The mission of Mead Witter 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.

Mead Witter School of Music enriches students’ educational experience by hosting guest artists and scholars for master classes, recitals, colloquia, seminars, and festivals. Mead Witter School of Music organizations and ensembles perform more than 350 recitals and concerts every year, making a significant contribution to the cultural life of the university and the wider Madison community.

THE MASTER OF MUSIC: EDUCATION PROGRAM

The master of music education program is suited to those who wish to emphasize music content in advanced study of education. 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. A double master’s degree with the Information School is also offered.

Applicants to the master’s program in music education are strongly encouraged to contact the music education faculty to schedule an interview and visit to the school. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale, calculated on the last 60 credit hours) is necessary for full admission. Refer to the Admissions tab for details on admission requirements.

Contact the Mead Witter School of Music graduate office, gradadmissions@music.wisc.edu, for further details about the M.M.–music education degree.

The M.M.–music education degree offers the opportunity for advanced study in the field of musical education. Upon enrollment in the program, one of the music education faculty members acts as advisor for the student. This is usually the major professor, who the faculty determine based upon a student’s particular interests. The examination committee for comprehensive examinations in the second year is composed of the major professor along with two other faculty members.

A summary of important academic policies are available through the Policies (p. ) tab. A more complete document, the Mead Witter School of Music Graduate Handbook (https://www.music.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/SOM-Grad-Handbook-1.pdf), lists all academic policies and procedures in music graduate programs. All students need to be familiar with the Graduate School’s Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/).

FACILITIES

The Mosse Humanities Building, built in 1969, houses most of the music classrooms, rehearsal rooms, faculty studios, and 111 practice rooms. Most recitals and concerts take place in one of three performance spaces: Mills Concert Hall, Morphy Recital Hall, and Eastman Organ Recital Hall. The school’s extensive collection of instruments, both common and unusual, is available to both faculty and students. Music Hall with its clock tower, built in 1879, is a campus landmark. Renovated in 1985, it is the home of the opera program. The new Hamel Music Center includes a concert hall, a recital hall, and a large ensemble rehearsal space.

Memorial Library is the home of the Mills Music Library, which offers extensive research and circulating collections, attractive study space, and personal staff assistance with research. Music materials on campus number over half a million, ranging from scores and sheet music to archival collections and historic audio recordings. Through Mills Music Library and other UW–Madison libraries students have access to a wide range of online research databases as well as millions of articles, books, and streaming media. All genres of music are represented, with notably strong collections in American and ethnic music. Nationally known special collections include the Tams–Witmark Collection, a treasury of early American musical theater materials, and the Wisconsin Music Archives.

Mentoring of students is of prime importance to faculty members at Mead Witter School of Music. The faculty advisor and the director of graduate studies both guide the student’s course planning. While each faculty member has a unique style of mentoring, every student can be assured of abundant time working closely with more than one mentor in addition to the advisor during the course of a UW–Madison degree program.