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 wmi.mch. edu/music/academics/grad/music-edmasters. 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 choice to discover new teaching techniques and innovative ideas in their areas of interest.

Electives
These approved courses allow the graduate student a choice 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 11 – July 1

MUS 5950 Workshop in Music Education: Entrepreneurial Music Educators
Dr. David Smith
June 25, 26, 29, 30, July 1 RMTW
8 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 5 p.m.
1120 Dalten 2 Credit Hours CRN 21172

Are you entrepreneurial? This workshop will give you a chance to examine entrepreneurial aspects of the music education profession in a personal, interactive way. We'll learn business and marketing ideas from music educators who are using their expert skills in music and music education to reach beyond their own classrooms. We'll also investigate grantmanship opportunities in your area, and construct a grant proposal to submit for funding. There will be time to consider ways to expand your current web presence to support your entrepreneurial interests. Whether you consider yourself entrepreneurial or not, you owe it to yourself to see how this might positively impact your classroom and your life!
For information: david.s.smith@wmich.edu

MUS 6420 Philosophy of Music Education
Dr. John Lynch
July 7 – August 6 TWR
12 - 2 p.m.
2111 Dalten 2 Credit Hours CRN 31460
This course is designed to acquaint you with aesthetic and pragmatic thinking regarding the nature and value of music, and to provide a rationale for curricular development and teacher behavior.
For information: john.lynch@wmich.edu

MUS 6500 Seminar in Music Education: Assessment, Evaluation
Dr. David Smith
July 7 – August 6 TWR
9 - 11 a.m.
2111 Dalten 2 Credit Hours CRN 31767
This course will focus on assessment and evaluation as it relates to music educators and their work assignments. You will develop competencies in the construction of quantitative and qualitative measures in a variety of music education contexts, from classrooms to rehearsal halls. Through a variety of learning activities, you will develop an approach to implement your current classroom assessment practices, broadening the scope of assessment to include individuals K-12 at all functioning levels. The development of evidenced-based practice in music education, and the validation of state and national standards based instruction through assessment and evaluation will be a central theme of the course.
For information: david.s.smith@wmich.edu

MUS 6740 Seminar in Music Theory: Form and Structure in Music
Dr. Ken Smith
July 7 – August 6 TWR
2:15 - 5:15 p.m.
2111 Dalten 3 Credit Hours CRN 31768
This course will examine how music is organized and how the brain makes sense of the structure of music through its various developmental stages. Our goal will be to develop strategies for thinking about musical form and composition to students in music classes and ensembles. In particular, we will examine the research of Jean Bamberger (MIT) with children and music composition. In order to understand musical form, we will audit and visually analyze music of Western classical traditions and other cultural music from around the world. Specifically, you will analyze several pieces of music of critical importance to music educators from the school instrumental and choral repertoires. We will practice creativity through improvising and composing music in various forms from simple phrase structures to song forms in various styles.
For information: kenneth.smith@wmich.edu

MUS 6980 Readings in Music
July 7 – August 6
1 to 4 Credit Hours Call for CRN
An advanced, designed project of study, carried out under the supervision of a faculty member. Graduate students may enroll in this course after consultation with the Graduate Advisor.
For information: david.s.smith@wmich.edu

MUS 7000 Master's Thesis
July 7 – August 6
1 to 6 Credit Hours Call for CRN
An advanced research project carried out independently by the graduate student. The topic is related to the major, and approved by the thesis supervisor and committee members. The purpose of the thesis is to demonstrate mastery of degree content and research methods in a particular field of study. Graduate students may enroll in this course only after completing paperwork through the Graduate College.
For information: david.s.smith@wmich.edu

Scholarships for Summer study
Elzie Kohlentrigen Watson Endowed Scholarships are available to support summer study. Individuals interested in professional development and graduate study are encouraged to apply. A minimum of 8 credits during Summer Sessions I & II are required to receive an award. Priority will be given to degree seeking students. Scholarships are based on need, and have ranged from 10% to 90% of tuition. April 1st is the deadline for receipt of the Watson Scholarship application (wmich.ch.edu/music/academics/grad/music-ed-masters), completion of a 2015-16 FAFSA, and registration for workshop and courses.

Registration
Registration for summer coursework is contingent upon admission to Western Michigan University. Once formally admitted as a Graduat Degree Seeking, Graduate Non-Degree, or Graduate Readmission 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 9, 2015, and continues until the start of classes. Register early to ensure a seat in workshops or classes you want. Information about tuition and fees is available at wmich.edu/financialaid 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. Transcripts, resume, and written statement are required in the registration process. Information about the graduate degree in music is listed in the online Graduate Catalog (wmich.edu/registrar/catalog), and available on School of Music web pages (wmich.edu/music/academics/grad/music-ed-masters)

For Additional Information
Graduate Advisor
School of Music
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Kalamazoo MI 49008-5634
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