

Music, M.F.A.

The Department of Music offers an M.F.A. in Music with emphases in Choral Conducting, Collaborative Piano, Guitar/Lute Performance, Instrumental Performance, Piano Performance, and Vocal Arts. The graduate curriculum provides courses in music analysis, history, theory, critical studies, and research in addition to intensive performance training.

Admission

In addition to meeting all general requirements for admission to graduate study, applicants should hold a B.A. in Music, a B.Mus., or the equivalent.

The online application must be submitted and all supporting materials must be received by January 15. Late applications cannot be considered. Supporting materials must include at least one substantial writing sample, preferably on a musical subject. This requirement may be fulfilled by the submission of an undergraduate paper of appropriate scope, preferably on a musical topic.

Applicants must audition for members of the Music faculty by February 1. In exceptional cases (as approved in advance by the departmental graduate advisor), a recently recorded performance may be accepted in lieu of a live audition. Applicants in composition must, in addition, submit a representative sample of scores and recordings of their works.

Applicants are expected to have good general knowledge of music history and music theory, competence in basic musicianship skills, including sight-singing, written and keyboard harmony, dictation, and basic keyboard facility (including sight-reading). Entering students will be given diagnostic tests in music theory prior to the beginning of classes and will be advised to remedy any evident deficiencies during the first year in residence by registering for the appropriate undergraduate courses or through other appropriate means. Credit earned in such courses cannot be counted toward fulfillment of any degree requirement.

General Degree Requirements

Course requirements may be fulfilled only by graduate courses (numbered 200 and higher) and upper-division undergraduate courses (numbered 100 and higher), and only by those courses in which a grade of B or higher has been earned.

All students must complete the graduate core curriculum in bibliography (MUSIC 200). All students, except for those in Vocal Arts, must register for tutorial study in the major field (MUSIC 210, MUSIC 211, or MUSIC 212) during every quarter in residence. Students in the emphasis in Vocal Arts must register for MUSIC 211 every quarter for a minimum of 24 units. Students in the emphasis in Instrumental Performance must enroll in an approved large ensemble during every quarter in residence.

Students enrolled in the emphasis in Choral Conducting, Collaborative Piano, Piano Performance, and Vocal Arts must fulfill a foreign language requirement, as described in the individual emphasis descriptions below. This requirement may be met either by attaining a passing score in the departmental examination or by earning a grade of B or higher in level 2A of an approved undergraduate language course.

All students must pass the Comprehensive Examination (normally taken during the fifth quarter in residence) and perform one or more public recitals. Details are found in the individual emphasis descriptions below.

The normative time to degree for students in the M.F.A. program is two years. Residence is required. The normative time to degree can be extended to three years only through a petition to the Chair of the Department. The maximum time to degree is three years. Students who do not complete the degree in three years will be dropped from the program.

Individual Emphasis Requirements

Choral Conducting

Languages: Reading knowledge of French, German, or Italian.

Course Work:

A. Complete the following:

MUSIC 131	Post-Tonal Theory
MUSIC 158A- 158B- 158C	Diction and Diction and Diction ¹
MUSIC 200	Bibliography and Research
MUSIC 201	Topics in Analysis
MUSIC 210	Choral Conducting (every quarter in residence, maximum 24 units)

B. Select three seminars from the following:

MUSIC 220	Seminar in Music History
MUSIC 230	Seminar in Contemporary Music

MUSIC 235	Critical Studies in Music
MUSIC 236	Theoretical ICIT Seminar

C. Twelve units of electives, selected with advisor.

MUSIC 214	Graduate Recital
-----------	------------------

¹ Note: This requirement is waived for students who demonstrate competence in this area by passing a diagnostic exam, in which case these 6 units are taken as electives

The total number of units for the specific course requirements that must be completed with a grade of at least B is 66.

Comprehensive Examination: This is a special field exam, related to (but not limited to) repertoire selected for the Graduate Recital. It is taken no later than March of the second year. The graduate committee sets the exam 24 hours in advance; the student makes an oral presentation and then fields the committee's questions.

Collaborative Piano

Languages: Reading knowledge of French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

Course Work:

A. Complete the following:

MUSIC 131	Post-Tonal Theory
MUSIC 156A- 156B	Song Literature and Song Literature
MUSIC 158A- 158B- 158C	Diction and Diction and Diction ¹
MUSIC 176	Chamber Ensembles (6 units)
MUSIC 200	Bibliography and Research
MUSIC 201	Topics in Analysis
MUSIC 211	Performance (every quarter in residence, maximum 24 units)

B. Select one seminar from the following:

MUSIC 220	Seminar in Music History
MUSIC 230	Seminar in Contemporary Music
MUSIC 235	Critical Studies in Music
MUSIC 236	Theoretical ICIT Seminar

C. Two Graduate Recitals:

MUSIC 214	Graduate Recital (one instrumental and one vocal)
-----------	---

¹ Note: This requirement is waived for students who demonstrate competence in this area by passing a diagnostic exam, in which case these 6 units are taken as electives.

The total number of units for the specific course requirements that must be completed with a grade of at least B is 53.

Comprehensive Examination: This is a special field exam, related to (but not limited to) repertoire selected for the Graduate Recitals. It is taken no later than March of the second year. The graduate committee sets the exam 24 hours in advance; the student makes an oral presentation and then fields the committee's questions.

Guitar/Lute Performance

Course Work:

A. Complete the following:

MUSIC 131	Post-Tonal Theory
MUSIC 176	Chamber Ensembles (6 units)
MUSIC 189	Accompanying for Plucked Strings: Continuo and Changes (taken three times)
MUSIC 200	Bibliography and Research
MUSIC 201	Topics in Analysis
MUSIC 211	Performance (every quarter in residence, maximum of 24 units)
MUSIC 214	Graduate Recital ¹

MUSIC 240 Graduate Projects

B. Select two seminars from the following:

MUSIC 220	Seminar in Music History
MUSIC 230	Seminar in Contemporary Music
MUSIC 235	Critical Studies in Music
MUSIC 236	Theoretical ICIT Seminar

¹ Note: The recital is supported by a written essay, presented in advance of the Comprehensive Examination.

The total number of units for the specific course requirements that must be completed with a grade of at least B is 57.

Comprehensive Examination: This is a special field exam, related to (but not limited to) repertoire selected for the Graduate Recital. It is taken no later than March of the second year. The graduate committee sets the exam 24 hours in advance; the student makes an oral presentation and then fields the committee's questions.

Instrumental Performance

Course Work:

A. Complete the following:

MUSIC 131	Post-Tonal Theory
MUSIC 160	University Orchestra (taken every quarter in residence, maximum of 12 units)
or MUSIC 161	Wind Ensemble
MUSIC 176	Chamber Ensembles (6 units)
MUSIC 200	Bibliography and Research
MUSIC 201	Topics in Analysis
MUSIC 211	Performance (every quarter in residence, maximum of 24 units)
MUSIC 214	Graduate Recital

B. Select two seminars from the following:

MUSIC 220	Seminar in Music History
MUSIC 230	Seminar in Contemporary Music
MUSIC 235	Critical Studies in Music
MUSIC 236	Theoretical ICIT Seminar

The total number of units for the specific course requirements that must be completed with a grade of at least B is 59.

Comprehensive Examination: This is a special field exam, related to (but not limited to) repertoire selected for the Graduate Recital. It is taken no later than March of the second year. The graduate committee sets the exam 24 hours in advance; the student makes an oral presentation and then fields the committee's questions.

Piano Performance

Languages: Reading knowledge of French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

Course Work:

A. Complete the following:

MUSIC 131	Post-Tonal Theory
MUSIC 176	Chamber Ensembles (6 units)
MUSIC 200	Bibliography and Research
MUSIC 201	Topics in Analysis
MUSIC 211	Performance (every quarter in residence, maximum of 24 units)
MUSIC 214	Graduate Recital (twice)

B. Select two seminars from the following:

MUSIC 220	Seminar in Music History
MUSIC 230	Seminar in Contemporary Music
MUSIC 235	Critical Studies in Music

MUSIC 236	Theoretical ICIT Seminar
-----------	--------------------------

C. Four units of electives, selected with advisor (upper-division or graduate, Music or non-Music).

The total number of units for the specific course requirements that must be completed with a grade of at least B is 51.

Comprehensive Examination: This is a special field exam, related to (but not limited to) repertoire selected for the Graduate Recitals. It is taken no later than March of the second year. The graduate committee sets the exam 24 hours in advance; the student makes an oral presentation and then fields the committee's questions.

Vocal Arts

Languages: Reading knowledge of French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

Course Work:

A. Complete the following:

MUSIC 158A	Diction
MUSIC 158B	Diction
MUSIC 158C	Diction
MUSIC 164	Opera Workshop (4 units)
MUSIC 200	Bibliography and Research
MUSIC 211	Performance (every quarter, minimum of 24 units)
MUSIC 214	Graduate Recital

B. Select one of the following:

MUSIC 131	Post-Tonal Theory
MUSIC 201	Topics in Analysis

C. Select two seminars from the following:

MUSIC 140	Topics in Medieval Music
MUSIC 141	Topics in Renaissance Music
MUSIC 142	Topics in Baroque Music
MUSIC 143	Topics in Classical Music
MUSIC 144	Topics in Romantic Music
MUSIC 145	Topics in 20th Century Music
MUSIC 146	Studies in Jazz Music
MUSIC 147	Studies in Music Technology
MUSIC 148	Studies in Ethnomusicology
MUSIC 220	Seminar in Music History
MUSIC 230	Seminar in Contemporary Music
MUSIC 235	Critical Studies in Music
MUSIC 236	Theoretical ICIT Seminar

D. Complete four units of electives selected with advisor (upper-division or graduate, music or non-music, lower-division acceptable for language study).

The total number of units for the specific course requirements that must be completed with a grade of at least B is 52.

Comprehensive Examination: This is a special field exam, related to (but not limited to) repertoire selected for the Graduate Recital. It is taken no later than March of the second year. The graduate committee sets the exam 24 hours in advance; the student makes an oral presentation and then fields the committee's questions.