MUSIC, MASTER OF (M.M.) WITH A CONCENTRATION IN MUSIC EDUCATION

Program accreditation
National Association of Schools of Music

Program goal
The Master of Music with a concentration in music education program at VCU is designed to provide the opportunity for advanced, graduate study for the practicing professional music educator. It is the goal of the Department of Music that successful graduates emerge as leaders and innovators in the profession.

The curricular goal of the program is to provide flexibility in addressing the individual pedagogical interests of each student as well as the framework and foundations needed for continued advanced study in music education at the doctoral level. As part of this design, the degree is offered exclusively as a three-summer program, with continuous enrollment required following admittance to degree candidacy (fall and spring semesters prior to third summer). This design provides a "real-world" option for the practicing music educator to enter graduate study.

Student learning outcomes
1. Understand research in music education
2. Understand current issues in music education
3. Develop advanced pedagogical skills

VCU Graduate Bulletin, VCU Graduate School and general academic policies and regulations for all graduate students in all graduate programs

The VCU Graduate Bulletin website documents the official admission and academic rules and regulations that govern graduate education for all graduate programs at the university. These policies are established by the graduate faculty of the university through their elected representatives to the University Graduate Council.

It is the responsibility of all graduate students, both on- and off-campus, to be familiar with the VCU Graduate Bulletin as well as the Graduate School website (http://www_graduate.vcu.edu) and academic regulations in individual school and department publications and on program websites. However, in all cases, the official policies and procedures of the University Graduate Council, as published on the VCU Graduate Bulletin and Graduate School websites, take precedence over individual program policies and guidelines.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on academic regulations for graduate students. (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-reg/grad/candidacy)

Degree candidacy requirements
A graduate student admitted to a program or concentration requiring a final research project, work of art, thesis or dissertation, must qualify for continuing master’s or doctoral status according to the degree candidacy requirements of the student’s graduate program. Admission to degree candidacy, if applicable, is a formal statement by the graduate student’s faculty regarding the student's academic achievements and the student’s readiness to proceed to the final research phase of the degree program.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following degree candidacy policy as published in the VCU Graduate Bulletin for complete information and instructions.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on degree candidacy requirements. (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-reg/grad/candidacy)

Graduation requirements
As graduate students approach the end of their academic programs and the final semester of matriculation, they must make formal application to graduate. No degrees will be conferred until the application to graduate has been finalized.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following graduation requirements as published in the Graduate Bulletin for a complete list of instructions and a graduation checklist.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on graduation requirements. (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-reg/grad/graduation-info)

Apply online at graduate.admissions.vcu.edu (http://graduate.admissions.vcu.edu).

Admission requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree:</th>
<th>Semester(s) of entry:</th>
<th>Deadline dates:</th>
<th>Test requirements:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M.M.</td>
<td>Summer only</td>
<td>Apr 1</td>
<td>None</td>
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</table>

In addition to the general admission requirements of the VCU Graduate School (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/study/admission-graduate-study/admission-requirements), the following requirements represent the minimum acceptable standards for admission:

1. Baccalaureate degree in music or music education from an accredited institution
2. Virginia teaching certification in PK-12 music education (or same from a reciprocal state)
3. Written statement of personal philosophy of music education – used to assess thoughtful reflection on larger issues of the profession, ability to express thought in clearly written English and as diagnosis for specific deficiencies in this area
4. Three letters of recommendation – must include letter from persons who have directly observed applicant’s teaching
5. Interview with the director of music education

Degree requirements

In addition to general VCU Graduate School graduation requirements (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-reg/grad/graduation-info), the Master of Music program requires a minimum of 30 graduate credit hours. The summer program is intended to be completed in three consecutive summer sessions and is structured into three cognate areas: music education, music pedagogy and professional education. Music education and music pedagogy cognate courses are offered on a rotating basis, with electives in music pedagogy developed and offered on an ongoing basis. This structure permits the student to enter the program at any given point in the sequence. The student will apply for degree candidacy.
following the completion of 18 credit hours. It is recommended that students enroll in eight to nine credit hours each summer. Final project credit hours are earned through online enrollment during the fall/spring semester and in residency during the final summer session following admittance to degree candidacy.

## Curriculum requirements

### Cognate areas

#### Music education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUED 600</td>
<td>Seminar in Music Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUED 610</td>
<td>Psychology of Music</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUED 620</td>
<td>Introduction to Research in Music Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Take three credits in the following course: 3

- MUED 783 Final Project in Music Education

#### Music pedagogy

Select a minimum of 12 credit hours from either the instrumental focus or choral focus areas: 12

**Instrumental focus:**

- MUED 614 Instrumental Conducting Techniques
- MUED 616 Researching the Wind Band: Strategies and Resources
- MUED 618 History and Literature of the Wind Band
- MUED 583 Special Workshop in Music Education (MUED electives)
  or MUED 591 Topics in Music Education

**Choral focus:**

- MUED 604 Choral Conducting and Rehearsal Techniques
- MUED 606 Choral Literature and Style
- MUED 608 Teaching the Adolescent Singer
- MUED 583 Special Workshop in Music Education (MUED electives)
  or MUED 591 Topics in Music Education

#### Professional education

A focus on areas of education of interest to student: to be determined by student and adviser, with adviser approval. May include the following: 6

- EDUS 605 Child and Adolescent Development
- EDUS 607 Advanced Educational Psychology for Elementary Teachers
- EDUS 662 Educational Measurement and Evaluation
- EDUS 673 Seminar on Educational Issues, Ethics and Policy
- EDUS 701 Urban Education
- ADMS 600 Public School Administration
- ADMS 606 Organizational Behavior and Change in Educational Settings
- ADMS 611 School Law

Other graduate-level School of Education offerings

### Total Hours

30

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**Total graduate credit hours required (minimum) 30**

**Graduate program director**

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**Additional contact**

Department of Music  
Admissions Office  
apply4music@vcu.edu  
(804) 828-1167

**Program website:** [arts.vcu.edu/music/areas-of-study/music-education/graduate-program](http://arts.vcu.edu/music/areas-of-study/music-education/graduate-program)