THE MEAD WITTER SCHOOL OF MUSIC

DEGREES AND MAJORS

The master of arts in music is offered with concentrations in the two areas of historical musicology and music theory. A double master’s degree with the Information School is also offered.

Master’s degrees require a minimum of 30 credits. Each degree track varies slightly and may impose additional requirements. Details on the degrees are available through the Requirements tab. Contact the Mead Witter School of Music graduate office, gradadmissions@music.wisc.edu, for further information about the M.A. degree.

The M.A.—music degree offers tracks in historical musicology and music theory. The appropriate faculty area appoints an advisor for each new student the first semester of enrollment. When the time comes for comprehensive examinations in the second year, an examination committee is formed. Upon completing the thesis, the student sits for an oral examination by the examination committee, consisting of members of the area faculty.

A summary of important academic policies are available through the Policies (p. 4) 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/).

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.

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 Americana 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.

The Mead Witter School of Music is a member of the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), the national accreditation body for schools of music, and was reaccredited in 2014.

ADMISSIONS

Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program’s admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program’s website.

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. Applicants must meet the minimum requirements (#english-proficiency) of the Graduate School as well as the program(s).

Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/).

Requirements  Detail
Fall Deadline  December 1
Spring Deadline  This program does not admit in the spring.
Summer Deadline  This program does not admit in the summer.
GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)  Required.
English Proficiency Test  Every applicant whose native language is not English or whose undergraduate instruction was not in English must provide an English proficiency test score and meet the Graduate School minimum requirements (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency). Every international student from a non-English speaking country must submit a TOEFL score of 85 or higher. The Mead Witter School of Music does NOT waive the TOEFL requirement for students who have completed a degree at an American university.
Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT)  n/a
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 bachelor’s degree in music or equivalent foundational course work as required by each area of study. An undergraduate GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale, calculated on the last 60 credit hours) is necessary for full admission. M.A. applicants are required to submit Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores and samples of research writing. The M.A. program involves substantial academic work and requires 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. For details on specific audition requirements and additional application materials, visit the Mead Witter School of Music graduate admissions website (http://www.music.wisc.edu/admissions/graduate/).

FUNDING

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

The Mead Witter 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 Mead Witter School of Music selects qualified applicants for the University Fellowship and Advanced Opportunity Fellowship. The UW–Madison Office of Student Financial Services assists students in obtaining general grants and loans. All Mead Witter School of Music students who receive funding are required to maintain full-time enrollment status. Many students also take advantage of work-study opportunities on campus, and many are employed part-time in area musical organizations or business entities.

Most M.A. and Ph.D. students are eligible for teaching assistant appointments in the respective area, provided that positions are available. All M.A. and Ph.D. students may be considered for a University Fellowship, and qualified applicants may be considered for the Advanced Opportunity Fellowship. Feel free to direct questions about any of these funding opportunities to the Mead Witter School of Music graduate admissions office, gradadmissions.music.wisc.edu.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Face to Face</th>
<th>Evening/Weekend</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Accelerated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Evening/Weekend: These programs are offered in an evening and/or weekend format to accommodate working schedules. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses and personal connections, while keeping your day job. For more information about the meeting schedule of a specific program, contact the program.

Online: These programs are offered primarily online. Many available online programs can be completed almost entirely online with all online programs offering at least 50 percent or more of the program work online. Some online programs have an on-campus component that is often designed to accommodate working schedules. Take advantage of the convenience of online learning while participating in a rich, interactive learning environment. For more information about the online nature of a specific program, contact the program.

Hybrid: These programs have innovative curricula that combine on-campus and online formats. Most hybrid programs are completed on-campus with a partial or completely online semester. For more information about the hybrid schedule of a specific program, contact the program.

Accelerated: These on-campus programs are offered in an accelerated format that allows you to complete your program in a condensed time-frame. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses with minimal disruption to your career. For more information about the accelerated nature of a specific program, contact the program.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements Detail</th>
<th>Minimum Credit</th>
<th>Minimum Residence Credit</th>
<th>Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement</th>
<th>Overall Graduate GPA Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Requirement</td>
<td>30 credits</td>
<td>16 credits</td>
<td>Half of degree coursework (15 credits out of 30 total credits) must be completed graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university’s Course Guide (<a href="https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/">https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/</a>)</td>
<td>3.25 GPA required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Other Grade Requirements**

Graduate students at UW–Madison must meet expectations for satisfactory progress toward completion of the degree while enrolled. In School of Music graduate programs, a graduate student must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.25. Even though grades below B do not count for graduate credit toward the degree, those grades are included in computation of the GPA.

In the first semester in which the cumulative GPA falls below 3.25 the director of graduate studies will notify the student in writing. After a second semester in which the GPA remains below 3.25 the student will be placed on probation for the next semester enrolled. This action suspends all financial aid awards through UW–Madison, though loans and work-study are not affected. Failure to raise the GPA to 3.25 or above in the probation semester results in the student’s withdrawal from the Graduate School and from the School of Music program.

To maintain satisfactory progress School of Music students on UW–Madison funding (teaching assistants, project assistants, fellows, and scholarship recipients) must maintain full-time status. A student’s satisfactory progress is also in jeopardy should a major project or recital be judged incomplete or deficient. Failure of one or more parts of the comprehensive examinations, preliminary examinations, or final defense is also considered a lapse in satisfactory progress.

**Assessments and Examinations**

In addition to evaluations in individual classes, School of Music programs examine graduate students at defined points in their career.

For master’s students, comprehensive examinations measure the candidate’s range of musical knowledge in both fields of music history and the major.

**Language Requirements**

All School of Music doctoral programs require proficiency at the intermediate level in at least one foreign language. The Historical Musicology track requires proficiency in German. Foreign language proficiency assures that the student has the tools needed to pursue comprehensive research in the major field. Details on foreign language requirements and ways to fulfill proficiency expectations are outlined in the course lists available through the Requirements tab for each degree. This information is also available in the advising worksheets for each degree major track.

### REQUIRED COURSES

Direct any questions about the coursework or required proficiencies to the Mead Witter School of Music graduate admissions office, gradadmissions@music.wisc.edu.

**Historical Musicology Track**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 411</td>
<td>Survey of Music in the Middle Ages</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Entering students will take a short diagnostic examination in music history during the first week of classes to be used for advising purposes only.**

**Coursework in Musicology**

Choose from the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 412</td>
<td>Survey of Music in the Renaissance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 413</td>
<td>Survey of Music in the Baroque Era</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 414</td>
<td>Survey of Music in the Classic Era</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 415</td>
<td>Survey of Music in the Romantic Era</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 416</td>
<td>Survey of Music in the Twentieth Century</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 511</td>
<td>Historical Performance Practices</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 513</td>
<td>Survey of Opera</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 821</td>
<td>Historical Music Theories 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 822</td>
<td>Historical Music Theories 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Musicology Seminars (two required)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 911</td>
<td>Seminar in Musicology</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Ethnomusicology—choose from the following:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC/ AFROAMER 400</td>
<td>Music Cultures of the World: Africa, Europe, the Americas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC/ FOLKLORE 401</td>
<td>Musical Cultures of the World</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC/ FOLKLORE 402</td>
<td>Musical Cultures of the World</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC/ FOLKLORE 515</td>
<td>Proseminar in Ethnomusicology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other required courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 900</td>
<td>Colloquium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC/LIS 619</td>
<td>Music Research Methods and Materials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Theory Proficiency**

Satisfied by completion of one graduate-level course taught by music theory faculty. Theory credits may count toward electives. 2

The following courses may fulfill this requirement: 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 990</td>
<td>Masters Thesis (consult advisor for details)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Electives (300-level or above)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Language Proficiency: German required**

Language study may be satisfied by one of the following:

Four semesters of undergraduate study completed during the last five years, earning a grade of B or better in the last semester OR

German may be satisfied by taking the GERMAN 391 earning a grade of B or better OR

Study on your own or through courses offered by the Division of Continuing Studies. After completing the online course you must pass the DCS exam at the Intermediate level. Contact the Division of Continuing Studies or http://dcs.wisc.edu/lsa/languages/.

Other courses do not fulfill this requirement unless specifically approved by the musicology faculty. 3

**Total Credits**

29-32

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1 These tracks are internal to the program and represent different pathways a student can follow to earn this degree. Track names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.
Other courses do not fulfill this requirement unless specifically approved by the music theory and musicology faculty.

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GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

POLICIES

PRIOR COURSEWORK

No more than 6 credits may be approved for graduate coursework taken at other institutions.

UW–Madison Undergraduate

The Graduate School allows departments to review requests to count up to 7 credits of undergraduate work at UW–Madison toward graduate program requirements, but this is rarely approved by the Mead Witter School of Music faculty.

UW–Madison University Special

Some students may have completed coursework at 300 level or above at UW–Madison as a Special Student; with program approval coursework so taken may be considered to fulfill up to 6 credits of graduate program requirements. However the Graduate School mandates that fees be paid in these cases.

PROBATION

M.A. students who fail to make satisfactory progress in any of the four following 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). For details see Satisfactory Progress for Master’s Students (http://uwspm.wpengine.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/MastersSatisfactoryProgress.pdf).

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

All programs provide for faculty from several disciplines to follow the student’s progress through the degree, provide mentorship along the way, and assess the student’s success in reaching expected learning outcomes. Committee structures differ among degrees and majors. The principal advisor for most graduate students in the Mead Witter School of Music is generally referred to as the major professor.

In M.A. and Ph.D. programs the advisor may not be the eventual thesis or dissertation advisor. In all programs the major professor is determined with the student’s particular interests in mind. The director of graduate studies is also an advisor for all graduate students in Mead Witter School
of Music programs. Students are expected to consult with the director of graduate studies at least once per semester to determine appropriate course plans. Consultation is mandatory in the semester before intended graduation.

Music students have a committee of three or more graduate faculty, including the major professor.

**CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED**

15 credits

**TIME CONSTRAINTS**

M.M. and M.A. students not receiving university funding are expected to complete requirements and pass comprehensive examinations within seven years from the time of enrollment in the program. While graduate students may enroll on a part-time basis, this time constraint still applies.

All M.M. and M.A. students holding teaching assistant, project assistant, or fellowship appointments must complete requirements for the degree within four semesters (not counting summer sessions or thesis credits). If the appointment is more than 33.4% the expectation is to complete requirements in the sixth semester.

**GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS**

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/)
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure)
- Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/)
  - Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/)
  - Dean of Students Office (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
  - Employee Assistance (http://www.eao.wisc.edu/) (for personal counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)
  - Employee Disability Resource Office (https://employeedisabilities.wisc.edu/) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
  - Graduate School (https://grad.wisc.edu/) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions)
  - Office of Compliance (https://compliance.wisc.edu/) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)
  - Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/) (for conflicts involving students)
  - Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty and staff)
  - Title IX (https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/) (for concerns about discrimination)

Students should contact the department chair or program director with questions about grievances.

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**OTHER**

n/a

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES**

Take advantage of the Graduate School’s professional development resources (https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Articulates and critiques the theories, research methods, and approaches to inquiry in music-related scholarship.
2. Identifies and employs a variety of sources and analytical approaches to inform discussion of topics in music.
3. Demonstrates knowledge of musical study in historical and cultural contexts.
4. Selects appropriate methodologies for research and discussion of musical topics.
5. Rationally evaluates and synthesizes information from both primary sources and secondary scholarship, posing original questions and offering fresh insight into musical topics.
6. Communicates clearly, both verbally and in writing, to colleagues in the field.
7. Recognizes and applies principles of ethical and professional conduct.

**PEOPLE**

**Faculty:** Professors Cook (director), Blasius, Calderón, Chisholm, Crook, DiSanza, Dill, Doing, Fischer, Fulmer, Hetzler, Hyer, Johnson, Karp, Koza, Leckrone, Perry, Rowe, Schaffer, Schwendinger, Stowe, Swack, B. Taylor, C. Taylor, Teeple, Thimmig, Vardi, Vallon; Associate Professors Dobbs, Grabois, Wallmann; Assistant Professors Altino, Lee, Ronis

The faculty of the Mead Witter School of Music is a distinguished group of educators, performing musicians, and active scholars. The backgrounds of performance faculty include rich experiences as professional musicians, researchers, recording artists, and entrepreneurs. Faculty in music education have particular insight into their field as a result of their backgrounds as school educators, performers, and scholars. In areas such as music theory and musicology, the musical community has high regard for the past and current contributions to the study of musical theory, historical perspectives on music, the role of music in societies around the world, and the unique contributions of American musicians. Teaching is a priority for the faculty, who are readily accessible to students for advice and support. Faculty, staff, and students cooperate in extraordinary ways with joint ventures that reach across disciplines both in research or instruction.

**ACCREDITATION**

**ACCREDITATION**

National Association of Schools of Music (https://nasm.accredit.org)
Accreditation status: Accredited. Next accreditation review: 2022–2023