Program Components

The School of Music at Western Michigan University offers a unique and practical program which allows the working music educator an opportunity to complete all course work for a master’s degree through summer study, or summer study combined with regular semester coursework.

The program consists of four components that can be completed in four consecutive summers, or shorter amounts of time if coursework is taken in Fall and/or Spring semesters. The cycle of summer courses is online at wmich.edu/music/pdfs/grad_forms/Summer_brochure.pdf. Semester course offerings are variable and are available from the Graduate Advisor.

Music Education Core
These courses develop the understanding of issues in music education, research, philosophy, and other broad topics which cross all areas of professional education.

Musical Foundations
Courses in music theory and history are offered each summer to develop and refine individual musical skills and understanding.

Instructional Development
Application of theory into practice occurs in this part of the program. Short courses and workshops in general, choral, and instrumental music (including conducting) are offered each summer. The materials, courses, and workshops provide graduate students a chance to discover new teaching techniques and innovative ideas in their area of interest.

Electives
These approved courses allow the graduate student a chance for personal development by providing an opportunity to explore other areas of education.

Program Requirements

The Master of Music in music education degree program is designed to enhance the candidate’s teaching, performing, research, and creative abilities in music. A graduate advisor in the School of Music works closely with each candidate in planning and implementing a degree program which will accommodate the candidate’s professional needs and interests and, at the same time, will realize the full value and depth of the University’s graduate offerings.

The candidate’s needs are determined by an evaluation of the results of Proficiency Examinations and a review of the first 6–10 semester hours of course work. After this evaluation and review, the graduate advisor provides information to the candidate regarding probable success in the degree program and possible time limitations that may apply to the candidate’s completion of degree requirements.

Admission Requirements
A Bachelor of Music degree, with a major in music education, and a teaching certificate are required for admission.

Entrance Requirements
Proficiency examinations in theory and history.

Required Courses
- MUS 6110 Empirical Research in Music Education (3)
- MUS 6420 Philosophy of Music Education (2)
- MUS 6500 Seminar in Music Education (2)
- Electives in Music Education (6)

Additional studies in theory and history, plus music education electives complete the 30-semester-hour minimum requirement.

Culminating Project
A culminating project or other options will be determined in consultation with the graduate advisor.
Summer Session I
May 6–June 26

MUS 5950
Workshop in Music Education: Jazz Institute
Dr. John Lychner
June 20, 21, 24–26 RFMTW 8 A.M.–12 P.M. & 1–5 P.M.
1130 Dalton 2 Credit Hours CRN 21364
A team taught workshop which looks at the use of Jazz across the music education curriculum. Information and applications in general, choral, and instrumental classrooms will be featured for teachers at elementary, middle or high school levels. Guest lectures and demonstrations from WMU’s award winning Jazz Studies faculty members will bring the topic to life. Opportunities for experiential learning and experience sharing will happen daily. There will be something for everyone at the Jazz Institute! For information: john.lychner@wmich.edu

Summer Session II
June 27–August 16

MUS 6500
Seminar in Music Education
Dr. John Lychner
June 27, July 2–August 1 TWR 12–2 P.M.
2111 Dalton 2 Credit Hours CRN 31805
This seminar will provide participants with an opportunity to examine the current state of music education in the United States and consider the possibilities for the future. Issues which led to the formation of the music education profession, as well as those which continue to shape the music education profession today will be examined, with special attention to topics which are currently impacting K–12 instruction. We will recap major events and changes that are occurring and initiatives that are being put into effect by a variety of arts organizations to help participants find renewed inspiration and support for the work that they do. For information: john.lychner@wmich.edu

MUS 6740
Seminar in Music Theory: Human Perception, Music Theory, and Performance
Dr. Ken Smith
June 27, July 2–August 1 TWR 2:15–5:15 P.M.
3125 Dalton 3 Credit Hours CRN 31806
In this course, students will explore the principles of music theory and performance through the lens of human perception. Perceptions influence understandings of musical structure, which in turn affect the expressive choices of performers when making music. Students will be able to explain the role of perception in the development of Western musical principles, demonstrate how an understanding of musical structure influences performers’ expressiveness, and develop level appropriate lesson plans introducing these principles within a K–12 educational setting. For information: kenneth.smith@wmich.edu

MUS 6700
Seminar in Musicology: Global Music
Dr. David Smith
June 27, July 2–August 1 TWR 8–11 a.m.
2111 Dalton 3 Credit Hours CRN 31372
A key component of this course will be a study of people making music meaningful and useful in their lives through examining time, pitch, and organization across the globe. Case studies will focus attention on the teaching and learning of music, as well as musical instruments in various parts of the world. Applications at all levels of music instruction will be an ongoing theme. Students will be able to engage with guest artists and lecturers, and participate in demonstrations and performances, and develop instructional materials based on authentic global musical practices.
For information: david.s.smith@wmich.edu

Registration
Registration for summer coursework is contingent upon admission to Western Michigan University. Once formally admitted as a Graduate Non-Degree, Graduate Readmission, or Graduate Degree seeking student (wmich.edu/apply/graduate), registration for courses occurs online through GoWMU. For registration assistance, contact music-grad@wmich.edu. Summer Session registration opens February 11, 2013, and continues until the start of classes. To ensure a seat in workshops or classes you want, register for June 20–June 26 offering by May 1, and the June 27–August 1 offerings by May 31. Information about tuition and fees is available at wmich.edu/finaid or (269) 387-6000.

General Information
Enrollment in the Master of Music in music education degree is contingent upon admission to Western Michigan University and the School of Music. Apply online at wmich.edu/apply/graduate. Send transcripts to the Admissions Office and the School of Music. Information about the graduate degree in music education is listed in the online Graduate Catalog (catalog.wmich.edu), and available on School of Music Web pages (wmich.edu/music/academics/grad).

For Additional Information
Graduate Advisor
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