

MUSIC PERFORMANCE (MM)

Master of Music in Music Performance

Unit: School of Music (<https://louisville.edu/music/>) (GU)

Program Website (<https://louisville.edu/music/academics/areas-of-study/instrumental-vocal-performance/>)

Academic Plan Code(s): See Concentration Requirements tab.

Program Information

The School of Music offers training toward two specific graduate degrees in music: Master of Music (MM) requiring a minimum of 36 credit hours of graduate credit, and Master of Music Education (MME) requiring 30 credit hours. All programs require a minimum of 24 credit hours of residence at the University of Louisville. Major subjects in the Master of Music curriculum are music performance with concentrations in choral, wind, or orchestral conducting; instrumental, piano, or vocal performance; jazz performance or jazz composition and arranging; piano, string, or wind band pedagogy; music history; music theory; and music composition. The Master of Music Education program allows an applied music minor in an instrument, voice, or conducting. Each degree program has specific prerequisites, entrance requirements, and programmatic expectations that are described in the relevant section of the catalog.

The Department of Performance Studies is dedicated to the development of the musical and technical abilities of the music student through classical performance training on the individual performance instruments. The department offers training in voice and in the brass, wind, percussion, string and keyboard instruments, as well as conducting. The lessons are presented in a one-on-one, nurturing environment. The faculty members are all active performers. A student's mastery of a major performance instrument is an extremely important component of advanced musical training, and opportunities for performance experience are provided through various venues. The faculty also coach chamber music and teach courses regarding the literature for and pedagogy of their various instruments.

General Information Regarding Academic Policies

1. Detailed curricular and program offerings, including specific requirements and provisions for degree programs, are published in the university catalog. Students will be provided with copies of the "Handbook for Graduate Studies in Music," the "Guidelines for Preparation for the Graduate Music History Entrance Examination," and "Guidelines for Preparation for the Graduate Music Theory Entrance Examination." These documents are also available on the School of Music website (<https://louisville.edu/music/resources/current-students/>).
2. Students will be required to address any deficiencies revealed by entrance examinations in courses taken within the first two semesters of study. Credit toward the degree is not granted for review coursework.
3. All students are required to complete Bibliography and Research Methods (MUS 607) by the end of the second semester of study (part-time students by the completion of 15 credit hours of graduate study). Upon satisfactory completion of requirements stated in Handbook sections B.2 and B.3, students will be considered in good standing.
4. Students will complete a project appropriate to the field of study as defined by the faculty of their program. The completion of this project (public recital, thesis, professional paper) normally takes place in the last semester of graduate study. Preparation and presentation of a recital must follow the guidelines in the "Handbook for Graduate Studies in Music" and the preparation of a thesis must follow the "Guidelines for the Preparation and Processing of Theses" (<https://louisville.edu/graduate/current-students/thesis-dissertation-information/thesis-dissertation-information/>) issued by the Graduate School. The preparation of a thesis in music composition must also follow the "School of Music Thesis Formatting Guidelines for MM in Composition" (<http://louisville.edu/music/academics/areas-of-study/music-composition/documents/ULCompThesisGuidelines.pdf>).
5. In order to graduate, a student must be in good standing with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0. No more than six (6) credit hours with any C or C+ grade will be accepted toward a degree, and no grade below a B-minus will be accepted for a course in the student's major subject area. Hours earned beyond the minimum in any curricular areas apply only to that area and cannot be assigned to another area in order to satisfy required credit. At least one-half of the total credit hours in graduate courses must be at the 600 level. Any exceptions to the program of study must be approved by the Graduate Studies Committee. A student whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.0, or who fails to satisfy the published performance criteria, will be placed on probation. Students are ordinarily not permitted to continue on probation for more than one semester.
6. When all coursework and projects have been satisfactorily completed, the student becomes a candidate for the degree and is approved to take the graduate oral examination. A candidate who fails the oral examination at the end of one semester may not be given a second one before the end of the following semester. A candidate who fails the second oral examination will not be granted the degree of MM or MME from the University of Louisville.
7. Upon request, a maximum of six (6) credit hours of earned graduate credit with a minimum grade of B may be transferred from accredited institutions that offer advanced degrees. Credit for applied music will not be transferred, but advanced standing may be awarded at a jury. Ensemble credits appropriate to the student's degree program may be considered for transfer, but not to exceed one (1) credit hour per semester. Music history and music theory credits will be evaluated for transfer by the Director of Graduate Studies and the respective faculty. Transfer of more than six (6) credit hours may be requested provided that they are not earned by extension, or as thesis or practicum hours, and that the residency requirement of 24 credit hours is maintained by the addition of University of Louisville credits to the total program. Transfer of graduate hours within the University of Louisville toward a graduate degree in music may be requested provided that the minimum residence requirement of 24 credit hours is maintained.
8. Students receiving a graduate assistantship (teaching, research, or service) will be provided with adequate training and will be required to adhere to university policies. Performance of duties in research and service by graduate assistants will be periodically evaluated. Students with teaching assistantships will be evaluated each semester.
9. Part-time students (with the exception of those in the MME degree program) must participate in one ensemble for every 18 credit hours of completed coursework. If part-time study precludes completing ensemble degree requirements, other coursework may be substituted.

Admission Requirements

1. Applications for admission to a graduate program require the following:

- a. A completed graduate application (<http://louisville.edu/graduate/futurestudents/apply-materials/application/>);
 - b. An application fee;
 - c. Official transcripts for all previous post-secondary course work (all transcripts not in English must be certified as authentic and translated verbatim into English); and
 - d. At least two letters of recommendation.
2. Applications to specific degree programs require evidence of preparation for advanced study as follows:
 - a. In performance, an acceptable audition;
 - b. In academic specializations (music composition, music history, music theory), a portfolio of work appropriate to the field of study; and
 - c. In music education, evidence of classroom teaching experience.
 3. Applicants whose primary language is not English must show English language proficiency in one of the following ways:
 - a. A minimum TOEFL examination score of 213 on the computer-based test, or 79-80 on the internet-based test; IELTS scores of at least 6.5 overall band score from the academic module exam or official Duolingo overall score of 105.
 - b. Documentation of the award of a degree from a recognized English language institution.
 4. Applicants must possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution in the area to be pursued in advanced studies, or they must present evidence of equivalent preparation.
 5. Applicants must have a minimum cumulative undergraduate grade point average of 2.75 on a 4-point scale.

Applicants who meet the requirements listed in items 1-5 will be considered for conditional admission for graduate study at the School of Music. For additional entrance requirements specific to the degree of interest, see below.

Entrance examinations in music history, theory and, if appropriate, jazz, will be administered before the first term of study. The School of Music provides guidelines to assist in preparing for the entrance examinations.

Any exception to the above expectations will be evaluated individually and will require a statement indicating criteria to be met in a specified time frame with provisions for monitoring progress and performance. Justification must be provided in writing and must be accepted by the faculty of the student's proposed program, the Director of Graduate Studies, and the Dean of the School of Music.

Students who fail to meet performance standards or who do not meet other requirements as outlined in the letter of admission, program of study, or the catalog of the University of Louisville are subject to dismissal from their programs.

Program Requirements

Coursework

Code	Title	Hours
Core Curriculum Courses		
MUS 500	Music History Review ¹	0
MUS 400	Theory Review ¹	0
MUS 600	Graduate Oral Exam Preparation	0
MUS 607	Bibliography and Research Methods	3
Music History Seminar (500 or 600 level)		3
Music Theory (500 or 600 level) ²		4

Applied Study (600 level) ³	8
Concentration Coursework (see Concentration Requirements tab)	18
MUSA 697 Graduate Recital	0
Minimum Total Hours	36

Other Requirements

All students must pass an oral examination after all course work is completed.

- ¹ These courses may be satisfied by passing the entrance examinations in these areas.
- ² For students in the Concentration in Jazz, Advanced Jazz Theory (MUS 539) is recommended. For students in the Concentration in Jazz Composition and Arranging, MUS 654 is required and Advanced Jazz Theory (MUS 539) is recommended.
- ³ The applied course numbers for the degree concentrations are as follows: Choral Conducting: MUSA 601, MUSA 602, MUS 659, MUS 660. (Students may substitute additional semesters of MUS 659 and MUS 660 for MUSA 601 and MUSA 602 at the discretion of the Director of Choral Activities). Orchestral/Wind Conducting/ Wind Band Pedagogy/Piano Pedagogy/String Pedagogy: MUSA 601, MUSA 602, MUSA 611, MUSA 612. Jazz Performance: MUSA 605, MUSA 606, MUSA 615, MUSA 616. Students enrolled for applied jazz composition and arranging may not also get credit for MUS 656 or MUS 657. Instrumental/Organ/Piano/Vocal Performance: MUSA 603, MUSA 604.
- ⁴ Taken concurrently with final semester of applied study. Performance and pedagogy degree recitals are expected to show a performer's musical maturity and versatility. A degree recital program must be approved by the student's applied instructor. Minimum recital lengths will be determined by the appropriate area faculty and indicated on all applied syllabi.

Concentration Requirements

Concentration in Choral Conducting

Academic Plan Code(s): MUSIMM_CCN

Code	Title	Hours
MUSA 611	Applied Music ¹	2
MUS 530	Choral Literature I	2
MUS 531	Choral Literature II	2
MUS 559	Instrumental Conducting and Score Reading	2
Ensemble (one per semester)		4
Music Electives ²		6
Minimum Total Hours		18

Concentration in Orchestral Conducting

Academic Plan Code(s): MUSIMM_OCN

Code	Title	Hours
MUS 659	Seminar in Conducting I (Instrumental)	2
MUS 660	Seminar in Conducting II (Instrumental)	2
MUS 659	Seminar in Conducting I (Choral) ³	2
MUS 660	Seminar in Conducting II (Choral) ³	2
MUS 686	Orchestral Literature I	2

MUS 687	Orchestral Literature II	2
Ensemble (two semesters of major ensemble)		2
Music Electives ⁴		4
Minimum Total Hours		18

MUS 561	Literature (Band Literature)	2
Ensemble (one per semester)		4
Music Electives ⁸		6
Minimum Total Hours		18

Concentration in String Pedagogy

Academic Plan Code(s): MUSIMM_STP

Code	Title	Hours
MUS 538	Studies in Pedagogy (MUS 538-06 String Pedagogy)	1
MUS 538	Studies in Pedagogy (Instrument Specific)	1
MUS 678	Advanced Pedagogy (Instrument Specific)	2
MUS 677	Business Aspects of String Studio Teaching	2
MUS 563	Literature (MUS 563-02 String Literature)	1
MUS 563	Literature (Instrument Specific)	1
Major or Minor Ensemble ⁵		4
Music Electives ⁶		6
Minimum Total Hours		18

Concentration in Instrumental Music

Academic Plan Code(s): MUSIMM_INS

Code	Title	Hours
MUSA 613	Applied Music	4
MUSA 614	Applied Music	4
Ensemble ⁵		4
Music Electives ⁹		6
Minimum Total Hours		18

Other Requirements

Students are expected to present a public recital that comprises no less than sixty minutes of music and follows the guidelines governing public recitals.

Concentration in Wind Band Pedagogy

Academic Plan Code(s): MUSIMM_WBP

Code	Title	Hours
MUS 659	Seminar in Conducting I (Instrumental)	2
MUS 660	Seminar in Conducting II (Instrumental)	2
MUS 559	Instrumental Conducting and Score Reading	2
MUS 561	Literature (Band Literature)	2
MUS 663	Graduate Band Pedagogy and Educational Wind Band Literature	2
Select one of the following sequences:		2
Sequence One:		
MUSA 533	Functional Study	
& MUSA 534	Functional Study	
Sequence Two:		
MUSA 521	Secondary Applied Study	
& MUSA 522	Secondary Applied Study	
Major Ensemble (one per semester)		4
Music Electives ⁷		2
Minimum Total Hours		18

Concentration in Jazz Performance

Academic Plan Code(s): MUSIMM_JAZ

Code	Title	Hours
MUS 532	Jazz Style & Analysis	2
MUS 540	Standard Jazz Repertoire	2
MUS 655	Advanced Jazz Improvisation	2
Jazz Combo (one per semester)		2
Jazz Ensemble or Jazz Repertory Ensemble (one per semester) ¹⁰		4
Music Electives ¹¹		6
Minimum Total Hours		18

Concentration in Jazz Composition and Arranging

Academic Plan Code(s): MUSIMM_JAR

Code	Title	Hours
MUS 532	Jazz Style & Analysis	2
MUS 540	Standard Jazz Repertoire	2
MUS 655	Advanced Jazz Improvisation	2
Jazz Combo (one per semester)		2
Jazz Ensemble or Jazz Repertory Ensemble (one per sem) ¹⁰		4
Music Electives ¹¹		6
Minimum Total Hours		18

Concentration in Wind Conducting

Academic Plan Code(s): MUSIMM_WCN

Code	Title	Hours
MUS 659	Seminar in Conducting I (either Instrumental or Choral as per advising)	2
MUS 660	Seminar in Conducting II (either Instrumental or Choral as per advising)	2
MUS 559	Instrumental Conducting and Score Reading	2

Concentration in Organ Performance

Academic Plan Code(s): MUSIMM_ORG

Code	Title	Hours
MUSA 613	Applied Music	4
MUSA 614	Applied Music	4
Ensemble		2
Major Subject and Music Electives ¹²		8
Minimum Total Hours		18

Concentration in Piano Pedagogy

Academic Plan Code(s): MUSIMM_PDG

Code	Title	Hours
MUS 671	Advanced Piano Pedagogy I	2
MUS 672	Advanced Piano Pedagogy II	2
MUS 673	Advanced Piano Pedagogy III	2
MUS 674	Advanced Piano Pedagogy IV	2
MUS 561	Literature (Piano Literature I)	2
MUS 562	Literature (Piano Literature II)	2
Ensemble ¹³		2
Music Electives ¹⁴		4
Minimum Total Hours		18

Other Requirements

Students are required to present a sixty minute lecture-demonstration recital that focuses on pedagogical aspects of selected works, includes a minimum of thirty minutes of memorized solo repertoire, and follows the guidelines governing public recitals.

Concentration in Piano Performance

Academic Plan Code(s): MUSIMM_PNO

Code	Title	Hours
MUSA 613	Applied Music	4
MUSA 614	Applied Music	4
MUS 561	Literature (Piano Literature I)	2
MUS 562	Literature (Piano Literature II)	2
Piano Pedagogy (500 or 600 level)		2
Ensemble ¹³		2
Music Electives ¹⁴		2
Minimum Total Hours		18

Other Requirements

Students are expected to present a public recital that comprises no less than sixty minutes of music and follows the guidelines governing public recitals.

Concentration in Vocal Performance

Academic Plan Code(s): MUSIMM_VOX

Code	Title	Hours
MUSA 613	Applied Music	4
MUSA 614	Applied Music	4

Select two of the following: 4

MUS 561	Literature (Vocal Literature I)	
MUS 562	Literature (Vocal Literature II)	
MUS 661	Literature (Graduate Vocal Literature I)	
MUS 662	Literature (Graduate Vocal Literature II)	
MUS 640	Advanced Vocal Pedagogy	2
Ensemble ¹⁵		2
Music Electives ¹⁶		2
Minimum Total Hours		18

Other Requirements

Students are expected to present a public recital that comprises no less than sixty minutes of music and follows the guidelines governing public recitals.

- ¹ Must be taken in the semester of the graduate degree recital.
- ² May include such courses as pedagogy, literature, the student's principal applied instrument, instrumental conducting, or a maximum of two (2) additional ensemble credit hours.
- ³ One two (2) credit hour course required of all orchestral conducting majors, the second two (2) credit hour course optional depending on the individual needs of the student in consultation with their advisor. If the student only needs two (2) credit hours of choral, they will be required to have two additional music electives.
- ⁴ To be chosen from courses in music theory, literature, the student's principal applied instrument, or a maximum of two (2) additional ensemble credit hours.
- ⁵ In comparing degree programs, please note that among universities, many times ensembles are required, but without credit. Our required ensembles are included in the number of required degree hours. New Music Ensemble is acceptable for the concentration in String Pedagogy.
- ⁶ Up to two (2) additional ensemble credit hours are acceptable.
- ⁷ To be chosen from pedagogy, literature, research methods, learning themes, the student's principal applied instrument, a maximum of two semesters of functional applied study, or a maximum of two (2) additional ensemble credit hours if performing on a secondary instrument.
- ⁸ To be chosen from pedagogy, literature, the student's principal applied instrument, a maximum of two semesters of functional applied study, or a maximum of two (2) additional ensemble credit hours.
- ⁹ Students are encouraged to choose courses in literature or pedagogy; up to two (2) additional ensemble credit hours are acceptable.
- ¹⁰ A student may substitute two additional Jazz Combo courses for one of the Jazz Ensemble courses.
- ¹¹ Applied Jazz or Ensemble will not meet this requirement; applied study in a secondary area is acceptable.
- ¹² Must include Organ Literature and Church Music Literature; additional Applied Organ or Ensemble will not meet this requirement. Applied study in a secondary area is acceptable.
- ¹³ At least three semesters of ensemble to be chosen from Piano Ensemble or New Music Ensemble.
- ¹⁴ Additional Applied Piano or Ensemble will not meet this requirement; applied study in a secondary area is acceptable.
- ¹⁵ Suggested ensembles include Opera Theatre and New Music Ensemble.

¹⁶ Additional Applied Voice or Ensemble will not meet this requirement; applied study in a secondary area is acceptable.