MUSIC: PERFORMANCE, DMA

The mission of the Wead Mitter School of Music is:

• to provide a rich, integrated program of undergraduate and graduate education that promotes the highest levels of professional, creative, and scholarly development while challenging students to achieve their greatest potential;
• to cultivate an environment that inspires creativity, stimulates intellectual curiosity, and fosters critical thinking; and
• to serve the university community, the public, and the profession through performance, composition, scholarship, music education, outreach, and engagement.

DEGREES AND MAJORS

The master of music is offered in music: performance with concentrations in brass; composition; percussion; piano performance; collaborative piano; piano performance and pedagogy; organ; strings; string development; guitar; voice; opera; woodwinds; multiple woodwinds; choral conducting; orchestral conducting; wind conducting.

The master of music is also offered in music: education. This degree is appropriate for those who wish to emphasize music content. Those who wish to explore music education within the context of education at large should consider the curriculum and instruction M.S. program in the School of Education.

The master of arts in music is offered with concentrations in ethnomusicology, music history, and music theory.

A double master’s degree with the School of Library and Information Studies is also offered.

The DMA (doctor of musical arts) and the Ph.D. are the highest degrees conferred by the Wead Mitter School of Music. The DMA is granted for evidence of general proficiency and distinctive attainment in a specialized field of performance. The student’s ability in independent investigation is demonstrated through a series of recitals and in a final project presenting original research or creative scholarship.

The DMA in music: performance is offered with concentrations in: brass; composition; percussion; piano performance; collaborative piano; piano performance and pedagogy; organ; strings; string development; guitar; voice; opera; woodwinds; multiple woodwinds; choral conducting; orchestral conducting; wind conducting.

The Ph.D. in music, a research degree, is offered in the areas of ethnomusicology, historical musicology, and music theory.

Master’s degrees require a minimum of 30 credits; Ph.D. and DMA degrees require significant work beyond the master’s degree, including the extensive independent work described above. Each degree track varies slightly and may impose additional requirements. Contact the Wead Mitter School of Music graduate office for complete explanations of the degrees offered at the master’s or doctoral levels: gradadmissions@music.wisc.edu

FUNDING

Through the generosity of Paul J. Collins, the Wead Mitter School of Music is the recipient of a substantial fellowship fund which, in combination with the Graduate School and University Foundation, allows the school to offer multiple-year funding to the highest quality graduate students in performance. The Collins fellowships, along with The Lorna Wendt and Anonymous Fund Fellowships for Choral and Voice students are offered as Wisconsin Distinguished Fellowships and provide full tuition and fees, a generous stipend, additional funds, and comprehensive health care. Nomination by a performance faculty member—usually following an on-site audition—is required for consideration.

The Wead Mitter School of Music also offers teaching and project assistantships in music history, music theory, piano, conducting, voice, and other performance areas. These positions offer tuition remission plus a salary and health care benefits. In addition, the Wead Mitter School of Music selects qualified applicants for the Chancellor’s Fellowship, University Fellowship, and Advanced Opportunity Fellowship. The UW–Madison Office of Student Financial Services assists students in obtaining general grants and loans. All Wead Mitter School of Music students who receive funding are required to enroll full-time with 8–12 graduate credits.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AND SATISFACTORY PROGRESS

To make progress toward a graduate degree, students must meet the Graduate School Minimum Degree Requirements and Satisfactory Progress (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext) in addition to the requirements of the program.

DOCTORAL DEGREES

DMA, with tracks in brass, choral conducting, collaborative piano, composition, orchestral conducting, organ, percussion, piano, piano pedagogy, strings, vocal performance, wind conducting, and woodwinds

MINIMUM GRADUATE DEGREE CREDIT REQUIREMENT

• Brass track: 76 credits
• Choral Conducting track: 74 credits
• Collaborative Piano track: 74 credits
• Composition track: 80 credits
• Orchestral Conducting track: 66 credits
• Organ track: 82 credits
• Percussion track: 74 credits
• Piano Performance track: 74 credits
• Piano Performance and Pedagogy track: 79 credits
• Strings (includes Guitar) track: 73 credits
• Vocal Performance track: 82
• Wind Conducting track: 69 credits
• Woodwinds track: 72 credits
MINIMUM GRADUATE RESIDENCE CREDIT REQUIREMENT
32 credits

MINIMUM GRADUATE COURSEWORK (50%) REQUIREMENT

Half of degree coursework must be in graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university’s Course Guide (http://my.wisc.edu/CourseGuideRedirect/BrowseByTitle).

PRIOR COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS: GRADUATE WORK FROM OTHER INSTITUTIONS

With program approval, students are allowed to up to 30 credits of graduate coursework from other institutions in the form of a master’s degree or the equivalent. coursework earned ten years or more prior to admission to a doctoral degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

PRIOR COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS: UW—MADISON UNDERGRADUATE

No credits from a UW—Madison undergraduate degree are allowed to count toward the degree.

PRIOR COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS: UW—MADISON UNIVERSITY SPECIAL

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 6 credits of coursework numbered 300 or above taken as a UW—Madison Special student. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a Master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED
15 credits

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC COURSES REQUIRED

Each track of study (e.g., cello, cello, brass, etc.) has different course requirements. Students must consult with their advisor in their first semester to determine expected course of study.

DOCTORAL MINOR/BREADTH REQUIREMENTS

All doctoral students are required to complete a minor consisting of at least 9 credits (most are 12 credits).

OVERALL GRADUATE GPA REQUIREMENT

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.25.

OTHER GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Students must earn a B or above in all coursework.

PROBATION POLICY

DMA Students who fail to make satisfactory progress in any of the following four areas: Grades, Course Load, Time Constraints, or Exams will be notified in writing by the DGS. At the end of the second semester of failing to make satisfactory progress the student is placed on Probation effective the next semester. This action suspends financial aid (but does not affect loans or work-study). See details in the Satisfactory Progress for Doctoral Students (http://uwsom.wpengine.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/DoctoralSatisfactoryProgressDocument.pdf).

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

DMA students have two advisors and two committees. One advisor is the DGS the other is their performance instructor. The two committees are:

1. doctoral performance and research committee
2. a preliminary exam committee.


ASSESSMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS

All DMA programs require five to six recitals at 1 credit each and require preliminary written and oral exams after all coursework (apart from dissertation/project credit) is completed.

TIME CONSTRAINTS

DMA and Ph.D. students in the School of Music are allowed a maximum of four calendar years from the date of enrollment in the program to complete all coursework requirements and successfully pass preliminary examinations. A student not completing the course requirements (apart from the dissertation or project requirements) by the end of the fourth year will be placed on probation for the following 12 months. During this period, the student will not be eligible for financial aid. A student who fails to complete the coursework requirements and pass preliminary examinations during the 12-month probation period may be withdrawn from the program. The Doctoral Research Project Committee (DPRC) or Ph.D. dissertation Committee may grant up to a one semester extension to the above guidelines. Exceptions beyond that can be made only upon recommendation of the graduate committee and approval of the DGS (director of graduate studies).

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

DMA: all tracks require intermediate-level reading proficiency in one foreign language, usually French or German. DMA in voice performance requires proficiency in German, French and Italian. See individual programs for details.

ADMISSIONS

Minimum admission requirements of the Graduate School apply to all applicants for graduate study in music. The Mead Witter School of Music has additional requirements. Applicants should have a master’s degree in music or equivalent foundational course work as required by each area of study. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale, calculated on the last 60 credit hours) is necessary for full admission. Admission to the DMA program assumes a high level of performance ability determined by audition. Composition applicants must have completed a master’s degree or equivalent in composition. Both the DMA and the Ph.D. programs involve substantial academic work and require excellent reading, writing, and speaking skills. Therefore, all international students are required to submit a TOEFL score. See the Mead Witter School of Music graduate admissions website (http://www.music.wisc.edu/admissions/graduate) for information on minimum score requirements. The Mead Witter School of Music does not waive the TOEFL score requirement for students who have completed a degree at an American university. All Ph.D. applicants and DMA piano applicants must submit a scholarly paper as part of the application. Ph.D. students are expected to submit Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores. Typically, performance applicants are required to audition in person. For details on specific audition requirements and additional application materials, visit the
LEARNING OUTCOMES

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

• produces public performances of cohesive programs of music in which original ideas are communicated clearly and energetically.
• creates compositions and/or performances that clearly reflect well-developed original musical ideas.
• applies deep knowledge of technique, style, and cultural contexts to performance or creation of music.
• effectively expresses ideas both verbally and in writing so as to foster understanding among colleagues.
• demonstrates breadth within learning experience in an area of study outside the principal field of performance or composition.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

• fosters ethical and professional conduct both in individual creative work and in collaborative endeavors.

PEOPLE

Faculty: Professors Cook (director), Aley, Bartley, Blasius, Bowles, Calderon, Chisholm, Crook, Davis, Dembski, DiSanza, Dill, Doing, Earp, Fischer, Fulmer, Hyer, Jensen, Johnson, Jutt, Karp, Koza, Leckrone, Perry, Potter, Radano, Rowe, Schaffer, Schwendinger, Smith, Stowe, Swack, B. Taylor, C. Taylor, Thimmig, Vardi; Associate Professors Dobbs, Hetzler, Johnson, Teeple, Vallon; Assistant Professors Grabois, Park Altino, Wallmann