

Master of Music in Music Education (Thesis)

About This Program

The objective of the Master of Music in Music Education is to impart the knowledge needed to facilitate successful teaching careers and encourage personal development. Through further education, current music teachers will become more articulate, reflective practitioners so they can select, adapt, adjust, and assess teaching and learning expectations.

The Master of Music in Music Education is a fully online degree. Courses are delivered through the learning management system, Canvas, and are both synchronous and asynchronous.

This program is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM).

Competencies

1. Upon completion, students will have improved their music teaching skills through advanced coursework and research.
2. Upon completion, students will be prepared for further academic study in their primary field at the doctoral level. The thesis option is ideal for those wishing to pursue doctoral studies.
3. Upon graduation, students will be more articulate, reflective practitioners so they can select, adapt, adjust, and assess teaching and learning expectations.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA ^{*UPDATED SPRING 2026}

UNCONDITIONAL ADMISSION

Requirements for unconditional admission into the program are:

1. Three letters of recommendation speaking to the student's potential for success from references familiar with the student's academic background.
2. Philosophy of Music Education (no more than 2 pages-typed).
3. A minimum 3.0 GPA in the last 60 hours of undergraduate work as calculated by Graduate Admissions.
4. Bachelor's degree in music or its demonstrated equivalent.
5. Submitted application to the Department of Music (see the [departmental website \(https://www.uta.edu/music/\)](https://www.uta.edu/music/) for more information).

PROBATIONARY STATUS

A student showing a deficiency in any of the above criteria and showing promise for successful graduate study may still be admitted on a probationary basis upon the recommendation of the Graduate Studies Committee. The conditions of the probation will be outlined in the letter of admission. (The Music Department does not have the authority to lower University TOEFL score requirements for any student.)

PROVISIONAL ADMISSION

An applicant unable to supply all required documentation prior to the admission deadline but who otherwise appears to meet admission requirements may be granted provisional admission.

DENIED ADMISSION

An applicant can be denied admission based on the recommendation of the Graduate Studies Committee. Applicants may reapply for admission if the deficiencies in credentials that led to denial are remedied.

DEFERRED ADMISSION

A deferred decision may be granted when a file is incomplete or when a denied decision is not appropriate.

TOEFL REQUIREMENT

Applicants whose native language is not English must demonstrate proficiency in English by earning a total score of at least 79 on the internet-based Test of English as a Foreign Language examination (TOEFL iBT).

Those who do not meet the English proficiency requirement must satisfactorily complete courses in the ESOL area, as approved by the program and the Graduate Admissions.

Curriculum

MUSI 5301	FORM AND STYLE ANALYSIS	3
MUSI 5308	MUSIC HISTORY SELECTED TOPICS	3
MUSI 5351	PHILOSOPHY, HISTORY, AND CURRICULAR TRENDS IN MUSIC EDUCATION	3

MUSI 5352	PSYCHOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS OF MUSIC EDUCATION	3
MUSI 5363	RESEARCH IN MUSIC EDUCATION	3
Select 3 hours in music education from the following:		3
MUSI 5350	SELECTED TOPICS IN MUSIC PEDAGOGY	
MUSI 5354	SELECTED TOPICS IN MUSIC LITERATURE	
MUSI 5355	REHEARSAL TECHNIQUES	
MUSI 5359	ADVANCED DICTION FOR SINGERS	
MUSI 5360	ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY FOR MUSICIANS	
MUSI 5361	EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC	
MUSI 5364	ASSESSMENT IN MUSIC EDUCATION	
MUSI 5365	MEANING & REPRESENTATION IN MUSIC	
MUSI 5357	CURRENT TRENDS IN MUSIC EDUCATION	
Select 6 hours from ensembles, private instruction, music history, music theory, jazz studies and repeated special topics courses. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit from other disciplines may be considered if relevant to the degree, subject to approval by the Graduate Studies Committee. No more than 2 hours of music ensembles may be counted toward the degree.		6
Thesis		
MUSI 5698	THESIS ¹	6
Total Hours		30

¹ Students who write a thesis will work closely with one or more members of the graduate faculty from the Department of Music on a research project in a specialized area of interest within the music education field. The student must register for MUSI 5398 when in consultation over the thesis with the advisor or supervisory committee. Students will receive a grade of R (Research in Progress), F (Fail), or W (Withdrawn). These hours do not count towards the degree hours.

Program Completion

The final project requirements for the thesis option include the successful completion and defense of the thesis. The thesis serves as a means of evaluating the ability of the student to undertake and report scholarly research. For those students anticipating doctoral studies, it prepares them for future research activities.

All students completing the MM in Music Education degree take an online written examination measuring selected content from the following four courses:

- MUSI 5301 Form and Style Analysis
- MUSI 5308 Selected Topics in Music History
- MUSI 5351 Philosophical Foundations of Music Education
- MUSI 5352 Psychological Foundations of Music Education

After successful completion of the written examination, all students participate in an online oral examination. During this event, the students are asked questions regarding their written exam responses. They may be asked to elaborate on a written answer or correct an error on the written exam.

A final master's examination may result in:

1. An unconditional pass with a recommendation to the Graduate Dean that the candidate be certified to receive the degree.
2. A conditional pass with the requirement that additional conditions be met, which may include further work on the thesis or thesis substitute, additional coursework with a minimum specified grade point average or both (in all cases the final master's examination must be repeated within a specified period).
3. Failure, with permission to be re-examined within a specified period.
4. Failure, with recommendation to the Dean of Graduate Studies that the candidate be dismissed from the program. The Music Department limits to 2 the number of times the examination can be taken.

Advising Resources

All UTA Music Degrees require an audition for Music Department acceptance. First time in college students may contact the Music Department advisor for general degree information and will be advised in the department starting their second semester. Transfer students should contact the Music Department Advisor prior to acceptance for general degree information and again following a successful audition for acceptance into the UTA Music Department for academic advising and clearance to enroll. Students interested in the Music Minor should contact the Music Department advisor for the Minor course sheet, and Minor approval form, and may do so at any time in the semester.

Location:

Fine Arts 101C

Email:

Undergraduate: music@uta.edu

Graduate: musicgradadvisor@uta.edu

Phone:

817-272-3471

Web:

Degree information, Forms, and Advising (<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/liberal-arts/departments/music/current-students/undergraduate/>)