

MUSIC: EDUCATION, BM

The Bachelor of Music: Education (BM) offers students the opportunity to become licensed music teachers in the State of Wisconsin. The degree is also a good comprehensive performance and music teaching degree that can be excellent preparation for teaching outside of the classroom, for graduate school, or for a career teaching at the college level.

This program offers two options: a specialty in Instrumental Music and a specialty in Choral Music. Regardless of chosen specialty, the BM degree requirements prepare students to teach in all areas of Music (K-12) instruction, including General Music. Upon completion of both the Bachelor of Music: Education and additional statutory and certification requirements, students may choose to apply for a Wisconsin teaching license in Music (K-12). Music Education is a program offered jointly by the School of Music and the School of Education. The Bachelor of Music: Education degree is conferred by the College of Letters & Science; teacher certification is earned through the School of Education.

The Bachelor of Music: Education curricula accomplish several important goals:

- Enable broad teaching certification for music instruction in Wisconsin's elementary and secondary schools, grades K through 12. Students may specialize in vocal or instrumental music, but all students successfully completing the program and additional certification requirements will qualify for certification in Music (K-12) in accordance with Wisconsin's PI 34 requirements as outlined by the Department of Public Instruction.
- Explore popular culture in music education. Graduates will be prepared to teach multiple forms of musical literacy, not just the traditional band, orchestra, and choral curriculum.
- Expand the number of musical styles studied in the curriculum. Students also participate in performance ensembles that reflect the diverse array of musical activities in today's schools.
- Offer an introductory music education class to sophomores prior to admission into the program.
- Provide instruction and experiences so that graduates can teach in culturally responsive ways.
- Increase performance collaboration between students in the instrumental and vocal options.
- Create an interdisciplinary program by including a core set of courses for all Bachelor of Music: Education students.
- Enable potential completion of the undergraduate degree in four years, including the final semester of student teaching.

Although these programs are designed with the goal of preparing teachers to work in K-12 schools, the programs also provide a good preparation for individuals seeking careers in continuing education or music education-related fields outside of the traditional K-12 teaching environment.

HOW TO GET IN

HOW TO GET IN

ADMISSION TO THE BACHELOR OF MUSIC: EDUCATION PROGRAM

To be admitted to the Mead Witter School of Music a student needs to apply to and be admitted by both UW-Madison and the Mead Witter School of Music:

- Prospective (new or transfer) and re-entry students should apply to UW-Madison through the Office of Admissions and Recruitment (<https://admissions.wisc.edu/>).
- All students must also complete an application and pass an audition. See the Mead Witter School of Music website (<https://music.wisc.edu/undergraduate-admissions/>) for more information. Questions about the Music application and audition process should be directed to the Music Undergraduate Audition and Admissions Coordinator (admissions@music.wisc.edu).

Note: Students declared in the Bachelor of Music: Education program are not eligible to declare Music: Performance, or the Music major. Students who are interested in pursuing a second major or certificate outside of music should meet with the Undergraduate Music Advisor to discuss their interests and ways of meeting their educational goals.

DECLARE THE MUSIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

Students admitted to UW-Madison and the Mead Witter School of Music will be declared in their music major or music degree program.

All students must make satisfactory progress, as described below, to continue in their major or degree program. Students not meeting these requirements should meet with the Undergraduate Music Advisor (ugradadvisor@music.wisc.edu) to discuss their options for continuing in the Mead Witter School of Music.

MUSIC EDUCATION CONTINUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must meet all of the requirements below to continue in the program. Students not meeting any one of these requirements may be removed from the program and must choose a new major. Contact the Undergraduate Music Advisor (ugradadvisor@music.wisc.edu) for consideration of extenuating circumstances or if the student is considering a leave of absence (such as family emergency, personal wellness, study abroad, or approved accommodations).

(1) Enrollment Requirements

- Enroll every fall and spring semester in courses that meet the Performance Study Requirements, until those requirements are completed.
- Enroll in MUSIC 121 & MUSIC 171 to begin the music theory/history sequence in the first possible fall semester after declaration.

(2) Performance Study Jury and Progress Report

At least once a year, students must pass a performance jury with their major instrument. The purpose of this jury will be to evaluate performance study progress and to set goals for the coming year. Students who do not pass will receive guidance about making improvements and a warning

letter and will have a semester to work with their professor to make improvements needed to remain in the program.

(3) Progression to 400-Level Performance Study

At the end of the fourth semester of enrollment in Performance Study, students will be evaluated for permission to advance to 400-level performance study. Students who do not meet progression requirements to advance to 400-level performance study may be given an additional semester to meet those requirements.

(4) Meet GPA Requirements in three areas:

As part of the Music Education application process, the School of Music requires students to be meeting the following GPA requirements:

- 2.750 overall cumulative GPA
- 3.000 cumulative GPA in all MUSIC and MUSIC PERFORMANCE courses
- 2.500 cumulative GPA in music theory (MUSIC 121, MUSIC 171, MUSIC 122, MUSIC 172, MUSIC 221, MUSIC 271, MUSIC 222, and MUSIC 272) and music history (MUSIC 211 and MUSIC 212)

(5) Music Education Teacher Education Program (METEP) Application, Audition, and Background Check

While enrolled in MUSIC/CURRIC 300, students declared in Music Education will be required to:

- Complete the METEP application
- Pass a music education audition
- Pass a criminal background check
- Meet the GPA Requirements outlined in (4) at the end of the semester of application
- Students must meet all of these requirements before enrolling in a course with field placement requirements (MUSIC/CURRIC 301, MUSIC/CURRIC 302, MUSIC/CURRIC 337, MUSIC/CURRIC 409 and MUSIC/CURRIC 410).

REQUIREMENTS

UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

All undergraduate students must complete both the following Core General Education (Core GenEd) and University Degree and Quality of Work requirements. The requirements below apply to students whose first term at UW-Madison or whose earliest post-high school college attendance at any institution is Summer 2026 or later.

Students whose first term at UW-Madison or whose earliest post-high school college attendance at any institution occurred before Summer 2026 should refer to the archived Guide (<https://guide.wisc.edu/archive/>) for the requirements that apply to them.

CORE GENERAL EDUCATION (CORE GENED) REQUIREMENTS

Civics & Perspectives 3 credits of Civics & Perspectives coursework.

Communication & Literacy 6 credits of Communication & Literacy coursework. This requirement may be partially satisfied by a qualifying placement test score. More information: <https://go.wisc.edu/qualifyingenglishplacement> (<https://go.wisc.edu/qualifyingenglishplacement/>)

Humanities & Arts 6 credits of Humanities & Arts coursework.

Mathematics & Quantitative Reasoning 6 credits of Mathematics & Quantitative Reasoning coursework. This requirement may be partially satisfied by a qualifying placement test score. More information: <https://go.wisc.edu/qualifyingmathplacement> (<https://go.wisc.edu/qualifyingmathplacement/>)

Natural Science & Wellness Complete both:

- 6 credits of Natural Science & Wellness or Natural Science & Wellness + Laboratory coursework.
- one course must be in Natural Science & Wellness + Laboratory coursework.

Social & Behavioral Science 3 credits of Social & Behavioral Science coursework.

Total Credits 30 credits.

For more information see the policy (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1095/>).

UNIVERSITY DEGREE AND QUALITY OF WORK REQUIREMENTS

All undergraduate degree recipients must complete the following minimum requirements. Requirements for some programs will exceed these requirements; see program requirements for additional information.

Total Degree 120 degree credits.

Residency Complete 30 credits in residence. A course is considered "in residence" if it is taken when in undergraduate degree-seeking status and:

- is offered by UW-Madison and completed on the UW-Madison campus or at an approved off-site location, or
- is offered by UW-Madison in an online or distance format, or is completed during participation in a UW-Madison study abroad/study away program.

Quality of Work Achieve at least the minimum grade point average specified by the school, college, and/or academic program.

Math Demonstrate minimal mathematics competence by:

- placing above MATH#160;96, or
- successfully completing MATH#160;96, or
- successfully completing a more advanced mathematics course such as MATH#160;112, MATH#160;113, MATH#160;114, MATH#160;141, MATH#160;211, or MATH#160;221.

English Language If required to take the UW-Madison English as a Second Language Assessment Test (MSN-ESLAT), demonstrate minimal English language competence by:

- earning credit for ESL#160;118, or
- achieving a qualifying MSN-ESLAT placement test score.

Language	Complete one: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 high school units of a single language other than English, or • one course with the second semester Language designation.
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Major Declaration	Declare and complete the requirements for at least one major.
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COLLEGE OF LETTERS & SCIENCE BREADTH AND DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: BACHELOR OF MUSIC (BM)

The Mead Witter School of Music (MWSOM) is a professional school within the College of Letters & Science (L&S). The College confers the Bachelor of Music (BM) degree for two distinct programs within the MWSOM: BM-Performance and BM-Education. The BM is a special degree program; it is not a major. The BM degree is not available to students who intend to earn a degree outside the College of Letters & Science.

Students pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree in the College of Letters & Science must complete all of the requirements below. Some courses satisfy more than one L&S degree requirement (visit College of Letters & Science: Requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/#requirements-text>) for details).

BACHELOR OF MUSIC - DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Communication	Complete both: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part A: one course with the Communication A designation or eligible UW Placement Score; and • Part B: one course with the Communication B designation
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Quantitative Reasoning	Complete both: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part A: one course with the Quantitative Reasoning A designation or eligible UW Placement Score; and • Part B: one course with the Quantitative Reasoning B designation
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Ethnic Studies	one 3+ credit course with the Ethnic Studies designation
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Language	Complete the second unit of one language other than English (some Named Options require additional or specific languages).
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Breadth in the Degree: Humanities	Complete 6 credits with the Humanities or Literature designation.
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Breadth in the Degree: Social Sciences	Complete 3 credits with the Social Science designation.
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Breadth in the Degree: Natural Sciences	Complete 4 to 6 credits with the Natural Science, Biological Science, or Physical Science designation, consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one 4- or 5-credit course with a laboratory component; or • two courses providing a total of 6 credits.
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Depth of Intermediate/Advanced Coursework	at least 60 credits at the Intermediate or Advanced level
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Major	Gain admission to and complete one option within the degree program.
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Total Credits	at least 120 credits
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UW-Madison Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 credits in residence, overall; and • 30 credits in residence after the 86th credit
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Quality of Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.000 in all coursework at UW-Madison • 2.000 in Intermediate/Advanced level coursework at UW-Madison
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REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROGRAM

The Bachelor of Music: Education program includes core requirements common to both options within the program, as well as specific requirements unique to each option. Requirements common to both options are detailed below. Refer to the Named Options section below for links to the specific requirements of a particular option within the program.

REQUIREMENTS FOR BOTH MUSIC EDUCATION PROGRAM OPTIONS

All students in the Bachelor of Music: Education program must complete the following requirements:

Code	Title	Credits
Music		
<i>Music Theory/Aural Skills</i>		
Complete eight courses and 16 credits from:		16
MUSIC 121 & MUSIC 171	Musica Practica 1 and Musica Practica: Aural Skills 1	
MUSIC 122 & MUSIC 172	Musica Practica 2 and Musica Practica: Aural Skills 2	
MUSIC 221 & MUSIC 271	Musica Practica 3 and Musica Practica: Aural Skills 3	
MUSIC 222 & MUSIC 272	Musica Practica 4 and Musica Practica: Aural Skills 4	
<i>Music History</i>		
Complete two courses from:		6
MUSIC 211	Survey of the History of Western Music	
MUSIC 212	Survey of the History of Western Music	
<i>Cultural Breadth Ensemble</i>		
Complete two courses from:		2

MUSIC 260	Global Hand Drumming Ensemble: Survey of Selected Global Hand Drumming Traditions	
MUSIC 262	Jazz Ensemble	
MUSIC 266	Resistance Music Ensemble	

Keyboard Skills

Complete at least 4 credits from:		4
MUS PERF 103	Elementary Class Piano	
MUS PERF 104	Intermediate Class Piano	

All students must pass MUS PERF 104 keyboard proficiency. Extra credits earned in reaching proficiency will count as music electives.

Jazz

Complete at least 2 credits from:		2
MUS PERF 108	Jazz Class Piano	
or MUSIC 331	Jazz Improvisation	

Global Music Cultures

Complete at least 3 credits from:		3
MUSIC 102	Jazz in 20th-Century America	
MUSIC/ FOLKLORE 103	Introduction to Music Cultures of the World	
MUSIC 202	Delta Blues	
MUSIC 203	American Ethnicities and Popular Song	
MUSIC 260	Global Hand Drumming Ensemble: Survey of Selected Global Hand Drumming Traditions	
MUSIC 262	Jazz Ensemble	
MUSIC 266	Resistance Music Ensemble	
MUSIC 268	Ensemble-Percussion	
MUSIC/ AFROAMER/ DANCE 318	Cultural Cross Currents: West African Dance/Music in the Americas	
MUSIC 319	Topics in Music and Ethnicity in the United States	
MUSIC 331	Jazz Improvisation	
MUSIC 332	Jazz Improvisation	
MUSIC 405	Seminar: Cultural Study of Music	
AFRICAN/ AFROAMER 233	Global HipHop and Social Justice	
AFROAMER 154	Hip-Hop and Contemporary American Society	
AFROAMER 156	Black Music and American Cultural History	
ANTHRO 340	Music, Race, And Culture in Brazil	
GERMAN 267	Yiddish Song and the Jewish Experience	
JEWISH/ HISTORY 213	Jews and American Pop. Culture	
LITTRANS 233	Russian Life and Culture Through Literature and Art (to 1917)	
LITTRANS 234	Soviet Life and Culture Through Literature and Art (from 1917)	

Conducting

Complete at least 4 credits from:		4
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MUSIC 253	Conducting	
MUSIC 254	Conducting	

Music Education*Composition, Arrangement, & Orchestration for the Music Teacher*

Complete one course from:		2
MUSIC/ CURRIC 304	Composition, Arrangement, and Orchestration for the Music Teacher	

Teaching Popular Music

Complete two courses from:		2
MUSIC/ CURRIC 420	Teaching Popular Instrumental Music 1	
MUSIC/ CURRIC 421	Teaching Popular Instrumental Music 2	

Music Education Professional Sequence

Complete five courses from:		8
MUSIC/ CURRIC 300	Principles of Music Education	
MUSIC/ CURRIC 301 & MUSIC/ CURRIC 337	Music Learning and Teaching 1 and Practicum in Teaching Music	
MUSIC/ CURRIC 302 & MUSIC/ CURRIC 337	Music Learning and Teaching 2 and Practicum in Teaching Music	

Education*Human Development*

Complete one course from:		3
ED PSYCH 320	Human Development in Infancy and Childhood	
or ED PSYCH 320	Human Development in Adolescence	

Learning

Complete one course from:		3
ED PSYCH 301	How People Learn	

Foundations of the Profession

Complete one course from:		3
ED POL 300	School and Society	
or ED POL/ HISTORY 412	History of American Education	

Special Education

Complete one course from:		3
RP & SE/ CURRIC 506	Strategies for Inclusive Schooling	

Literacy

Complete one course from:		3
CURRIC 305	Integrating the Teaching of Reading with Other Language Arts	

Total Credits**64****ELECTIVES FOR THE DEGREE TO REACH 120 CREDITS**

In addition to the requirements for the program, students need to earn additional free elective credit to total 120 credits to graduate.

FURTHER DETAILS ON CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to completing the requirements for the BM: Music Education program, students must also complete the statutory and certification requirements established by PI 34's Administrative Code and enacted by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI). **Completing the requirements for the BM: Music Education degree alone is not sufficient to obtain a music education license in the state of Wisconsin.** For more information see Certification/Licensure page.

NAMED OPTIONS

View as listView as grid

- **MUSIC: EDUCATION: CHORAL/GENERAL, BM** ([HTTPS://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/UNDERGRADUATE/LETTERS-SCIENCE/MUSIC/MUSIC-EDUCATION-BM/MUSIC-EDUCATION-CHORAL-GENERAL-BM/](https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/music/music-education-bm/music-education-choral-general-bm/))
- **MUSIC: EDUCATION: INSTRUMENTAL/GENERAL, BM** ([HTTPS://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/UNDERGRADUATE/LETTERS-SCIENCE/MUSIC/MUSIC-EDUCATION-BM/MUSIC-EDUCATION-INSTRUMENTAL-GENERAL-BM/](https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/music/music-education-bm/music-education-instrumental-general-bm/))

CHOOSING A MUSIC EDUCATION OPTION

The music education major consists of two main options, both leading to certification at both the elementary and secondary levels. Students choose to complete the certification option in either *General and Instrumental Music* or *General and Choral Music*. The Bachelor of Music: Education degree requires a minimum of 120 credits. The Undergraduate Advisor, supported by the music education faculty, can advise you on which option is most suited to your goals. Information on how to apply to the Music Education program can be found under the "How to Get In" tab.

RESIDENCE & QUALITY OF WORK

- Minimum 2.000 GPA in all MUSIC, MUS PERF, and program courses
- Minimum 2.000 GPA on at least 15 credits of upper-level work in the program, in residence
- 15 credits in MUSIC and/or MUS PERF, taken on the UW-Madison campus

UPPER-LEVEL COURSES

The following courses are approved for upper-level credit in both options of the Bachelor of Music: Education program:

Music Code	Title	Credits
MUSIC 40	Wind Ensemble	1
MUSIC 41	Concert Band	1
MUSIC 50	Concert Choir	1
MUSIC 52	Treble Choir	1
MUSIC 53	Choral Union	1

MUSIC 55	Masters' Singers	1
MUSIC 56	Chorale	1
MUSIC 58	Madrigal Singers	1
MUSIC 62	University Symphony Orchestra	1
MUSIC 211	Survey of the History of Western Music	3
MUSIC 212	Survey of the History of Western Music	3
MUSIC 221	Musica Practica 3	3
MUSIC 222	Musica Practica 4	3
MUSIC 229	Jazz Theory & Composition	3
MUSIC 252	Introduction to Conducting and Pedagogy	2
MUSIC 253	Conducting	2
MUSIC 254	Conducting	2
MUSIC 256	University Opera	1-2
MUSIC 257	Opera Workshop	2
MUSIC 262	Jazz Ensemble	1
MUSIC 265	Ensemble-Woodwind	1
MUSIC 266	Resistance Music Ensemble	1
MUSIC 267	Ensemble-Brass	1
MUSIC 268	Ensemble-Percussion	1
MUSIC 269	Ensemble-String	1
MUSIC 270	Ensemble-Guitar	1
MUSIC 271	Musica Practica: Aural Skills 3	1
MUSIC 272	Musica Practica: Aural Skills 4	1
MUSIC/CURRIC 301	Music Learning and Teaching 1	2
MUSIC/CURRIC 304	Composition, Arrangement, and Orchestration for the Music Teacher	2
MUSIC 317	Musical Women in Europe and America: Creativity, Performance, and Identity	3
MUSIC/AFROAMER/DANCE 318	Cultural Cross Currents: West African Dance/Music in the Americas	3
MUSIC 319	Topics in Music and Ethnicity in the United States	3
MUSIC 331	Jazz Improvisation	3
MUSIC 332	Jazz Improvisation	3
MUSIC/CURRIC 337	Practicum in Teaching Music	1
MUSIC 340	Pedagogy	1-2
MUSIC 346	Repertoire	1-2
MUSIC 405	Seminar: Cultural Study of Music	3
MUSIC/CURRIC 409	Student Teaching in General and Vocal Music	6-12
MUSIC/CURRIC 410	Student Teaching in General and Instrumental Music	6-12
MUSIC 411	Survey of Music in the Middle Ages	3
MUSIC 412	Survey of Music in the Renaissance	3
MUSIC 413	Survey of Music in the Baroque Era	3
MUSIC 414	Survey of Music in the Classic Era	3
MUSIC 415	Survey of Music in the Romantic Era	3
MUSIC 416	Survey of Music in the Twentieth Century	3

MUSIC 417	Jazz Histories	3
MUSIC 419	Music in the United States	3
MUSIC/CURRIC 420	Teaching Popular Instrumental Music 1	1
MUSIC/CURRIC 421	Teaching Popular Instrumental Music 2	1
MUSIC 461	Collegium Musicum	1
MUSIC 463	Acting for Singers	1
MUSIC 465	Marching Band Techniques	1
MUSIC 466	Diction for Singers	2
MUSIC 467	Language Diction for Singing I	2
MUSIC 468	Language Diction for Singing II	2
MUSIC 497	Special Topics in Music	1-3
MUSIC 499	Directed Study	1-3
MUSIC 502	Figured Bass and Basso Continuo	3
MUSIC 511	Historical Performance Practices	3
MUSIC 513	Survey of Opera	3
MUSIC/ FOLKLORE 515	Proseminar in Ethnomusicology	3
MUSIC 523	Orchestration I	3
MUSIC 540	Advanced Pedagogy	2
MUSIC 541	Seminar in Choral Literature	2
MUSIC 546	String Literature	2
MUSIC 621	Renaissance Polyphony	3
MUSIC 622	Baroque Counterpoint	3
MUSIC 623	Form and Analysis	2-3
MUSIC 624	Form and Analysis II	2-3
MUSIC 629	Jazz Theory and Analysis	3
MUSIC 681	Senior Honors Thesis	3
MUSIC 682	Senior Honors Thesis	3

Music Performance

Code	Title	Credits
MUS PERF 339	Advanced Techniques: Harp	1-2
MUS PERF 342	Piano Accompanying Lab	1
MUS PERF 347	Third Year Composition	3
MUS PERF 348	Third Year Composition	3
MUS PERF 401	Advanced Piano	2-4
MUS PERF 402	Advanced Harpsichord	2-4
MUS PERF 405	Advanced Voice	2-4
MUS PERF 407	Advanced Flute	2-4
MUS PERF 409	Advanced Oboe	2-4
MUS PERF 411	Advanced Clarinet	2-4
MUS PERF 413	Advanced Saxophone	2-4
MUS PERF 415	Advanced Bassoon	2-4
MUS PERF 417	Advanced Horn	2-4
MUS PERF 419	Advanced Trumpet	2-4
MUS PERF 421	Advanced Trombone	2-4
MUS PERF 423	Advanced Euphonium	2-4
MUS PERF 425	Advanced Tuba	2-4
MUS PERF 427	Advanced Percussion	2-4
MUS PERF 431	Advanced Violin	2-4
MUS PERF 433	Advanced Viola	2-4

MUS PERF 435	Advanced Cello	2-4
MUS PERF 437	Advanced Double Bass	2-4
MUS PERF 439	Advanced Harp	2-4
MUS PERF 440	Advanced Guitar	2-4
MUS PERF 441	Advanced Jazz Studio Instruction	2-4
MUS PERF 447	Fourth Year Composition	3
MUS PERF 448	Fourth Year Composition	3
MUS PERF 457	Jazz Composition and Arranging	3
MUS PERF 499	Senior Recital	2

LEARNING OUTCOMES

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Demonstrate proficiency in foundational concepts of Pre-K-12 music education: planning, delivering, and assessing music learning experiences to a diverse population of learners.
2. Demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge in music learning and teaching to bring novel, musical perspectives and solutions to challenging social, musical, and technological challenges in Pre-K-12 music settings.
3. Demonstrate the ability to think critically, musically, and creatively as a music educator to synthesize, analyze, and integrate ideas for decision-making and problem-solving in the best interest of a diverse student population.
4. Demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively with multiple and diverse constituencies (students, parents, colleagues, community) to share knowledge, values, and beliefs regarding music learning and teaching.
5. Develop and demonstrate the professionalism required as a music educator in the field of music education: acting ethically, allowing space for diverse views, recognizing and reducing bias in one's own thinking, and contributing to the profession as a whole.

FOUR-YEAR PLAN

FOUR-YEAR PLAN

Each of the options in the Music: Education, BM has its own four-year plan. Click each option to see its four year plan.

- Music: Education: Choral/General, BM (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/music/music-education-bm/music-education-choral-general-bm/#fouryearplantext>)
- Music: Education: Instrumental/General, BM (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/music/music-education-bm/music-education-instrumental-general-bm/#fouryearplantext>)

ADVISING AND CAREERS

ADVISING AND CAREERS ADVISING RESOURCES

All current UW–Madison undergraduate students majoring or interested in majoring in Music are welcome to schedule an advising appointment with the music advisor. Advising appointments can be scheduled using

Starfish. (<https://wisc.starfishsolutions.com/starfish-ops/dl/instructor/serviceCatalog.html?bookmark=service/79179/schedule>)

Questions from current and prospective Music students, or students interested in music classes or ensembles may also be email to the School of Music Undergraduate Advisor at ugradadvisor@music.wisc.edu

The Mead Witter School of Music recommends that Music students meet with their music advisor regularly to discuss their academic plans. School of Music Programs can be highly sequential and include required courses that are offered only one a year or once every other year. Students considering studying abroad are also recommended to meet with their music advisor early to determine the best way of fitting their experience abroad into their graduation plans.

ARE YOU A PROSPECTIVE MUSIC STUDENT?

The Mead Witter School of Music offers the opportunity to audition several times a year. Check out the School of Music website (<https://music.wisc.edu/undergraduate-admissions/>) for more information about audition information. Prospective music majors are welcome to reach out to the Undergraduate Admissions Coordinator with an questions at: admissions@music.wisc.edu

CAREER RESOURCES

A Music major or degree can offer students many opportunities for careers in music industry and music education, as well as provide valuable skills that can be applied to any career path.

The Mills Music Library (https://researchguides.library.wisc.edu/music_career_resources/) has resources to help musicians with their career search.

There are many campus resources to help students explore, plan for, and start their careers. Students who are undecided about their major plans and career can visit the Career Exploration Center. (<https://cec.wisc.edu/>) SuccessWorks at the College of Letters & Science (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/>) offers Music students a wealth of resources to explore career options, build experience, prepare for the job market, and to find a job, internship, or graduate school opportunities. Music majors should be sure to explore the Communications, Media, & the Arts career cluster (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/what-are-career-communities/communications-media-and-the-arts/>) including signing up for their newsletter.

MUSIC EDUCATION CAREER RESOURCES

Music Education majors are also encouraged to work with the Mary T. Kellner Teacher Education Center (<https://tec.education.wisc.edu/>) for their licensure process and with the Career Center at the School of Education (<https://careercenter.education.wisc.edu/>) to assist with their job search.

STUDY ABROAD

Learning in Letters & Science emphasizes discovery, growth, understanding different perspectives, and challenging yourself, which makes studying abroad an excellent fit for many L&S students: studyabroad.wisc.edu (<https://studyabroad.wisc.edu/>)

As a university with global influence, we have more than 300 study abroad programs (<https://studyabroad.wisc.edu/programs/>) in over 80 countries. These vary in length, academic focus, teaching format, language requirements, cost, and level of independence. There are many programs to complement every major (<https://studyabroad.wisc.edu/academics/major-advising-pages-maps/#L&S>) and any year of college

(including the final semester)—and all meet UW–Madison’s high academic standards. Students admitted into Letters & Science can even choose a short program in the summer before they start college or their whole first year: studyabroad.wisc.edu/launch (<http://studyabroad.wisc.edu/launch/>). Talk with your academic advisor about how studying abroad might fit with your academic plan.

SUCCESSWORKS

SuccessWorks (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/>) at the College of Letters & Science helps you turn the academic skills learned in your classes into a fulfilling life, guiding you every step of the way to securing jobs, internships, or admission to graduate school.

Through one-on-one career advising, events, and resources, you can explore career options, build valuable internship and research experience, and connect with supportive alumni and employers who open doors of opportunity.

- What you can do with your major (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/what-you-can-do-with-your-major/>) (Major Skills & Outcomes Sheets)
- Make a career advising appointment (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/>)
- Learn about internships and internship funding (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/finding-a-job-or-internship/>)
- Try “Jobs, Internships, & How to Get Them,” (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/canvas/>) an interactive guide in Canvas for enrolled UW–Madison students

CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE

CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND APPLYING FOR A LICENSE

In addition to completing UW–Madison’s program requirements, students must also complete Wisconsin statutory requirements and certification requirements established by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI). For additional certification requirements and information about applying for a license, see Teacher Education Center (<https://tec.education.wisc.edu/>).

Some specific expectations for teaching licensure must be met while taking coursework.

- Multicultural Education and Human Relations: 52 hours of field experience are satisfied for music education students who successfully complete the required two semesters of CURRIC/MUSIC 337 Practicum in Teaching Music.
- Conflict Resolution: Discussions related to conflict resolution are embedded across the CURRIC/MUSIC 300 Principles of Music Education, MUSIC/CURRIC 301 Music Learning and Teaching 1, and MUSIC/CURRIC 302 Music Learning and Teaching 2 in addition to many of the CURRIC, ED PSYCH, and ED POLICY courses.
- American Indian Studies and Education (Wis. Act 31): There are a variety of ways to earn certification. Consult with the MWSOM undergraduate advisor.
- Teacher Performance Assessment conducted by METEP faculty during student teaching semester.

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) requires higher GPAs for licensure. Students who meet the GPA requirements for the BM: Music Education and not the GPA requirements for licensure will need to work with the Undergraduate Music Advisor, the Music Education Faculty, and the Teacher Education Center to complete alternative work. Requirements for licensure are as follows:

- 3.000 cumulative GPA in all MUSIC and MUSIC PERFORMANCE coursework
- 2.750 cumulative GPA in all UW-Madison coursework

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE DISCLOSURE (NC-SARA)

The United States Department of Education (via 34 CFR Part 668 (<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-34/subtitle-B/chapter-VI/part-668/?toc=1>)) requires institutions that provide distance education to disclose information for programs leading to professional certification or licensure. The expectation is that institutions will determine whether each applicable academic program meets state professional licensure requirements and provide a general disclosure of such on an official university website.

Professional licensure requirements vary from state-to-state and can change year-to-year; they are established in a variety of state statutes, regulations, rules, and policies; and they center on a range of educational requirements, including degree type, specialized accreditation, total credits, specific courses, and examinations.

UW-Madison has taken reasonable efforts to determine whether this program satisfies the educational requirements for certification/licensure in states where prospective and enrolled students are located and is disclosing that information as follows.

Disclaimer: This information is based on the most recent annual review of state agency certification/licensure data and is subject to change. All students are strongly encouraged to consult with the individual/office listed in the Contact Information box on this page and with the applicable state agency for specific information.

The requirements of this program meet certification/licensure requirements in the following states:

Wisconsin

The requirements of this program do not meet certification/licensure requirements in the following states:

Not applicable

For more information about teacher licensure in Wisconsin and other states please see the Teacher Education Center's website (<https://tec.education.wisc.edu/current-students/applying-for-your-wisconsin-license/>).

Updated: 1 June 2026

ACCREDITATION

ACCREDITATION

The University of Wisconsin-Madison is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music (<https://nasm.arts-accredit.org/>) (NASM) since 1966.

Accreditation status: Accredited. Next accreditation review: 2032-2033