing the importance of exploring symbols, metaphors, and visual language in clients' artwork. Participants will learn how art therapists approach the process of interpretation and the significance of staying client-centered in their analyses.

Understanding Symbolism and Archetypes: This segment will focus on the role of symbolism and archetypes in art therapy interpretation. Participants will explore the universality of symbols and how they can carry deep personal meaning for clients, aiding in the exploration of unconscious thoughts and emotions.

Working with Metaphors and Storytelling in Art: This module will cover how art therapists can interpret clients' art using metaphors and storytelling techniques. Participants will learn how to help clients articulate the narratives behind their artwork, which can provide valuable insights into their life experiences and emotions.

Ethical Guidelines for Art Therapists: This topic will delve into the ethical considerations and responsibilities art therapists face when interpreting clients' artwork. Participants will explore guidelines for maintaining confidentiality, respecting cultural diversity, and ensuring that interpretations are offered in a respectful and sensitive manner.

Exploring Different Art Making Mediums and Styles: This segment will emphasize the significance of using various art-making mediums and styles in interpretation. Participants will learn how different artistic materials and techniques can elicit distinct responses and emotions from clients, enriching the therapeutic process and deepening the understanding of their artwork.

Collaborative Interpretation with Clients: This module will cover the importance of collaborative interpretation with clients in art therapy. Participants will explore ways to involve clients in the interpretation process, empowering them to contribute their perspectives and insights, and fostering a sense of ownership and self-discovery in their therapeutic journey.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands-on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Painting (Acrylics)

Module 5: Colour Therapy

The Psychology of Colour and its Therapeutic Applications: This topic will provide an in-depth exploration of the psychology of colour and its therapeutic applications in art therapy. Participants will learn about the emotional and psychological effects of different colours on individuals and how colour choices in artmaking can be used to support clients' emotional expression and healing.

Colour Symbolism and its Significance in Art Therapy: This segment will focus on the significance of colour symbolism in art therapy. Participants will explore how colours can carry personal and cultural meanings, and how clients' colour choices can offer valuable insights into their emotions, experiences, and inner world.

Exploring Colour as a Tool for Emotional Expression: This module will cover how colour can be used as a powerful tool for emotional expression in art therapy. Participants will learn how to guide clients in using colours to communicate and process their feelings, enhancing the therapeutic process and fostering self-awareness.

The Therapeutic Benefits of Finger Painting in Art Therapy: This topic will delve into the therapeutic benefits of finger painting in art therapy. Participants will explore how finger painting can promote sensory experiences, enhance emotional expression, and provide a safe and non-threatening way for clients to engage in creative exploration.

Exploring Different Finger-Painting Mediums and Styles: This segment will focus on the various finger painting mediums and styles that can be used in art therapy. Participants will learn about different types of paint, paper, and other materials suitable for finger painting, and how to adapt techniques to meet the needs and preferences of clients.

Integrating Emotions and Narratives in Finger Paintings: This module will cover how emotions and narratives can be integrated into finger paintings in art therapy. Participants will explore how to

guide clients in creating finger paintings that convey personal stories, experiences, and emotional themes, fostering a deeper understanding of their inner world and supporting the therapeutic process.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Painting (Finger Painting)

Module 6: Principles of Positive Psychology

Introduction to Positive Psychology: This topic will provide an overview of positive psychology and its principles. Participants will learn about the focus on strengths, well-being, and optimal functioning, and how positive psychology aligns with the holistic approach in art therapy.

Positive Emotions and Art Therapy: This segment will focus on the role of positive emotions in art therapy. Participants will explore how creative expression can facilitate the experience and expression of positive emotions, such as joy, gratitude, and hope, promoting emotional well-being and resilience.

Cultivating Positive Mindsets through Art: This module will cover how art therapy can be used to cultivate positive mindsets and thought patterns. Participants will learn about art-based interventions that encourage self-compassion, self-efficacy, and a growth mindset, fostering a positive outlook on life.

Strengths-Based Art Therapy: This topic will delve into the strengths-based approach in art therapy. Participants will explore how to identify and build upon clients' strengths through creative expression, empowering them to navigate challenges and achieve personal growth.

Art Therapy and Positive Relationships: This segment will focus on the role of positive relationships and social connections in art therapy. Participants will learn how group art therapy can foster a sense of belonging, support, and camaraderie, enhancing the therapeutic process and overall well-being.

Flourishing and Art Therapy: This module will cover the concept of flourishing in positive psychology and its application in art therapy. Participants will explore how art therapy can contribute to clients' flourishing by promoting a sense of purpose, engagement, and overall life satisfaction.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Drawing (Charcoal)

Module 7: Working with Offenders, Abusers and Aggressors

Understanding Abusers and Anger Issues: This topic will provide an overview of the characteristics and behaviours commonly associated with abusers and individuals struggling with anger issues. Participants will explore the underlying psychological and emotional factors contributing to these behaviours.

Trauma-Informed Art Therapy: This segment will focus on using trauma-informed approaches in art therapy when working with individuals who have anger issues or have engaged in abusive behaviour. Participants will learn how to create a safe and supportive therapeutic environment that considers clients' trauma histories and promotes healing.

Art Therapy for Emotional Regulation: This module will cover how art therapy can be utilized to support emotional regulation and anger management. Participants will learn about art-based interventions that help clients identify triggers, develop coping strategies, and express emotions in a healthy and constructive manner.

Fostering Empathy and Accountability: This topic will delve into how art therapy can facilitate the development of empathy and accountability in individuals who have engaged in abusive behaviours. Participants will explore creative exercises that promote self-reflection, insight, and personal responsibility for one's actions.

Promoting Positive Communication Skills: This segment will focus on using art therapy to enhance communication skills, particularly for individuals with anger issues. Participants will learn about art-based techniques that encourage healthy expression and listening, improving clients' ability to communicate effectively and constructively.

Ethical Considerations and Boundaries: This module will cover the ethical considerations and boundaries that art therapists must uphold when working with individuals who have engaged in abusive behaviours. Participants will explore how to maintain a client-centered and non-judgmental approach while ensuring the safety and well-being of all involved parties.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Sculpture (Mixed Media Assemblage)

Module 8: Working with Self-Harm and Eating Disorders

Understanding Self-Harm and Eating Disorders: This topic will provide an in-depth exploration of self-harm and eating disorders, including their underlying psychological, emotional, and physical aspects. Participants will gain insights into the complexities of these behaviours and their potential underlying causes.

Art Therapy for Self-Expression and Self-Understanding: This segment will focus on how art therapy can provide a safe and non-verbal outlet for individuals struggling with self-harm and eating disorders to express their emotions and thoughts. Participants will learn about art-based interventions that facilitate self-expression and promote self-understanding.

Body Image and Identity Exploration: This module will cover how art therapy can be used to explore body image issues and identity challenges associated with eating disorders. Participants will explore creative exercises that help clients develop a more positive relationship with their bodies and explore their sense of self beyond their disorders.

Addressing Emotional Regulation and Coping Strategies: This topic will delve into using art therapy to address emotional regulation and develop healthy coping strategies for individuals struggling with self-harm and eating disorders. Participants will learn about art-based techniques that support emotional expression, stress reduction, and the development of alternative coping mechanisms.

Trauma-Informed Approaches and Self-Compassion: This segment will focus on trauma-informed approaches and self-compassion in art therapy when working with self-harm and eating disorders. Participants will explore how to create a compassionate and safe therapeutic environment that considers clients' trauma histories and fosters self-care and self-kindness.

Collaborative Treatment and Referral: This module will cover the importance of collaborative treatment and the potential need for referrals when working with self-harm and eating disorders. Participants will learn how to work effectively within a multidisciplinary team, communicate with other healthcare professionals, and provide holistic support to clients on their recovery journey.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Body Art

Module 9: The Mind-Body Connection

The Mind-Body Connection: This topic will provide a foundational understanding of the mind-body connection and its significance in holistic art therapy. Participants will explore how thoughts, emotions, and physical sensations are interconnected, influencing overall well-being and health.

Art Therapy and Physical Health: This segment will focus on the relationship between art therapy and physical health. Participants will learn about the ways creative expression can impact physical wellbeing, including stress reduction, immune system support, and pain management.

Incorporating the Mind-Body Approach in Art Therapy: This module will cover practical techniques for integrating the mind-body approach in art therapy sessions. Participants will explore how to guide clients in becoming more aware of their bodily sensations, emotions, and thoughts, and how to use creative processes to promote holistic healing.

Art as a Means of Somatic Expression: This topic will delve into how art can serve as a means of somatic expression in holistic art therapy. Participants will learn how to guide clients in using art to communicate and process physical sensations, tensions, and emotions that are held within the body.

Movement and Art Therapy: This segment will focus on the integration of movement and art therapy to enhance the mind-body connection. Participants will explore how movement activities, such as dance or yoga, can be combined with artmaking to promote body awareness, relaxation, and emotional release.

Mindful Artmaking and Self-Care: This module will cover the use of mindful artmaking as a self-care practice to enhance the mind-body connection. Participants will learn how to guide clients in creating art mindfully, fostering present-moment awareness, and supporting overall emotional and physical well-being.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Mask Making

Module 10: Art and the Development of Intuition

Understanding Intuition and its Role: This topic will provide an overview of intuition and its significance in holistic art therapy. Participants will explore the nature of intuition as a form of inner wisdom and how it can enhance the therapeutic process.

Cultivating Intuition through Art: This segment will focus on how artmaking can serve as a tool for cultivating intuition. Participants will learn how to guide clients in using the creative process to tap into their intuition, fostering self-trust and a deeper connection to their inner selves.

Meaning and Purpose in Art: This module will cover the exploration of meaning and purpose through art in holistic art therapy. Participants will learn how clients' intuitive insights can be expressed and explored in their artwork, leading to a greater understanding of personal values and life direction.

Art Therapy and Dream Work: This topic will delve into the integration of dream work in art therapy to enhance intuition and self-discovery. Participants will explore how clients' dreams can be used as a source of intuitive guidance, and how artmaking can help bring dream symbolism to life.

Intuitive Symbolism in Art: This segment will focus on the interpretation of intuitive symbolism in clients' artwork. Participants will learn how to recognize and explore symbols that emerge in the art making process, aiding clients in accessing unconscious thoughts, emotions, and insights.

Holistic Integration of Intuition: This module will cover how to integrate intuitive insights into the holistic art therapy process. Participants will learn how to guide clients in integrating intuitive messages from their artwork into their daily lives, supporting personal growth, decision-making, and overall well-being.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Painting on canvas (Acrylics)

Module 11: Mindfulness

Introduction to Mindfulness: This topic will provide a foundational understanding of mindfulness and its relevance to holistic art therapy. Participants will explore the principles of mindfulness, including present-moment awareness and non-judgmental acceptance, and how they can be integrated into the art therapy process.

Mindful Artmaking: This segment will focus on the practice of mindful artmaking in holistic art therapy. Participants will learn how to guide clients in engaging with the creative process with full awareness, fostering a deeper connection to the moment and enhancing self-expression.

Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction: This module will cover the application of mindfulness-based stress reduction techniques in art therapy. Participants will explore how mindfulness practices can help clients manage stress, reduce anxiety, and promote overall well-being through the art-making process.

Mindful Self-Reflection: This topic will delve into the use of mindfulness for self-reflection in holistic art therapy. Participants will learn how to guide clients in using art as a tool for self-discovery, insight, and self-awareness, promoting personal growth and emotional healing.

Mindful Sensory Engagement: This segment will focus on incorporating mindful sensory engagement into art therapy sessions. Participants will explore techniques for using art to enhance sensory awareness, such as focusing on textures, colours, and the sensory experience of creating.

Mindfulness and Holistic Wellness: This module will cover how mindfulness practices can contribute to holistic wellness in art therapy. Participants will learn how to integrate mindfulness into clients' overall well-being, supporting emotional, physical, and spiritual health through creative expression and self-awareness.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Painting (watercolours)

Module 12: Holistic Counselling Skills for Art Therapists (Part One)

Therapeutic Relationships and Communication Skills: This topic will provide an in-depth understanding of building and maintaining therapeutic relationships as a holistic art therapist. Participants will learn effective communication skills, active listening, empathy, and how to create a safe and nurturing space for clients' emotional exploration.

Understanding the Non-Judgmental Role of a Holistic Counsellors: This segment will focus on the importance of adopting a non-judgmental stance in holistic counselling. Participants will explore how to suspend personal judgments and biases, creating an open and accepting environment that supports clients' self-expression and growth.

Supporting Clients to Identify Their Therapeutic Goals: This module will cover techniques for assisting clients in clarifying their therapeutic goals in the context of holistic art therapy. Participants will learn how to collaborate with clients to identify their needs, desires, and aspirations, guiding the direction of the therapeutic process.

Compassion & Non-Judgment: This topic will delve into the principles of compassion and non-judgment in holistic counselling. Participants will explore how cultivating compassion for oneself and others, along with maintaining a non-judgmental attitude, can enhance the therapeutic relationship and contribute to clients' healing journey.

Integrating Holistic Approaches: This segment will focus on the integration of holistic approaches in counselling sessions. Participants will learn how to consider clients' physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual aspects in the therapeutic process, promoting a holistic understanding of well-being.

Facilitating Self-Exploration and Empowerment: This module will cover techniques for facilitating clients' self-exploration and empowerment through holistic counselling. Participants will learn how to guide clients in accessing their inner resources, strengths, and wisdom, fostering a sense of agency and resilience in their healing process.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Photography and digital art project

Module 13: Visualisation & Vision Boards

Utilizing Visualization Techniques in Art Therapy: This topic will provide an introduction to the use of visualization techniques in art therapy. Participants will learn how to guide clients in using their imagination and mental imagery to access deeper levels of self-awareness, insight, and emotional healing.

Creating and Interpreting Vision Boards as a Therapeutic Tool: This segment will focus on the creation and interpretation of vision boards in art therapy. Participants will explore how vision boards can serve as powerful visual representations of clients' goals, desires, and aspirations, and how to facilitate meaningful discussions around the images and symbols chosen.

Guided Imagery and Artmaking: This module will cover the integration of guided imagery with artmaking in holistic art therapy. Participants will learn how to combine verbal guidance with creative expression to help clients access their inner resources, promote relaxation, and enhance the therapeutic experience.

Personal Symbolism and Vision Boards: This topic will delve into the significance of personal symbolism in vision boards. Participants will explore how clients' choices of images, colours, and textures can reveal deeper meanings and emotions, and how to facilitate exploration and interpretation of these symbols.

Manifestation and Goal Setting through Vision Boards: This segment will focus on using vision boards as a tool for manifestation and goal setting. Participants will learn how to guide clients in setting intentions, visualizing their desired outcomes, and using the creative process to bring their goals to life.

Integrating Vision Boards into Holistic Art Therapy: This module will cover how to integrate vision boards into a holistic approach to art therapy. Participants will learn how to incorporate vision board exercises within the larger therapeutic framework, considering clients' physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual dimensions to support their personal growth and well-being.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Mixed Media Collage – Vision Boards

Module 14: Holistic Counselling Skills for Art Therapists (Part Two)

Creating Holistic Counselling Environments: This topic will delve into the creation of holistic counselling environments that support clients' overall well-being. Participants will learn how to design therapeutic spaces that consider physical, emotional, and sensory aspects, fostering a sense of safety, comfort, and openness for clients.

Understanding Learning Styles: This segment will focus on recognizing and accommodating different learning styles in holistic art therapy. Participants will explore how to tailor therapeutic approaches to align with clients' preferred ways of acquiring and processing information, optimizing their learning and growth.

Personality Types and Therapeutic Approaches: This module will cover how to work with different personality types in holistic counselling. Participants will learn about personality theories and how they can inform tailored therapeutic interventions, enhancing the effectiveness of art-based techniques for individual clients.

Exploring Beliefs and Social Programming: This topic will delve into the exploration of clients' beliefs and social programming in holistic art therapy. Participants will learn how to guide clients in identifying and challenging limiting beliefs, cultural conditioning, and societal norms that may impact their well-being and self-expression.

Spirituality and Existential Exploration: This segment will focus on addressing spiritual and existential aspects in holistic art therapy. Participants will explore how to support clients in exploring their sense of purpose, meaning, and connection to something greater, integrating spiritual dimensions into the therapeutic process.

Integration and Holistic Transformation: This module will cover the integration of advanced holistic counselling skills for holistic art therapists. Participants will learn how to synthesize their knowledge of holistic principles, art therapy techniques, and advanced counselling skills to facilitate holistic transformation and growth in clients, promoting well-being on all levels of their being.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Drawing (Pastels / Crayons)

Module 15: Holistic Counselling Skills for Art Therapists (Part Three)

The Karpman Drama Triangle: This topic will delve into the Karpman Drama Triangle, a psychological model that explores dysfunctional interpersonal dynamics. Participants will learn to identify and address roles such as the Victim, Persecutor, and Rescuer, and how to guide clients in moving towards healthier relational patterns.

Foundations of Happiness: This segment will focus on the foundations of happiness and well-being from a holistic perspective. Participants will explore positive psychology principles, mindfulness practices, and self-care techniques that contribute to clients' overall sense of happiness and fulfillment.

Goal Setting and Personal Empowerment: This module will cover advanced techniques for goal setting and personal empowerment in holistic counselling. Participants will learn how to help clients define meaningful goals, create action plans, and cultivate the inner resources needed to achieve their aspirations.

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs: This topic will delve into Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, a theoretical framework that outlines human needs and motivations. Participants will explore how this model can inform holistic counselling practices, helping clients meet their physiological, safety, belonging, self-esteem, and self-actualization needs to achieve holistic well-being.

The Power of Gratitude and Journaling: This topic will delve into the transformative power of gratitude practices and journaling. Participants will explore how incorporating gratitude and journaling into holistic counselling can enhance clients' self-awareness, emotional regulation, and overall well-being.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Papercraft Book Binding / Journal Making

Module 16: Menopause

Understanding Menopause: This topic will provide an in-depth exploration of menopause, including the physical, emotional, and psychological changes that occur during this transitional phase. Participants will gain insights into the holistic impact of menopause on women's well-being.

Art Therapy for Menopausal Symptoms: This segment will focus on the application of art therapy techniques to address menopausal symptoms. Participants will learn how creative expression can be used to manage physical discomfort, mood fluctuations, and other challenges associated with menopause.

Embracing Change and Self-Identity: This module will cover how art therapy can support women in embracing the changes brought on by menopause and exploring shifts in self-identity. Participants will explore creative interventions that encourage self-exploration, self-acceptance, and empowerment during this transformative life stage.

Managing Stress and Anxiety: This topic will delve into how art therapy can be used as a tool for managing stress and anxiety that may arise during menopause. Participants will learn techniques to help women express and process their emotions, reduce tension, and promote relaxation through creative practices.

Cultivating Self-Care and Wellness: This segment will focus on how art therapy can help women cultivate self-care and holistic wellness during menopause. Participants will explore creative approaches that encourage self-nurturing, body appreciation, and overall well-being.

Exploring Body Image and Aging: This module will cover the exploration of body image and aging through art therapy during menopause. Participants will learn how to facilitate discussions and creative activities that address body-related concerns and promote positive self-perception during this phase of life.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Painting (Mixed Media)

Module 17: Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome

Understanding Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome (PTSD): This topic should provide a comprehensive overview of PTSD, including its definition, symptoms, causes, and prevalence. It will explore the psychological and physiological impacts of trauma, highlighting how traumatic experiences can manifest in various ways.

The Holistic Approach to Healing PTSD: This segment will introduce the concept of holistic healing and its application in addressing PTSD. Participants will learn about the interconnectedness of mind, body, and spirit in the healing process and how holistic art therapy can provide a safe and effective space for individuals to process and heal from trauma.

Expressive Art Techniques for PTSD Healing: This part will delve into specific art-based techniques that can aid in the healing journey of individuals with PTSD. It may cover art forms such as drawing, painting, creative writing, movement, and music, emphasizing how each medium can serve as a valuable tool for emotional expression, release, and self-discovery.

Trauma-Informed Art Therapy Practices: This topic will focus on the importance of trauma-informed approaches in art therapy. Participants will learn how to create a supportive and sensitive environment that respects individual experiences and triggers while empowering clients to navigate their trauma safely through creative expression.

Integrating Mindfulness and Self-Care: Holistic art therapy recognizes the significance of mindfulness and self-care in healing from PTSD. This module will teach participants mindfulness techniques that can be incorporated into art therapy sessions, promoting present-moment awareness and fostering resilience. Additionally, it will emphasize the importance of self-care for both the therapist and the clients, ensuring a sustainable and supportive therapeutic process.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Drawing (Mixed Media)

Module 18: Working with Adolescents

Understanding Adolescence: This topic will provide an overview of adolescence as a developmental stage, including physical, emotional, and cognitive changes. Participants will explore the unique challenges and opportunities that arise when working with adolescents in holistic art therapy.

The Rebel, React, and Respond Hypothesis: This segment will delve into the Rebel, React, and Respond Hypothesis, which examines adolescents' behaviour as a response to societal expectations and pressures. Participants will explore how this hypothesis can inform holistic art therapy interventions and interactions.

Counselling Adolescents: This module will cover foundational counselling techniques specifically tailored to working with adolescents. Participants will learn how to establish rapport, build trust, and create a supportive therapeutic relationship that encourages self-expression and exploration through art.

Art Therapy for Emotional Regulation: This topic will focus on using art therapy to help adolescents develop emotional regulation skills. Participants will explore creative interventions that empower adolescents to identify, express, and manage their emotions in a healthy and constructive manner.

Identity Exploration and Self-Expression: This segment will delve into how art therapy can support adolescents in exploring their identity and expressing their sense of self. Participants will learn techniques to guide adolescents in using art to explore their interests, values, and aspirations.

Promoting Resilience and Coping Skills: This module will cover how holistic art therapy can promote resilience and coping skills in adolescents. Participants will explore creative approaches that help adolescents build adaptive coping mechanisms, enhance problem-solving abilities, and navigate challenges effectively.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Mixed Media Collage

Module 19: The Art of Nature

Nature-Based Art Therapy and Ecotherapy Principles: This topic will provide an introduction to nature-based art therapy and ecotherapy principles. Participants will explore how the natural world can serve as a therapeutic backdrop and inspiration for creative expression, fostering a deeper connection between individuals and their environment.

Connecting with Nature through Art: This segment will focus on the process of connecting with nature through artmaking. Participants will learn how to guide clients in using various artistic mediums to capture the beauty, textures, and essence of nature, enhancing their sense of connection and well-being.

Outdoor Art Therapy Experiences: This module will cover the design and facilitation of outdoor art therapy experiences. Participants will explore how to create safe and nurturing outdoor environments that invite clients to engage in creative expression while immersing themselves in the healing energy of nature.

The Therapeutic Benefits of Nature in Art Therapy: This topic will delve into the therapeutic benefits of incorporating nature into art therapy. Participants will learn about the positive effects of nature on stress reduction, relaxation, mindfulness, and emotional well-being, and how to harness these benefits in therapeutic settings.

Exploring Different Ways to Use Nature and Found Objects in Art Therapy: This segment will focus on the creative utilization of nature and found objects in art therapy sessions. Participants will learn techniques for incorporating natural materials, such as leaves, stones, and branches, into art-making processes to deepen self-expression and symbolism.

Environmental Awareness and Sustainability: This module will cover the importance of fostering environmental awareness and sustainability in nature-based art therapy. Participants will explore how to guide clients in creating art that reflects their connection to nature and encourages a sense of responsibility towards the environment, promoting holistic well-being for both individuals and the planet.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Mandala Making (Natural and Found Materials)

Module 20: Holistic Counselling Skills for Art Therapists (Part Four)

Holistic Counselling Skills and Techniques: This topic will provide an overview of holistic counselling skills and techniques that are essential for effective practice in holistic art therapy. Participants will learn about the foundational principles of holistic counselling and how they can be integrated with art therapy approaches.

Active Listening Skills: This segment will focus on developing active listening skills as a fundamental component of holistic counselling in art therapy. Participants will learn how to attentively engage with clients, demonstrate empathy, and create a supportive environment for self-expression.

Using Open and Closed Questions: This module will cover the art of using open and closed questions strategically in holistic counselling sessions. Participants will explore how to guide conversations using open-ended questions to encourage exploration and closed-ended questions to gather specific information.

Managing Triggers and Tears: This topic will delve into techniques for effectively managing triggers and emotional responses, including tears, in holistic art therapy sessions. Participants will learn how to create a safe and compassionate space, address intense emotions, and provide appropriate support.

Integrating Emotions and Narratives in Paintings: This segment will focus on how to guide clients in integrating emotions and narratives into their artwork. Participants will learn how to facilitate a creative process that allows clients to express and explore their feelings, memories, and stories through painting and other art mediums.

Art-Based Reflection and Integration: This module will cover how to facilitate art-based reflection and integration as part of holistic counselling in art therapy. Participants will explore techniques to help clients process their artwork, gain insights, and relate their creative expressions to their personal experiences and therapeutic goals.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Painting (Mixed Media)

Module 21: Self-Healing Through Art

Promoting Self-Healing Through Artistic Expression: This topic will delve into the power of artistic expression as a means of promoting self-healing. Participants will explore how engaging in creative processes can facilitate emotional release, stress reduction, and personal transformation.

Developing a Personal Art Therapy Practice: This segment will focus on the development of a personal art therapy practice for self-healing. Participants will learn how to apply art therapy techniques to their own lives, fostering self-awareness, insight, and well-being.

Using Art for Self-Reflection and Growth: This module will cover how to use art as a tool for self-reflection and personal growth. Participants will learn techniques for creating art that reflects their inner experiences, thoughts, and emotions, fostering a deeper understanding of themselves.

Using Art to Explore Identity and Values: This topic will delve into how art can be used to explore one's identity, values, and sense of self. Participants will explore creative exercises that encourage self-exploration, helping individuals connect with their authentic selves and cultivate a stronger sense of purpose.

Self-Care for Art Therapists: This segment will focus on the importance of self-care for art therapists themselves. Participants will learn about strategies and practices that promote physical, emotional, and mental well-being, ensuring they can effectively support others while maintaining their own health.

Holistic Integration of Self-Healing: This module will cover how to holistically integrate self-healing practices and techniques into one's art therapy approach. Participants will explore how their own experiences of self-healing can inform their work with clients, creating a more authentic and empathetic therapeutic connection.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Drawing (Pastels)

Module 22: ADHD and the Autism Spectrum

Understanding ADHD and Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD): This topic will provide an overview of ADHD and ASD, including their definitions, characteristics, and diagnostic criteria. Participants will learn about the neurodevelopmental nature of these conditions and gain insights into the challenges individuals with ADHD and ASD may face in their daily lives.

The Role of Holistic Art Therapy in Supporting Individuals with ADHD and ASD: This segment will explore the unique benefits of using art therapy as a complementary approach for individuals with ADHD and ASD. Participants will understand how creative expression can enhance communication skills, emotional regulation, and social interactions, promoting overall well-being and self-esteem.

Sensory Integration and Art Therapy Techniques: This topic will delve into the sensory aspects of ADHD and ASD and how art therapy can be used to address sensory processing difficulties. Participants will learn about sensory integration techniques within the context of art-making, allowing clients to engage their senses and find balance.

Tailoring Art Therapy Interventions for Individuals with ADHD and ASD: This module will cover strategies for adapting art therapy interventions to meet the specific needs of clients with ADHD and ASD. It will explore various art modalities, tools, and sensory-friendly environments that can support individuals with diverse sensory sensitivities and attentional challenges.

Enhancing Social Skills and Communication Through Art: Social skills and communication can be challenging for individuals with ADHD and ASD. This topic will focus on using art therapy to foster social interaction, emotional expression, and non-verbal communication skills. Participants will learn how group art activities can create a supportive and inclusive space for clients to connect and build relationships.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Sculpture (Mixed Media Assemblage)

Module 23: Depression

Understanding Depression: This topic will provide an in-depth exploration of depression, including its causes, symptoms, and impact on individuals' emotional, mental, and physical well-being.

Participants will gain insights into the complexities of depression and its various manifestations.

The Role of Holistic Art Therapy in Supporting Individuals with Depression: This segment will focus on the unique role of holistic art therapy in addressing and supporting individuals with depression.

Participants will learn about the holistic approach's potential to address the multi-dimensional aspects of depression and promote healing.

Tailoring Art Therapy Interventions for Individuals with Depression: This module will cover how to tailor art therapy interventions to meet the specific needs of individuals with depression. Participants will explore creative techniques and strategies that can be used to address symptoms such as low self-esteem, lack of motivation, and emotional numbness.

Encouraging Authentic Self-Expression in Art Therapy: This topic will delve into the importance of fostering authentic self-expression in individuals with depression through art therapy. Participants will learn how to create a safe and non-judgmental space that allows clients to explore and communicate their inner emotions and experiences.

Empowering Clients to Find Their Voice Through Art: This segment will focus on how art therapy can empower clients with depression to find their voice and regain a sense of agency and control. Participants will explore methods to guide clients in using art to express and assert their feelings, preferences, and desires.

Non-Verbal Communication and Art: This module will cover the significance of non-verbal communication in art therapy for individuals with depression. Participants will learn how to facilitate meaningful interactions through the creative process, allowing clients to communicate their thoughts and emotions in a way that goes beyond words.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Fiber Arts (Textile Collage)

Module 24: Gender Identities

Understanding Gender Diversity and Identities: This topic will provide an in-depth exploration of gender diversity, including the spectrum of gender identities beyond the binary (male and female). Participants will learn about various gender identities, such as transgender, non-binary, genderqueer, and genderfluid, and gain an understanding of the importance of using inclusive and affirming language in art therapy settings.

Intersectionality and Gender Experiences: This segment will discuss the concept of intersectionality concerning how gender intersects with other aspects of identity, such as race, ethnicity, sexuality, and disability. Participants will explore how these intersections can shape individuals' experiences of their gender identity and inform their art therapy journey.

Art as a Medium for Exploring Gender Identity: This topic will focus on how art therapy can serve as a powerful tool for individuals to explore, express, and celebrate their gender identity. Participants will learn about various art techniques and activities that can facilitate self-discovery, empowerment, and validation for clients on their gender exploration journey.

Addressing Gender Dysphoria and Gender Affirmation: Gender dysphoria is a significant aspect of the transgender experience. This module will cover how art therapy can be used to address and navigate feelings of dysphoria, promote self-acceptance, and support gender affirmation. Participants will learn about the potential role of art in visualizing one's true gender self and expressing their desired identity.

Creating a Safe and Inclusive Art Therapy Environment: In this module, participants will explore strategies to create a safe and inclusive space for clients exploring their gender identity. Topics may include the importance of cultural humility, understanding pronouns, addressing bias and microaggressions, and promoting respect for diverse gender expressions. Participants will learn how to approach art therapy sessions with sensitivity, empathy, and a non-judgmental attitude to foster a positive therapeutic experience for all clients.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Painting (Oil Paints)

Module 25: Exploring Spirituality in Art Therapy

Exploring Spirituality in Art Therapy: This topic will introduce the concept of spirituality and its relevance in the context of holistic art therapy. Participants will explore different definitions of spirituality, its potential significance in personal growth and healing, and how it can be integrated into the art therapy process.

Spiritual Self-Reflection through Art: This segment will focus on how art can be a powerful tool for individuals to engage in spiritual self-reflection and exploration. Participants will learn about art-based techniques that encourage clients to connect with their inner selves, explore belief systems, and express their spiritual experiences through creative expression.

Symbolism and Archetypes in Art Therapy: This topic will delve into the use of symbols and archetypes in art therapy as a means of exploring spiritual themes and universal experiences. Participants will learn how clients can use symbols and archetypal imagery to represent and process their spiritual journey, emotions, and insights.

Rituals and Ceremonies in Art Therapy: This module will cover the incorporation of rituals and ceremonies in art therapy sessions to honour significant life events, transitions, or spiritual practices. Participants will explore how artmaking can be combined with meaningful rituals to enhance spiritual development and create a sense of sacredness in the therapeutic space.

Ethical Considerations in Addressing Spirituality: This segment will address the ethical dimensions of integrating spirituality in art therapy. Participants will explore the importance of respecting clients' diverse belief systems, maintaining professional boundaries, and avoiding imposition or bias in the therapeutic process. It will emphasize the role of the art therapist as a facilitator and supporter of the client's spiritual exploration, rather than a spiritual authority.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Drawing (Mixed Media)

Module 26: Sexuality

Understanding Sexuality and its Complexity

This topic will provide an in-depth exploration of human sexuality, acknowledging its diverse and complex nature. Participants will gain insights into various aspects of sexuality, including sexual orientation, gender identity, sexual expression, and the influence of cultural and social factors.

Art as a Medium for Sexual Self-Exploration

This segment will focus on how art therapy can provide a safe and non-threatening space for individuals to explore and express their sexual identity and experiences. Participants will learn about art-based techniques that can help clients gain insights into their feelings, desires, and beliefs surrounding sexuality.

Addressing Sexual Trauma and Healing

This module will cover the use of art therapy in addressing sexual trauma and promoting healing. Participants will learn about trauma-informed approaches to art therapy and explore how creative expression can be a powerful tool in processing and integrating traumatic experiences related to sexuality.

Cultivating Positive Body Image and Self-Expression

This topic will delve into body image and its connection to sexuality. Participants will learn how art therapy can help individuals develop a positive body image, explore their feelings about their bodies, and embrace self-expression through art as a means of reclaiming agency over their sexuality.

Navigating Relationships and Intimacy

This segment will explore how art therapy can assist individuals in navigating relationship dynamics and intimacy. Participants will learn about the role of creative expression in communication, setting boundaries, and exploring intimacy in both romantic and platonic relationships, fostering healthier connections and understanding.

Art Therapy for LGBTQ+ Populations: This topic will focus specifically on the unique needs and experiences of LGBTQ+ individuals in art therapy. Participants will explore the importance of creating an inclusive and affirming therapeutic environment that respects and validates diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. They will learn about the challenges and strengths that LGBTQ+ clients may bring to therapy and how art can be a powerful medium for exploring issues related to coming out, identity acceptance, family dynamics, and societal pressures. The module will also cover the significance of cultural humility in working with LGBTQ+ clients and how art therapy can contribute to the empowerment and resilience of this population.

Practical Session: This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Painting (Mixed Media) 1

Module 27: Emotion Work

Emotions as a Catalyst for Artistic Expression: This topic will explore the close relationship between emotions and creativity in art therapy. Participants will learn how emotions can inspire and influence artistic expression, and how art can serve as a valuable outlet for processing and understanding complex feelings.

The Language of Art and Emotional Communication: This segment will focus on the ways art can act as a non-verbal language for emotional communication. Participants will explore how clients' art can convey subconscious feelings, thoughts, and experiences, offering valuable insights into their emotional world.

Identifying and Validating Emotions Through Art: Art therapists need to be adept at identifying and validating clients' emotions expressed through art. This topic will cover techniques for recognizing different emotional themes and helping clients acknowledge and explore their feelings during the art therapy process.

Cultivating Emotional Awareness and Regulation: Emotion-focused art therapy can help individuals develop emotional awareness and regulation skills. Participants will learn about art-based interventions that foster emotional intelligence and help clients build resilience in coping with challenging emotions.

Integrating Emotions into the Therapeutic Process: This module will emphasize the role of emotions in the overall therapeutic process. Participants will learn how to facilitate meaningful discussions around clients' artwork, promote emotional reflection, and use emotions as a catalyst for personal growth and self-discovery.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Painting (Mixed Media)

Module 28: Substance Abuse and Addiction

Understanding Substance Abuse and Addiction: This topic will provide a comprehensive overview of substance abuse and addiction, including the impact on individuals' physical, emotional, and social well-being. Participants will gain insights into the complex nature of addiction and the underlying factors contributing to substance abuse.

Art Therapy for Substance Abuse Recovery: This segment will focus on the role of art therapy in supporting substance abuse recovery. Participants will explore how creative expression can serve as a therapeutic tool to explore emotions, identify triggers, and develop coping strategies to maintain sobriety.

Healing Trauma and Co-occurring Disorders: This module will cover the relationship between trauma, co-occurring disorders, and substance abuse. Participants will learn how art therapy can address past trauma and provide a safe space for individuals to process emotional wounds that may contribute to addiction.

Mindfulness and Relapse Prevention: This topic will delve into the use of mindfulness-based art therapy techniques for relapse prevention. Participants will explore how mindfulness practices can enhance self-awareness, self-regulation, and stress management skills, supporting individuals in maintaining their recovery journey.

Building a Supportive Recovery Community: This module will emphasize the importance of building a supportive recovery community through art therapy. Participants will learn how to use group art therapy sessions to foster connection, mutual support, and a sense of belonging among individuals in recovery, promoting sustained positive change and growth.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Painting (Finger Painting)

Module 29: Working with Victims of Abuse

Understanding the Impact of Abuse: This topic will provide an in-depth exploration of the different forms of abuse, such as physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, and the lasting effects they can have on individuals. Participants will learn about trauma-informed approaches and gain insights into the complex emotional and psychological responses victims may exhibit.

Creating a Safe and Empowering Environment: This segment will focus on the importance of establishing a safe and empathetic space for victims of abuse in art therapy sessions. Participants will learn about trauma-sensitive techniques for building trust, establishing boundaries, and ensuring confidentiality, allowing clients to feel comfortable expressing themselves through art.

Art Therapy as a Vehicle for Expression and Healing: This topic will explore the transformative power of art therapy in providing victims of abuse with a means to express their emotions, fears, and experiences non-verbally. Participants will learn how creative expression can aid in processing trauma, promoting emotional release, and fostering resilience.

Navigating Complex Emotions: Working with victims of abuse can involve a wide range of intense emotions. This module will focus on helping art therapists understand and navigate the complexity of emotions that may arise during sessions. Participants will learn effective strategies for supporting clients through emotional challenges, managing their own emotional responses, and providing appropriate interventions.

Integrating Self-Care and Secondary Trauma Awareness: Working with victims of abuse can be emotionally demanding for art therapists. This topic will emphasize the importance of self-care and developing coping mechanisms to prevent burnout and manage secondary trauma. Participants will learn practical techniques to ensure their well-being while providing effective support to clients.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Drawing (Mixed Media)

Module 30: Grief and Loss

Understanding Grief and Loss: This topic will provide an in-depth exploration of grief and loss, including the different types of loss (e.g., death of a loved one, divorce, job loss) and the various emotional, psychological, and physical responses individuals may experience. Participants will gain insights into the grieving process and the unique ways grief can manifest in different individuals.

Art Therapy as a Tool for Processing Grief: This segment will focus on the transformative power of art therapy in facilitating the expression and processing of grief. Participants will learn how various art modalities can serve as a safe and creative outlet for individuals to explore and communicate their feelings of loss and bereavement.

Symbolism and Narrative in Grief Art: This topic will delve into the use of symbolism and narrative in art therapy sessions focused on grief and loss. Participants will explore how clients' artwork can represent their feelings, memories, and hopes related to the deceased or the lost aspect of their lives. They will learn how to support clients in creating meaningful narratives through art, aiding in the process of making sense of their grief.

Addressing Complicated Grief and Traumatic Loss: This module will cover the complexities of complicated grief and loss resulting from traumatic experiences. Participants will learn about trauma informed approaches to art therapy and how to provide support to individuals dealing with overwhelming emotions and unresolved aspects of their grief journey.

Rituals and Healing in Grief Art Therapy: This topic will explore the use of rituals and healing practices in art therapy sessions centered around grief. Participants will learn how art can be integrated into rituals of remembrance, honouring the deceased, and promoting healing and closure. They will also discover how art can help individuals find a sense of meaning and transformation in the midst of their grief journey.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Painting (Mixed Media)

Module 31: Anxiety

Understanding Anxiety Disorders: This topic will provide a comprehensive overview of anxiety disorders, including the different types of anxiety disorders, their symptoms, and the impact they can have on an individual's life. Participants will gain insights into the neurobiological and psychological aspects of anxiety, as well as the common triggers and coping mechanisms associated with these disorders.

Art Therapy as an Empowering Approach for Anxiety: This segment will focus on how art therapy can be an empowering and effective approach for individuals with anxiety disorders. Participants will learn about the role of creative expression in reducing anxiety, promoting emotional regulation, and fostering a sense of control and self-empowerment.

Art-Based Techniques for Anxiety Management: This topic will delve into specific art-based techniques that can help individuals manage their anxiety. Participants will explore mindfulness practices through art, grounding exercises, and other creative interventions aimed at calming the nervous system and enhancing coping skills.

Exploring Underlying Emotional Themes through Art: Art therapy allows individuals to express emotions that may be difficult to put into words. This module will cover how art can serve as a means of exploring and processing the underlying emotional themes that contribute to anxiety, such as fear, uncertainty, and vulnerability.

Cultivating Resilience and Self-Compassion: This module will focus on fostering resilience and self-compassion in individuals with anxiety disorders. Participants will learn how art therapy can be used to challenge negative self-perceptions, build self-esteem, and encourage self-care practices as essential components of the holistic healing process.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Sculpture (Mixed Media Assemblage)

Module 32: Working with Senior Adults

Understanding the Aging Process: This topic will provide a comprehensive overview of the aging process, including the physical, emotional, and cognitive changes that senior adults may experience. Participants will gain insights into the unique challenges and strengths that come with aging, allowing them to develop a deeper understanding of the specific needs of this population.

Art Therapy for Cognitive Enhancement: This segment will focus on the role of art therapy in supporting cognitive enhancement in senior adults. Participants will learn about art-based interventions that can stimulate memory, promote cognitive flexibility, and enhance overall brain health in older individuals.

Addressing Psychosocial Challenges in Aging: This module will cover the psychosocial challenges faced by senior adults, such as social isolation, grief and loss, and adjusting to life transitions. Participants will explore how art therapy can provide a space for seniors to process emotions, foster social connections, and find meaning and purpose in their later years.

Enhancing Emotional Well-Being through Art: This topic will delve into the emotional benefits of art therapy for senior adults. Participants will learn how creative expression can provide a healthy outlet for emotions, reduce stress and anxiety, and improve overall emotional well-being in older individuals.

Creating Age-Appropriate Art Activities: This module will focus on developing age-appropriate and accessible art activities for senior adults with diverse physical and cognitive abilities. Participants will learn how to adapt art techniques and materials to accommodate the specific needs and limitations of older individuals, ensuring an inclusive and meaningful art therapy experience.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Painting (Mixed Media)

Module 33: Art Therapy for Children

Child Development and the Role of Art: This topic will provide an overview of child development, including physical, cognitive, emotional, and social milestones. Participants will learn about the importance of art in the development of children and how creative expression can serve as a valuable tool for communication and self-discovery.

Child-Centered Approaches in Art Therapy: This segment will focus on child-centered approaches in art therapy, emphasizing the importance of meeting children where they are in their emotional and cognitive development. Participants will explore techniques for building rapport and establishing a safe and trusting therapeutic relationship with young clients.

Using Art to Explore Emotions and Self-Expression: This module will cover how art can be used to help children explore and express their emotions, thoughts, and experiences. Participants will learn about art-based techniques that encourage emotional expression and support children in understanding and managing their feelings.

Art Therapy for Children with Special Needs: This topic will delve into the application of art therapy for children with special needs, such as autism spectrum disorder, developmental delays, or physical disabilities. Participants will learn how to adapt art activities and materials to meet the unique needs of each child and foster their creative expression and self-esteem.

Incorporating Play and Storytelling in Art Therapy: Play and storytelling are essential components of child development. This module will explore how art therapy can integrate play and storytelling elements to facilitate communication and address various therapeutic goals. Participants will learn about the therapeutic benefits of play and storytelling in the context of art therapy with children.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Painting (Finger Painting)

Module 34: Family Therapy

Understanding Family Systems and Dynamics: This topic will provide an overview of family systems theory and the dynamics that shape family interactions and relationships. Participants will explore the interconnectedness of family members and gain insights into how these dynamics can influence individual behaviours and emotional well-being.

Integrating Art Therapy into Family Sessions: This segment will focus on the integration of art therapy techniques in family therapy sessions. Participants will learn how art can be used as a powerful tool to facilitate communication, expression, and understanding among family members, promoting deeper connections and fostering positive changes within the family system.

Exploring Family Roles and Communication through Art: This module will cover how art can help family members explore their roles within the family and understand how communication patterns impact family dynamics. Participants will learn about art-based activities that can reveal underlying family issues and encourage open and healthy communication.

Addressing Family Conflict and Trauma: This topic will delve into using art therapy to address family conflict and trauma. Participants will explore how creative expression can help families process past traumas, resolve conflicts, and develop coping strategies to navigate challenging situations.

Cultivating Family Resilience and Bonding: This module will focus on promoting family resilience and bonding through art therapy. Participants will learn how art can serve as a vehicle for building trust, empathy, and cooperation among family members, fostering a supportive and nurturing family environment.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Sculpture (Clay)

Module 35: Educational, Medical and Corporate Settings

Understanding the Application of Art Therapy in Educational Settings: This topic will provide an overview of how art therapy can be utilized in educational environments to support students' emotional, social, and academic development. Participants will explore various art therapy techniques that can enhance learning, creativity, and emotional well-being in school settings.

Art Therapy in Medical Settings: This segment will focus on the use of art therapy in medical settings to support patients' physical and emotional healing. Participants will learn how art therapy can complement medical treatments, help patients cope with illness or pain, and provide a means of expression for those facing medical challenges.

Integrating Art Therapy into Corporate Wellness Programs: This module will cover the integration of art therapy in corporate wellness programs to promote employees' mental health, creativity, and overall well-being. Participants will explore how art-based activities can reduce workplace stress, improve team dynamics, and foster a positive work environment.

Ethical Considerations and Professional Boundaries in Different Settings: This topic will delve into the ethical considerations and professional boundaries that art therapists must navigate in educational, medical, and corporate settings. Participants will learn how to maintain client confidentiality, uphold ethical standards, and establish appropriate relationships with clients and organizations.

Tailoring Art Therapy Techniques for Different Settings: This module will focus on adapting art therapy techniques to suit the specific needs and objectives of each setting. Participants will learn how to tailor art interventions for diverse populations, whether it be students in a classroom, patients in a hospital, or employees in a corporate setting, ensuring that the therapeutic approach is aligned with the goals of each context.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Drawing (Mixed Media)

Module 36: Art Therapy for Mental Illness

Understanding Mental Illness: This topic will provide a comprehensive overview of mental illness, including common disorders, symptoms, and the impact on individuals' emotional, cognitive, and behavioural functioning. Participants will gain insights into the diverse nature of mental health conditions and the importance of destigmatizing mental illness.

The Role of Art Therapy in Mental Health: This segment will focus on the role of art therapy in promoting mental health and well-being. Participants will explore how creative expression can serve as a therapeutic tool for individuals with mental illness, offering a means of self-exploration, emotional release, and empowerment.

Holistic Approaches to Treating Mental Illness: This module will cover holistic approaches to treating mental illness, considering the interconnectedness of physical, emotional, social, and spiritual aspects of individuals' lives. Participants will learn how art therapy can be integrated with other therapeutic modalities to provide comprehensive and person-centered care.

Trauma-Informed Art Therapy: This topic will delve into trauma-informed approaches in art therapy, recognizing the prevalence of trauma in individuals with mental illness. Participants will explore how art therapy can help clients process and heal from traumatic experiences while ensuring safety and sensitivity in the therapeutic process.

Self-Care and Ethical Considerations for Art Therapists: Working with individuals with mental illness can be emotionally demanding for art therapists. This module will emphasize the importance of self-care and ethical considerations in art therapy practice. Participants will learn how to establish professional boundaries, prioritize their well-being, and seek supervision and support when working with clients dealing with mental health challenges.

Collaborative Care and Community Resources: This module will focus on the importance of collaborative care in working with families affected by mental illness. Participants will explore how art therapy can complement traditional mental health interventions and how to collaborate with other professionals and community resources to provide comprehensive support to the family unit.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Mask Making

Module 37: Chronic Illness and Pain

Understanding Chronic Illness and Pain: This topic will provide an in-depth exploration of chronic illness and pain, including their physical, emotional, and psychological impacts on individuals. Participants will gain insights into the challenges faced by those living with chronic conditions, and the complexities of addressing pain management and symptom relief.

Art Therapy as a Coping Mechanism: This segment will focus on how art therapy can serve as a valuable coping mechanism for individuals with chronic illness and pain. Participants will learn about the therapeutic benefits of creative expression, such as reducing stress, managing anxiety, and improving overall well-being in the face of chronic health challenges.

Addressing Psychological and Emotional Aspects: This module will cover how art therapy can address the psychological and emotional aspects of chronic illness and pain. Participants will explore art-based techniques for processing grief, fear, and feelings of isolation, as well as fostering a sense of hope and resilience.

Supporting Terminal Illness and End-of-Life Care: This topic will delve into the role of art therapy in supporting individuals with terminal illnesses and end-of-life care. Participants will learn how art therapy can help individuals express their emotions, achieve closure, and find comfort and meaning during this challenging stage of life.

Empowerment and Life Review through Art: This module will focus on using art therapy to empower individuals with chronic illness and pain to engage in life review and reflection. Participants will learn how art-based interventions can help clients find purpose, create legacies, and find meaning in their journey while living with chronic health conditions.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Painting (Mixed Media)

Module 38 Working with groups

Group Dynamics and Facilitation Skills: This topic will provide an in-depth understanding of group dynamics and the role of the art therapist as a facilitator in group sessions and workshops. Participants will learn essential skills for creating a cohesive and supportive group environment, managing group interactions, and fostering open communication.

Designing and Structuring Group Art Activities: This segment will focus on designing and structuring art activities for group sessions and workshops. Participants will explore a variety of art-based interventions that can promote self-expression, encourage collaboration, and address specific therapeutic goals within the group context.

Addressing Diversity and Inclusivity in Group Settings: This module will cover the importance of addressing diversity and inclusivity in group art therapy. Participants will learn how to create culturally sensitive and inclusive art therapy experiences that respect and celebrate the unique identities and perspectives of group members.

Processing and Reflection in Group Art Therapy: This topic will delve into techniques for facilitating processing and reflection in group art therapy. Participants will explore ways to guide group members in sharing their artwork, thoughts, and emotions, promoting deeper insights and connections within the group.

Ethical Considerations in Group Art Therapy: This module will emphasize the ethical considerations that arise when working with groups in art therapy. Participants will learn about confidentiality, informed consent, boundary setting, and the importance of providing a safe and nurturing environment for all group members. They will also explore strategies for managing potential conflicts or challenges that may arise during group sessions or workshops.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Photography and Digital Art

Module 39: Working with individuals

Building Therapeutic Relationships Strong therapeutic relationships are essential in one-on-one art therapy. This section focuses on the skills needed to establish trust, empathy, and rapport with clients. You will explore strategies for creating a safe and supportive environment where clients feel comfortable expressing themselves through art. Active listening, non-judgmental communication, and cultural sensitivity will be

Client-Led Exploration and Resource-Based Support This section highlights the importance of supporting clients in exploring art therapy approaches that suit their individual needs. While you can provide knowledge of available resources and creative techniques, any decision to develop a personalised therapeutic approach must come from the client. You will learn to facilitate self-directed exploration by introducing a range of creative options while respecting the client's autonomy. Regular discussions about artistic engagement and evolving needs will also be covered to ensure the process remains client driven.

Art-Based Assessments and Interventions Art-based assessments can provide clients with opportunities to explore their emotions, thoughts, and behaviours through creative expression. This section introduces assessment tools and techniques that help clients gain self-awareness during sessions. You will also learn how to introduce interventions that support emotional exploration, creative expression, and personal growth. Techniques such as guided imagery, symbolic representation, and reflective artmaking will be discussed, with a focus on their adaptability to different therapeutic contexts. As a therapist, your role remains that of a facilitator, ensuring that any chosen approach aligns with the client's preferences and self-identified needs.

Supporting Client-Led Exploration of Resistance and Emotional Release Resistance and emotional release are natural aspects of the therapeutic journey. This section explores the reasons behind a client's defences and how to support them in navigating these experiences at their own pace. While you may offer knowledge of creative resources and techniques, the client must take the initiative in choosing their own approach. Strategies for managing intense emotions, encouraging healthy emotional expression, and maintaining professional boundaries will be covered. The focus is on creating a safe and supportive environment where the client feels empowered to engage with their emotions in a way that aligns with their personal readiness and self-identified needs.

Integrating Mindfulness and Self-Reflection Mindfulness and self-reflection can complement the art-making process by enhancing awareness, emotional regulation, and self-compassion. This section introduces practices that you can incorporate into sessions, such as breathing techniques and grounding activities. By integrating these approaches, clients can develop deeper self-awareness and a greater sense of connection between their thoughts, feelings, and creative expressions.

Practical Session:

Drawing (Charcoal) This hands-on session allows you to explore the therapeutic potential of charcoal drawing. Through guided practice, you will experience the tactile and expressive qualities of the medium, which can be particularly effective for emotional exploration. Discussions will focus on ways to assist clients in interpreting their creative experiences and understanding the significance of their artwork.

Module 40: Setting up Your Own Holistic Art Therapy Practice

Creating a Specialized Practice: This topic will explore the process of creating a specialized art therapy practice within the holistic framework. Participants will learn how to define their niche, identify target populations, and develop a unique approach that aligns with their strengths and interests.

Venues, Resources, Materials & Equipment: This segment will focus on practical considerations for setting up a holistic art therapy practice. Participants will explore options for suitable venues, gather resources, select materials, and acquire necessary equipment to create a conducive and inspiring therapeutic space.

Legalities, Insurance, and Ethics for Art Therapists: This module will cover important legal and ethical considerations when establishing a holistic art therapy practice. Participants will learn about professional codes of conduct, informed consent, client confidentiality, liability insurance, and how to navigate legal and ethical challenges.

Private Practice and Business Aspects of Art Therapy: This topic will delve into the business aspects of running a private holistic art therapy practice. Participants will explore business planning, marketing strategies, client acquisition, fee structures, scheduling, and administrative tasks to effectively manage their practice.

Creating Effective Marketing and Branding: This segment will focus on developing effective marketing strategies and branding for a holistic art therapy practice. Participants will learn how to communicate their unique value, establish an online presence, utilize social media, and create promotional materials to attract clients.

Building Collaborative Relationships and Referral Networks: This module will cover how to build collaborative relationships and referral networks in the field of holistic art therapy. Participants will learn how to connect with other healthcare professionals, organizations, and community resources to expand their practice and provide comprehensive client care.

Practical Session:

This session includes hands on practice in the medium, exploration of the therapeutic benefits and discussions on ways to assist the client to interpret the creative experience and the end result.

Drawing (Mixed Media)

Module 41: Clinical Practice

Duration: 10 hours

In this module, students will have the opportunity to apply their holistic art therapy skills in a clinical setting. Through a 10-hour clinical practice, participants will gain hands-on experience working with clients under the guidance of experienced practitioners. Clinical practice will take place over Zoom. This practical component allows students to integrate their theoretical knowledge with real-world scenarios, honing their abilities to facilitate healing and growth through holistic art therapy. Students will have the chance to observe, interact, and engage with clients*, putting their skills to the test and gaining invaluable insights into the dynamics of holistic art therapy in a clinical context.

*Students will use other Mind Body Education MPHAT students as their clients