

# Music Education

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The mission of the Department of Music at Mississippi State University is to contribute to the culture and education of our diverse state and region by providing quality training and opportunities through programs of teaching, research, and service. The department has the following goals:

- Offers excellent instruction to its students, helping to produce future generations of music professionals and patrons
- Engages in meaningful research, performance, and other creative work, positively affecting students, colleagues, and audiences throughout our community and beyond

The department's first obligation is to provide music instruction and specialized pedagogical training for state-certified elementary and secondary school music teachers. This program of instruction is intended to prepare students for exemplary entry-level teaching performance and for admission to selective graduate schools. To this end, the Department of Music provides the following:

- Curricula and advisement that encourage students to acquire a broad, liberal education
- A comprehensive education in the art of music
- A background in existing music curricula, curriculum design principles, materials, and methodologies
- Preparation in general education, theory, history, and methodology

## Master of Music Education

The Department of Music offers a Master of Music Education degree (M.M.E.). The M.M.E. is a practitioner's degree, focused on advancing the knowledge and skills of the classroom music educator in one of three specific concentrations: Choral Music, Elementary Music, or Instrumental Music. It is a 32-hour degree consisting of a 14-hour core, 8 hours in the concentration (Choral Music, Elementary Music, or Instrumental Music) and 10 hours of electives. The M.M.E. is designed to be completed in three consecutive summers at MSU, culminating in a final project evaluated by the student's M.M.E. committee.

## Admission

To be considered for admission, the applicant must meet all MSU Graduate School admission requirements, including the following:

- Must have earned a baccalaureate degree in Music Education or a related field
- Preferably have an undergraduate grade point average of 3.00 for admission to the graduate program
- Must submit three letters of recommendation, with at least two coming from individuals familiar with the applicant's academic work; letters should address the applicant's potential for successfully completing graduate studies
- Must submit a personal statement (500-1,000 words) describing the applicant's purpose for undertaking graduate study, including professional plans and career goals

Application is made through the Mississippi State Graduate School website (<http://www.grad.msstate.edu/>). In addition to the application, complete information regarding is available regarding graduate admissions and graduate academic policy. A complete application packet to the Graduate School must be received by March 1 for consideration for the following Summer term.

## Academic Performance

The Department of Music defines satisfactory performance in graduate-level coursework as a GPA of at least 3.00 on all coursework attempted with no course receiving the grade of D or lower. Students may retake the first course for which they receive the grade of D. Failure to complete any required component of the M.M.E. can result in dismissal according to Graduate School policy.

The Department of Music follows Graduate School policy relating to academic performance. In the event a student's performance warrants dismissal from a graduate program, the Music Graduate Coordinator will petition the Graduate School to dismiss the student from the program. The student will be notified of the action by email.

## Master of Music Education with a concentration in Choral Music, Elementary Music, or Instrumental Music

<b>Major Required Courses</b>		<b>14</b>
MUE 8363	Research in Music Education	
MU 8013	Seminar in Music History Research	
MU 8023	Seminar in Music Theory	
MUE 8033	Current Topics in Music Education	
MUE 9012	Final Project in Music Education	
<b>Choose One Concentration</b>		<b>8</b>
<b>Choral Music Concentration Courses</b>		
MUE 8102	Advanced Vocal Pedagogy	
MUE 8112	Seminar in Choral Literature	
MUE 8122	Techniques of Choral Conducting	
MUE 8132	Choral Program Development and Curricular Structure	
<b>Elementary Music Concentration Courses</b>		
MUE 8202	The Child Voice	
MUE 8212	Elementary Music Pedagogy	
MUE 8222	Media, Materials and Resources for the Elementary Music Specialist	
MUE 8232	Instructional Design for the Elementary Music Program	
<b>Instrumental Music Concentration Courses</b>		
MUE 8302	Advanced Woodwind Pedagogy	
MUE 8312	Seminar in Brass and Percussion Pedagogy	
MUE 8322	Wind Band Conducting and Rehearsal Techniques	
MUE 8332	Instructional Design for the Instrumental Music Program	
<b>Electives</b>		<b>10</b>
Choose 10 hours from COE, Music, or other advisor-approved graduate courses. The below electives are suggested.		
EDF 8553	Research in the Classroom	
EDS 8103	Advanced Methodologies in Middle and Secondary Education	
EPY 6214	Educational and Psychological Statistics	
MU 8402	Advanced Instrumental Arranging	
MU 8412	World Drumming	
MU 8422	Keyboard Skills for Music Educators	
MU 8482	Wind Band Literature	
MUA 8440	Individual Studio Instruction	
MUA 8450	Applied Composition	
MUA 8460	Applied Conducting	
MUE 8432	Guitar in the Classroom	
MUE 8472	Jazz Techniques for the Music Educator	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>32</b>

**Note: A minimum of 15 hours is required at the 8000-level or above.**