ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Music education is a professional, career-oriented program that prepares students for positions as educators and artists in the community. Successful completion of Western Michigan University’s music education program can lead directly to K-12 teacher certification and/or to graduate studies. Students choose from two emphasis areas: choral and general music or instrumental music.

EMPHASIS AREAS

→ Choral and general music
→ Instrumental music

ACADEMIC ADVISING

In this major, academic advisors from both the College of Fine Arts and the College of Education and Human Development will guide you on your path to graduation. Begin with the CFA to discuss music classes and requirements, and then work with the CEHD for professional education program admission and internships at the end of sophomore or beginning of junior year.

Michigan school principals ranked 97% of new teachers prepared at WMU as “effective” or “highly effective” in 2018-19.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students begin their studies in the pre-professional program. Special admission is required into the professional, upper-level education courses (typically after the sophomore year).

- Completion of 35 credits
- Completion of all WMU intellectual skills development requirements, if required
- Completion of an approved college-level writing course with a grade of “C” or better
- Completion of ED 2500 or HSV 2250 with a grade of “C” or better
- Achievement of the required cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher
- Achievement of upper-level admission criteria for reading, writing, and math proficiency
- Completion of background check and submission of Judgment of Sentence or Register of Action for any convictions, if necessary
- Completion and submission of a formal application to the CEHD Office of Admissions and Advising

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

- Certified teacher grades K-12

SEMINAR: SUMMER MUSIC CAMP

Seminar is a high school summer music camp designed to promote artistic, social, recreational and cultural interaction among serious young musicians. Students participate in daily group and individual music lessons with WMU’s world-class faculty members. Camp attendees also participate in ensembles, elective classes, performances, private lessons and cultural, social, and recreational activities. Selected WMU music students have the opportunity to develop their educational skills by serving as Seminar camp counselors and supervising attendees in the residence halls.