

Music Education, M.M.

Degrees Offered

- Master of Music

Nature of the Program

The M.M. in Music Education degree is designed to cultivate continued development of professional competence beyond the baccalaureate degree. High levels of musicianship and pedagogical expertise are integrated into a comprehensive program of study. Unique to the degree in music education are four degree options that enable students to pursue individual interests and talents. At the core of each of the 30-hour degree option is coursework that immerses students in the foundations and research of music education, performance studies, music history, and music theory. To complete the degree, students can select from the following four options of coursework and culminating projects:

- **Field Study Option:** This degree option emphasizes teaching and includes opportunities to integrate performance studies and research with a school-based field study that demonstrates application of knowledge and skills from graduate study as a culminating project.
- **Recital Option:** This degree option emphasizes performance studies and includes opportunities to integrate research and teaching with a representative public recital that demonstrates advanced performance competence as a culminating project.
- **Thesis Option:** This degree option emphasizes research and includes opportunities to integrate performance and teaching with an original thesis that demonstrates advanced research and writing competence as a culminating project.
- **Certification Option:** This degree option is designed for persons who obtained an undergraduate degree in music other than music education. Coursework (including student teaching) leads to a professional certificate (birth-adult music, West Virginia) and is combined with a master's degree in music education with the generation of a professional portfolio as a culminating project. Students begin the program with a series of undergraduate courses that are necessary for certification. This block of undergraduate courses ranges from zero to twenty credits depending on the student's previous coursework.

Admissions for 2025-2026

STUDENTS APPLYING TO THE MUSIC EDUCATION GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM MUST:

- Apply to West Virginia University through the Office of Graduate Admissions.
- Submit a current resume to the Office of Graduate Studies in Music.
- Submit an essay to the Office of Graduate Studies in Music describing and discussing your training, experiences, and present interests in the field of Music Education. Also, discuss your career aspirations five years from now as they relate to earning the master's degree in Music Education.
- Applicants must have had an undergraduate grade point average of at least 3.0 to be considered for admission.
- Submit a video recording of teaching, preferably a K-12 music class or rehearsal, and a lesson plan to accompany the recording. Please submit a detailed lesson plan for each class or rehearsal presented on your video of teaching. Recordings should have been made within the six months prior to the submission of the application. Video recordings must be of high quality. Applicants should review the video recording in its entirety to ensure audio, visual, and technical clarity before mailing to the Office of Graduate Studies in Music. (This is not required if you are applying for the Master of Music, Music Education Certification option.)

Students may find more information about admission to graduate study in Music Education online: <https://www.music.wvu.edu/academics/masters-programs> (<https://www.music.wvu.edu/academics/masters-programs/>)

MM Major Code: 3741

Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Ensemble (2 Semesters)		2
MUSC 783	Foundations of Music Education	3
MUSC 784	Introduction to Research in Music Education	3
Advanced seminars *		6
Complete one Music Theory course and one Music History course from the following:		5-6
Music Theory:		
MUSC 460S	Upper Division Composition	
MUSC 461	Counterpoint, 16th Century	
MUSC 462	Counterpoint, 18th Century	
MUSC 463	Analysis of Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Music	
MUSC 464	Compositional Techniques in Contemporary Music	

MUSC 465S	Electronic Music
MUSC 466	Techniques for Electronic Music Performance
MUSC 468	Jazz and Commercial Music Harmony
MUSC 761	Theory Topics
MUSC 762	Pedagogy of Theory
MUSC 763	Analytical Techniques
MUSC 764	Compositional Techniques in Contemporary Music

Music History:

MUSC 470A	Topics in Popular Music
MUSC 470B	Topics in the Study of Western Art Music
MUSC 470C	Topics in the History of Jazz
MUSC 470D	Topics in Music of Sub-Saharan Africa
MUSC 470E	Topics in Musics of the Americas
MUSC 470F	Topics in Musics of East Asia
MUSC 470G	Topics in Musics of South Asia
MUSC 470H	Topics in Gender and Sexuality in Music
MUSC 470I	Topics in Race and Ethnicity in Music
MUSC 470J	Topics in Musics of the Arab World
MUSC 477	Music of Africa
MUSC 593	Special Topics
MUSC 670	Perspectives of Musicology and Ethnomusicology
MUSC 731	Keyboard Literature **
MUSC 793	Special Topics
MUSC 795	Independent Study
MUSC 796	Graduate Seminar

Field Study, Recital, and Thesis Options ***

Select 1 of the following options:

12

Field Study

MUSC 678	Masters Field Study (4 hours)
MUSC 500 or MUSC 700	Performance (4 hours)
Music Electives	(4 hours)

Recital Option

MUSC 500 or MUSC 700	Performance (8 hours)
MUSC 689	Master's Recital (2 hours)
Music electives	(2 hours)

Thesis Option

MUSC 500 or MUSC 700	Performance (4 hours)
MUSC 697	Research (4 hours)

Music Electives (4 hours)

Total Hours

31-32

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Advanced seminars in music education, methods, workshops, and directed studies. (Maximum of two hours from workshops; maximum of two hours from directed studies.)

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MUSC 731 Keyboard Literature is open to Keyboard Majors only.

Certification Option: In lieu of completing the Field Study, Recital, or Thesis Option, students may complete the Core Requirements and the Certification Requirements to earn the Masters Degree in Music Education and be eligible for certification.

CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Code	Title	Hours
C&I 491	Professional Field Experience	4
Select one of the following:		3
EDP 600	Educational Psychology	
EDP 700	Psychological Foundations of Learning	
MUSC 200S	Fundamentals of Conducting	2
MUSC 201S	Conducting and Score Interpretation	2
MUSC 202S	Conducting and Rehearsing	2
MUSC 280S	Woodwind Instrument Pedagogy	2
MUSC 281S	Brass Instrument Pedagogy	2
MUSC 282S	String Instrument Pedagogy	2
MUSC 283 & 283S	Percussion Instrument Pedagogy and Percussion Instrument Pedagogy	2
MUSC 284	Vocal Pedagogy	2
MUSC 380	Instrumental Methods and Technology Applications	3
MUSC 381	Choral Music Methods and Technology Applications	3
MUSC 382S	General Music Methods and Technology Applications	3
MUSC 487	Residency 2 Seminar	2
MUSC 491	Professional Field Experience	10
MUSC 500 or MUSC 700	Performance	4
RDNG 422	Reading in the Content Areas	3
SPED 500	Legal/Educational Foundations: Special Education	3
SPED 501	Academic Interventions for Special Needs	3
Total Hours		57

Major Learning Outcomes

MUSIC EDUCATION

Students who earn the graduate degrees in Music Education will develop:

- Advanced competencies in music education.
- Graduate-level perspectives on contemporary issues and problems in music education.
- Knowledge and skills in one or more fields of music outside the major such as performance, conducting, theory and analysis, and history and literature.