

**DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC**  
**MASTER of MUSIC DEGREE**  
**PROGRAM POLICIES**

**The Master of Music degree program**

The Department of Music offers a Master of Music degree program for students seeking advanced study in music. There are three Concentrations available.

The Master of Music degree program with a Concentration in Performance was established in 1990 and is designed to provide advanced instruction for instrumental and vocal performers as they prepare to enter the professional world of orchestral, recital, and solo performance. Specializations include all orchestral instruments, guitar, piano, organ, and all voice types. The Performance Concentration is also available for conductors wishing to enhance their conducting skills, rehearsal techniques, and knowledge of repertoire. Conductors in the Performance Concentration degree program specialize in either instrumental or choral conducting.

The Concentration in Teaching was added in 1994 and is designed to enhance and upgrade the credentials and abilities of K-12 music educators, individuals preparing to enter doctoral-level programs in performance, and students intending to teach in post secondary level institutions where the master's degree is required. Specializations for the Teaching Concentration include instrumental, choral and general music. It is expected that students applying for the Teaching Concentration MM program will currently hold a school music teaching position, in order to facilitate the completion of their final project (a thesis or professional improvement paper.)

The Master of Music degree with a Concentration in Composition has received approval to be added Fall, 2005. This degree program is designed for composers who wish to pursue a career in the field of contemporary classical music, and for K-12 music educators who wish to pursue a graduate degree in composition and arranging.

**Admission requirements and procedures**

Applicants for admission to any of the MM programs must have earned a bachelor's degree in music, or an equivalent diploma or certificate as determined by the Department of Music, with an acceptable grade point average (normally 3.0). Applicants for the Performance Concentration must pass a performance audition. Applicants for the Composition Concentration must submit a composition portfolio consisting of 3 compositions, and must pass an interview with a member of the composition faculty. Applicants for the Teaching Concentration must pass an interview with the appropriate music education faculty member. The GRE is not required for admission to any MM program. TOEFL score requirements for foreign students are the same as the general minimum requirements of the University.

**Admission requirements and procedures (cont.)**

Applications for admission are available from the University's Office of Graduate Studies (302) 831-2129. Electronic application is encouraged, and is available at <http://www.udel.edu/admissions/appinfo.html>. Applicants should arrange to have three letters of reference completed online or sent directly to: University of Delaware; Office of Graduate Studies; Hulliher Hall; Newark, DE 19716. Performance Concentration candidates should include a letter of reference from an applied teacher. Teaching Concentration candidates should include at least two letters from supervisors or administrators.

The application deadline for fall semester admission is May 1; the deadline for spring semester admission is December 1; the deadline for summer admission is April 1. Deadlines for the performance audition, interview, and/or portfolio submission are as follow: April 1 for summer admission, June 1 for fall admission, December 1 for spring admission. Performance Concentration candidates must audition with a 20-minute program of appropriate literature showing contrasting styles. Please contact the Department of Music to arrange an audition.

The Department of Music has a small number of assistantships available to offer to outstanding Master of Music degree candidates. These are in the form of teaching assistantships and graduate assistantships (tuition remission plus a stipend) and tuition assistantships (tuition remission with no stipend.) Students receiving assistantships are assigned teaching and/or non-teaching duties within the Department of Music. These may include, but are not limited to: teaching a course or assisting a faculty member in teaching a course, teaching private study to majors and/or non-majors, teaching students through the Community Music School, working as a research assistant with academic music faculty, or doing clerical work in the music office or ensemble library. Those wishing to be considered for assistantships must have completed their application (*including* audition, interview, and/or portfolio submission as appropriate) no later than March 15. Awards will be announced by April 15. (Assistantships are offered by school year; therefore this deadline corresponds with fall admission).

Admission to the graduate program is competitive. Those who meet stated requirements are not guaranteed admission, nor are those who fail to meet all of those requirements necessarily precluded from admission if they offer other appropriate strengths.

**Degree requirements are presented on the following six pages.**

## Master of Music -- Performance Concentration (Non-Keyboard Instrumental)

### Core Courses

MUSC 611	Studies in Music History (3 credits)
MUSC 622	Materials and Methods of Research (3 credits)
MUSC 695	Advanced Analytical Techniques (3 credits)

### Required Courses

MUSC 601	Master's Recital <sup>1</sup> (1 credit)
MUSC 603	Chamber Music Literature (3 credits)
MUSC 605	Symphonic Literature (3 credits)
MUSC 620	Large Ensemble <sup>2</sup> (1 credit – required for 4 semesters)
MUSC 621	Chamber Ensemble (1 credits)
MUSC 661	Advanced Private Study (2 credits)
MUSC 662	Advanced Private Study (2 credits)
MUSC 663	Advanced Private Study (2 credits)
MUSC 664	Advanced Private Study (2 credits)
MUSC 681	Pedagogy and Literature (3 credits)

Elective<sup>3</sup> (3 credits)

**Total credits: 35**

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<sup>1</sup>Students may not enroll in MUSC 601 (Master's Recital) until they have passed the diagnostic exam in music theory and the comprehensive exam in music history.

<sup>2</sup>Large Ensemble placement determined by audition and/or with the approval of the faculty advisor.

<sup>3</sup>Elective must be a 600 level course. It may be in music or another department with approval of faculty advisor.

## Master of Music -- Performance Concentration (Instrumental – Keyboard)

### Core Courses

MUSC 611	Studies in Music History (3 credits)
MUSC 622	Materials and Methods of Research (3 credits)
MUSC 695	Advanced Analytical Techniques (3 credits)

### Required Courses

MUSC 601	Master's Recital <sup>4</sup> (1 credit)
MUSC 602	Advanced Keyboard Literature (3 credits)
MUSC 603	Chamber Music Literature (3 credits)
MUSC 621	Chamber Ensemble (1 credit – required for 4 semesters)
MUSC 661	Advanced Private Study (2 credits)
MUSC 662	Advanced Private Study (2 credits)
MUSC 663	Advanced Private Study (2 credits)
MUSC 664	Advanced Private Study (2 credits)
MUSC 681	Pedagogy and Literature (3 credits)

Elective<sup>5</sup> (3 credits)

**Total credits: 34**

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<sup>4</sup>Students may not enroll in MUSC 601 (Master's Recital) until they have passed the diagnostic exam in music theory and the comprehensive exam in music history.

<sup>5</sup>Elective must be a 600 level course. It may be in music or another department with approval of faculty advisor.

## **Master of Music -- Performance Concentration (Voice)**

### **Core Courses**

MUSC 611	Studies in Music History (3 credits)
MUSC 622	Materials and Methods of Research (3 credits)
MUSC 695	Advanced Analytical Techniques (3 credits)

### **Required Courses**

MUSC 601	Master's Recital <sup>1</sup> (1 credits)
MUSC 608	Vocal Literature (3 credits)
MUSC 620	Large Ensemble <sup>2</sup> (1 credits)
MUSC 621	Chamber Ensemble (1 credits)
MUSC 661	Advanced Private Study (2 credits)
MUSC 662	Advanced Private Study (2 credits)
MUSC 663	Advanced Private Study (2 credits)
MUSC 664	Advanced Private Study (2 credits)
MUSC 681	Vocal Pedagogy (3 credits)

Students will choose one of the following:

MUSC 609	Choral Literature I (3 credits)
MUSC 610	Choral Literature II (3 credits)

Elective<sup>3</sup>(3 credits)

**Total credits: 32**

<sup>1</sup> Students may not enroll in MUSC 601 (Graduate Recital) until they have passed the diagnostic exam in music theory and the comprehensive exam in music history.

<sup>2</sup> Large ensemble placement determined by audition and/or with the approval of the faculty advisor.

<sup>3</sup>Elective must be a 600 level course. It may be in music or in another department with approval of the faculty advisor.

## Master of Music -- Performance Concentration (Conducting)

### Core Courses

MUSC 611	Studies in Music History (3 credits)
MUSC 622	Materials and Methods of Research (3 credits)
MUSC 695	Advanced Analytical Techniques (3 credits)

### Required Courses

MUSC 600	Master's Performance in Conducting <sup>1</sup> (2 credits)
MUSC 603	Chamber Music Literature (3 credits)
MUSC 620	Large Ensemble <sup>2</sup> (1 credits)
MUSC 621	Chamber Ensemble (1 credits)
MUSC 661	Advanced Private Study <sup>3</sup> (4 credits)
MUSC 662	Advanced Private Study (4 credits)

### Specialization

Students whose emphasis is Instrumental Conducting:

MUSC 605	Symphonic Literature (3 credits)
MUSC 606	Wind Band Literature (3 credits)

Students whose emphasis is Choral Conducting:

MUSC 609	Choral Literature I (3 credits)
MUSC 610	Choral Literature II (3 credits)

Elective<sup>4</sup> (3 credits)

Total credits: **33 credits**

<sup>1</sup> Students may not enroll in MUSC 600 (Master's Performance in Conducting) until they have passed the diagnostic exam in music theory and the comprehensive exam in music history.

<sup>2</sup> Large ensemble placement determined by audition and/or with the approval of the faculty advisor.

<sup>3</sup> Private Study in conducting.

<sup>4</sup> Elective must be a 600 level course. It may be in music or in another department with approval of the faculty advisor.

## **Master of Music – Composition Concentration**

### Core Courses

MUSC 622	Materials and Methods of Research (3 credits)
MUSC 611	Studies in Music History (3 credits)
MUSC 695	Advanced Analytical Techniques (3 credits)

### Required Courses

MUSC 661	Advanced Private Study: Composition * (3 credits)
MUSC 662	Advanced Private Study: Composition (3 credits)
In the third semester of the degree program elective chosen:	
MUSC 663	Advanced Private Study: Composition (3 credits)
or	
MUSC 697	Advanced Jazz Harmony (3 credits)
or	
MUSC 631	Advanced Arranging (3 credits)
MUSC 601	Master's Recital ** (3 credits)
MUSC 684	Recording Techniques (3 credits)
MUSC 688	Principles of Music Industry Practice (3 credits)
MUSC 621	Chamber Ensemble: Still Breathing (1 credits)
MUSC 621	Chamber Ensemble: Still Breathing (1 credits)
MUSC 621	Chamber Ensemble: Still Breathing (1 credits)
MUSC 661	Advanced Private Study: Conducting (3 credits)

**Total credits: 33**

\* The composition and/or arranging lessons are required to be taken during the first three semesters, with the recital in the fourth semester of enrollment in the degree program.

\*\* The Master's Recital for the Composition Concentration has been assigned 3 credits instead of the 2 credits assigned to MUSC601 for the Performance Concentrations, due to the extensive organizational details involved.

## Master of Music -- Teaching Concentration

### Core Courses

MUSC 611	Studies in Music History (3 credits)
MUSC 622	Materials and Methods of Research (3 credits)
MUSC 695	Advanced Analytical Techniques (3 credits)

### Music Education Courses

MUSC 640	Philosophical Issues in Music Education (3 credits)
MUSC 676	Seminar in Music Education (3 credits)

### Specialization Component

Students can elect one of three areas of specialization:

#### Choral

MUSC 636	Advanced Choral Conducting (3 credits)
MUSC 638	Large Ensemble Practicum (1 credit)

#### Instrumental

MUSC 637	Advanced Instrumental Conducting (3 credits)
MUSC 638	Large Ensemble Practicum (1 credit)

#### General Music

MUSC 675	General Music K-12 (3 credits)
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### Thesis or Project

Students can write a thesis or pursue a curriculum project in which they develop and implement a project in their teaching situation.

MUSC 869	Master's Thesis <sup>1</sup> (6 credits)
or	
MUSC 679	Professional Improvement Project I (3 credits)
MUSC 680	Professional Improvement Project II (3 credits)

Electives<sup>2</sup> (6 credits)

### **Total credits 30-31**

1. Students may not enroll in MUSC 869 (Master's Thesis) until they have passed the diagnostic exam in music theory and the comprehensive exam in music history.
2. The Music Education Advisor must approve all electives. Electives must be 600 level courses, and they may be in music or in other departments.



### **Diagnostic and comprehensive exams**

Students are required to take a Diagnostic Exam in Music Theory and a Comprehensive Exam in Music History during the course of their studies for the MM degree. Students must take and pass the Diagnostic Exam in Music Theory prior to enrolling in MUSC 695 (Advanced Analytical Techniques). The Diagnostic Exam in Music Theory is normally given in early February (just before the beginning of Spring semester), in mid-July, and in late August/early September (just before the beginning of Fall semester.) Students must also pass the Comprehensive Exam in Music History prior to enrolling in the Masters Recital/Performance or Masters Thesis. Additionally, those students who receive financial support must take and pass the Comprehensive Exam in Music History before entering their second year of graduate study, in order to continue to receive support.

### **Oral exit exam**

Students in the Performance Concentration, the Composition Concentration, and those students in the Teaching Concentration who chose a Professional Improvement Project instead of a Thesis are required to pass an oral examination in order to receive their degree. In the exam the student will demonstrate the ability to speak articulately and intelligently about various aspects of music.

Students in the Teaching Concentration who chose a Thesis rather than a Professional Improvement Project defend their Thesis in lieu of an oral exam.

### **Scheduling of the Oral Exam**

The exam takes place during the last semester of study, at least three weeks before the last day of classes.

If the student completes his/her course work during Winter Session, the oral exam takes place during Spring Semester. If the student completes his/her course work during one of the Summer Sessions and wishes to have the degree confirmed in August, s/he must take the oral exam during the previous Spring Semester.

The student is responsible for scheduling the exam and reserving a room from the Music Office staff. The exam date must be determined not less than two weeks in advance. The student gives the date of the exam to the Graduate Coordinator once it is determined.

### **Oral Exam committee**

Students are responsible for obtaining three faculty members to hear their exam.

For those in the Performance Concentration and the Composition Concentration, these are: the student's Private Study instructor, one faculty member whose primary teaching load is in a non-performance area, and one additional faculty member of the student's choice.

For those in the Teaching Concentration having completed a Professional Improvement Project, these are: the faculty member who guided the Professional Improvement Project,

one faculty member whose primary teaching load is in a non-performance area, and one additional faculty member of the student's choice.

The student gives the names of the faculty members to the Graduate Coordinator.

Each faculty member gives the student either a topic or up to three questions to consider and be prepared to speak about at the exam. These questions or topics are given to the student at least 14 days prior to the exam date.

### **Oral Exam procedure**

The student may not have written notes for the exam.

The Private Study instructor is responsible for welcoming the student at the beginning of the exam, and explaining the following exam procedure to the student.

The exam is scheduled for 45 minutes. At the end of the exam, the student is asked to leave the room briefly, and the faculty committee determines the result of the exam. There are three possible results: pass, fail, or partial pass. (See next section.) The student re-enters the exam room and is told the result.

The student must pass all portions in order to pass the exam. The exam is considered in three portions, corresponding to the topics or questions provided by the three faculty members on the exam committee.

### **Recourse if the student does not pass the Oral Exam**

If the student fails one or two portions of the exam, s/he may re-take those portions within 10 days. The student is responsible for determining the date and time of the retake exam, taking into account the availability of the faculty members. The same three faculty members hear the retake exam, and the student is expected to speak on the same topic or questions as in the original exam.

If the student fails all three portions of the exam, s/he must register for Master's Sustaining: Non-thesis (UNIV 895) and retake the examination the following semester. In this case the faculty committee will be the same, but the student will be given new questions or topics.

Students must pass all portions of the exam by the second attempt in order to be awarded the degree.

### **Recital preview**

A recital preview is required for students enrolled in MUSC 601 Masters Recital (instrumental and vocal students in the Performance Concentration, and students in the Composition Concentration.) The recital preview must be held no later than three weeks before the date of the recital. The preview is normally 30 minutes in length and is heard by the student's Private Study instructor plus two additional area faculty. The student is responsible for scheduling the preview and securing the faculty to hear the preview. The student should have all recital material prepared for the preview; faculty members will request sections of the pieces to be heard.

**Substitutions and transfers of credit**

Students may petition the graduate committee for variance in degree requirements such as course substitutions. This should be done in writing (email is acceptable) to the Graduate Coordinator.

A maximum of nine credits taken through the University of Delaware's Division of Continuing Education may be applied to the requirements of the degree Master of Music. Continuing Education credits may not be more than five years old in order to be transferred into the MM degree program. Students should fill out a transfer of credit form (available online through the Graduate Office web page.)

Students may transfer credits taken at other institutions into their degree program here if they are appropriate. Students should get approval from the Graduate Coordinator to transfer specific course credits, and then follow the procedures listed on the Graduate Office web page.

**English language expectation**

Students are expected to have a sufficient level of oral and written English communication skill to be successful in department coursework. Those students with an assistantship that involves teaching should have a sufficient level of English oral communication skill to be comfortably understood by the students they teach.

**Thesis requirements and procedures in the Teaching Concentration**

There are three specializations within the Teaching Certification. The advisor for the instrumental specialization is Robert Streckfuss; the advisor for the choral specialization is Paul Head; the advisor for the general music K-12 specialization is Suzanne Burton. The advisor (as listed above) will choose the thesis review committee members, in consultation with the student.

The thesis is due to the Music Department advisor one month before the University thesis submission deadline. The thesis is approved by the advisor, in consultation with the thesis review committee members.

The Graduate Committee, along with the advisor and faculty committee members, hears the thesis defense. The student provides a one-page summary of the thesis for the members of the Graduate Committee, at the time of the defense. A vote is taken immediately after the defense, and the student is notified of the result that day.

If the student does not turn in a thesis by the department deadline, or if the defense of the thesis is unsuccessful, the student will be given one more opportunity the following semester to complete and satisfactorily defend the thesis.

Students in the MM Teaching Concentration degree program who engage in research involving human subjects should refer to the guidelines in the Thesis and Dissertation Manual, prepared by the Office of Graduate Studies.

### **Progress towards the degree**

Full time students in the Performance Concentration and the Composition Concentration normally complete the MM degree in two years. Students in the Teaching Concentration are most often part-time students with outside teaching responsibilities and may take up to five years to complete the degree.

### **Financial aid**

The Music Department offers a small number of graduate teaching assistantships, graduate assistantships, and/or tuition assistantships, depending on funding and the needs of the Department. The awards are granted to full-time students, normally for two years (the amount of time a full-time student needs to complete the MM degree.) Support is for the fall and spring semesters only. The Graduate committee meets between March 15 and April 15 to consider the applications and award the assistantships. Students are notified by April 15. The responsibilities of the students on contract will be enumerated in writing by July 1<sup>st</sup>, and will be reiterated the following summer if the student continues to receive the assistantship for a second year.

Students must pass the history comprehensive exam before the beginning of their third semester in order to be eligible for continued funding. This exam is normally offered in late January and again in late August.

Students are evaluated on an ongoing and informal basis by the faculty or staff member(s) to which they are assigned. Students who are teaching a course as a part of their assistantship duties will participate in the regular end-of-semester student evaluation process.

### **Departmental operations**

Upon matriculation, students are expected to provide up-to-date address, telephone, and email information to the Music Department Office staff and to update them as necessary throughout the time they are enrolled in the degree program. It is especially important that students activate their University of Delaware email account, and arrange for messages to the UD email account to be forwarded to email accounts with other providers (i.e. yahoo or hotmail), if the student uses the outside account as his/her main email account.

Graduate students may request permission to use a department vehicle from the appropriate faculty member in charge of that vehicle for a given event. (i.e. a student might transport Marching Band equipment with permission of the Marching Band director.) Department vehicles may be used only for course-related activities.

Students should see the Music Office staff sign out a key to the first floor practice rooms and other appropriate rooms as necessary (i.e. a percussion major - a key to the percussion practice studio; a piano major – a key to a practice studio with a grand piano). These keys are retained throughout the student's enrollment. Notes, interdepartmental mail and other such items may be left for graduate students in the student mailboxes (currently in the first-floor student lounge.) Students are not allowed to use the Music

Office telephone. They may use the Music Office copy machine if they are an assistant doing work for a faculty member. There is a graduate assistant office, shared by all the graduate assistants, currently on the first floor of Amy Dupont. Students have access to a telephone and computer terminal in this office.

Graduate students are welcome to apply for the Jefferson Award, a Departmental award which may be used towards summer music study at a festival or master class.