

Music Education Program, M.M.

HEGIS Code 0832.00 Inventory of Registered Program Code: 28507

Overview

The Master of Music in Music Education program requires satisfactory completion of thirty-six (36) credits of approved graduate courses including a research project. It is designed for those individuals who have Provisional/Initial Certification and wish to attain Professional New York State Certification to teach grades K-12. Twenty-four (24) of these credits must be completed in residence to be eligible for the master's degree. The program provides qualified students the opportunity to advance their study and research in music education and earn a Master of Music degree (M.M.). All requirements must be completed within five years of the date of matriculation.

Admission Standards

All applicants for admission are required to have Provisional/Initial Certification and demonstrate by audition significant musical skills and a commitment to the advancement of their personal and professional accomplishments.

The following is required for application to the program:

1. Complete and submit the Graduate Application;
2. Submit official transcripts demonstrating completion of a Bachelor of Music in Music Education with proof of initial teacher certification in New York State* [completion of an undergraduate major in music education with at least 36 credits of applied music courses and a 3.0 overall G.P.A. is required for admission];
3. An audition on the candidate's principal instrument. The audition should be of two contrasting pieces that demonstrate a level of skill;
4. An interview with at least two music education faculty;
5. A writing sample at the time of the interview. Topics for writing samples can be selected by the applicant from a list provided;
6. Two letters of recommendation.

*Or equivalent certification from another state, including a minimum edTPA score of 38. Out of state certification will not automatically lead to New York State Professional Certification. It is the student's responsibility to seek reciprocity for the New York State Initial Certification.

Music Education, Audition Requirements

Vocal:

Repertoire: Two contrasting musical selections that best represent the singer's stylistic abilities, technique, and stage presence.

Copies of the music are required and will be performed with live accompaniment.

Sight Reading: At least two examples of music will be provided for sight reading.

Instrumental:

Repertoire: Two contrasting musical selections that best represent the performer's technical ability, tone quality, musicality, and sense of style.

Copies of the music are required. If an accompanist is required, please provide copies of the score before the audition.

Sight Reading: At least two examples of music will be provided for sight reading.

The College will provide guitar and bass amps, drum sets, and vibraphones.

Theory Placement Exam

All students are expected to take the Graduate Music Theory Placement Exam, preferably at the time of the audition. The exam lasts one hour and includes listening examples and a jazz portion for those wanting to focus on jazz studies. Students who score less than 75% are required to take MUS530 Graduate Music Theory Review course prior to taking any theory courses.

Candidates are expected to perform two musical selections in the style of music that best represents their interest and musical ability. All candidates will be asked to sight sing as part of the exam.

Graduation Requirements

Candidates for the Master's Degree must complete all requirements within five years of the date of matriculation.

1. Satisfactory completion of thirty-six (36) credits of course work that are designed to have the student acquire knowledge, expertise, and research skills in the field of music education.
2. A minimum of 24 credits must be completed at Five Towns College.
3. Maintain a minimum Grade GPA of 3.0., with a minimum grade of no less than a B- in any given course.
4. Successful submission of a thesis or completion of a final project.

Degree Requirements

The courses below are required of all students in the graduate program in music education leading to the Master of Music degree. Students in the graduate program in music education take 18 credits of music education courses, 12 credits of music core courses, and 6 elective credits to complete the 36- credit requirement for the Master of Music degree.

Program Course Requirements
Music Core
EDU 510 – Music in the Secondary School;(3cr)
EDU 606 – History and Philosophy of Music Education; (3cr)
EDU 542 – Music in the Elementary School; (3cr)
EDU 552 – Project Seminar 1; (3cr)
EDU 553 – Project Seminar 2; (3cr)
EDU 610 – Music Education Technology; (3cr)
Total Music Core Credits: 18
Additional Courses
EDU 551 – Research Methods and Materials; (3cr)

Music History Elective 500 – 800 Level (1); (3cr)
Music Theory/Analysis Elective 500 – 800 Level (1) (3cr)
Performance Elective 500 – 800 Level; (3cr)
Total Additional Course Credits: 12
Electives
General Elective 500 – 800 Level; (6cr)
Total Elective Credits: 6
Total Program Credits: 36

Transfer Credit

Graduate courses completed at an accredited institution, not applied to another graduate degree, completed with a grade of A or B, may be presented for transfer of credit with the approval of the director of graduate studies. Students who have taken graduate work at another institution may transfer up to fifteen (15) credits towards the Master of Music if the course work was taken within three years preceding matriculation at Five Towns College and were not applied to completion of another degree. No more than 18 credit hours can be transferred in. Credits must be reviewed for equivalency. Grades below B in graduate classes do not carry credit.

Grades

Only courses for which a student receives a final grade of A, B, or IP (In progress) be applied toward the 36 hours required for the MM degree. Students are expected to maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. Failure to maintain the required 3.0 GPA may be subject to dismissal from the program.

Comprehensive Exams

The comprehensive examination for master's degree students gives graduate music students an opportunity to demonstrate intellectual mastery and fluency in music theory, music history, and their area of specialty. This is a closed book exam. The comprehensive exam consists of two parts: a written exam (two hours) and an oral exam (30-45 minutes) tailored to the student's program and area of emphasis. A passing grade will allow the student to continue on the path towards graduation, while a failing grade will require the student to re-take portions of the exam at the discretion of the committee. The comprehensive exams take place after the student has successfully completed EDU 552 Project Seminar 1.

Each exam will be written and graded for each student by a committee of no less than two (2) faculty members. Students must complete and submit the "Request for Authority for the Final Comprehensive Exam form (found in the music department office or on the Canvas Graduate Music Studies page) no less than 15 working days prior to the date of their exams. Rubrics are in the Master of Music Education Handbook.

Written examination:

The written exam will consist of three sections: the major area of study, music theory, and music history. Material for questions will be selected from the content of graduate courses taken during enrollment. An important focus of the examination will be to test knowledge in the major area of study. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain a *Request for Authority for the Final*

Comprehensive Exam and submit it to the music education division chair 15 days prior to the date of the exam.

Oral examination:

The oral exam will consist of questions developed by faculty members after reviewing the student's written examination. The oral component of the exam will give candidates the opportunity to clarify and broaden their written answers and demonstrate mastery of their specific field. It will also give students the opportunity to demonstrate professional communication skills. This exam will take place one to two weeks after the written examination. Students must coordinate with the chair of the committee immediately following the written examination to select a day/time/location for the oral examination.

Grading:

Each question on the written examination will be worth five (5) points (for a total of 15 points). Students who receive 10 points or less in total will be given the opportunity to retake failed sections of the exam. Students who fail to adjust the total score to 11 points or higher after retaking portions of the written exam must re-sit the entire examination in a subsequent semester. Students must receive a score of 11 points or higher to sit for oral examinations.

The oral examination is a pass/fail exam. Students who fail the oral examination must re-sit the entire examination in a subsequent semester. The selected committee must sign off on the comprehensive exams in order for the candidate to move forward with the Capstone Project.

CAPSTONE PROJECT

Part of the program is a culminating academic work that demonstrates mastery of content, the ability to think critically, and expertise in one's field of study. Students may choose to complete a final project or a thesis for their Capstone Project. Students should start thinking about their final project or thesis topic early during their coursework. Students must commit to the type of Capstone Project (final project or thesis) they will complete by the end of EDU551 Research Methods and Materials. This allows the student time to register for the appropriate course work and submit a completed *Capstone Project Application* to the music education division chair. Should the student change their mind as to their Capstone Project, they will need to file a new *Capstone Project Application* form and submit it to the music education department chair for approval. Students begin working on their proposal when they are enrolled in EDU552 Project Seminar 1, and students should complete the course with a working proposal. The proposal will be presented to a committee of three faculty members during the week of finals. The proposal must be approved by the committee of three faculty members (selected due to their knowledge of the topic) before the student may continue the project in EDU553 Project Seminar 2. The format of the proposal should adhere to FTC's guidelines, which are outlined in the descriptions below.

Thesis

The thesis is original research work that contributes to the body of knowledge for the candidate's field of study. For the purposes of this degree, the thesis will consist of a minimum of five chapters: Introduction, Literature Review, Methodology, Results, and Conclusion. A Reference

List and Appendices are to follow the Conclusion (if applicable). All work should be submitted according to APA format.

A proposal outlining the type of research and how the research will be conducted must be submitted at the end of EDU552 Project Seminar 1. The proposal should include a clearly defined statement of the purpose and limitations of the thesis, a statement about the need for and importance of the proposed research, and a projected timeline for completion of the research. A *Capstone Project Application* must be completed and turned prior to submission of the research proposal.

FORM OF A PROPOSAL

1. **Title page**
2. **Introduction**
 - a. Context or Background on the topic
 - b. Rationale
 - c. Research Questions or Hypothesis
 - d. Definitions
3. **Literature Review**
 - a. All relevant information published on the topic
 - b. Need for the study
 - c. Delimitations
 - d. Any biases that may be present in your research
4. **Methodology Design and Parameters**
 - a. Identify the type of research
 - b. Research Design - provide a clear statement of how you are going to study this topic. Where will you find your data? How do you plan to access the data?
 - c. Data Collection - What procedures and instruments will you use to collect data?
 - d. How will you analyze your data?
 - e. How do you plan to present the data?
5. **Summary**
 - a. Provide an overview
 - b. What are some possible outcomes you hope to find from the study?
 - c. Identify potential problems that may occur
 - d. What are the implications for the academic community?
6. **Appendices**
 - a. IRB Approval with accompanying documentation (if needed)
7. **Works Cited**

IRB

Should your research involve contact with human subjects you will be required to submit a proposal of your study to the IRB board for approval prior to beginning research. The job of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) is to ensure that research conducted using human subjects does not violate their rights or harm their welfare. To do this, the IRB needs to know about your proposed study, specifically how your study will ensure that human subjects are: 1) informed of the risks involved in their participation, 2) voluntarily participating in the study, and 3) protected from unnecessary harm during the study. The IRB also needs to know what the benefits of your

research are, so that any risks to subjects may be outweighed by the knowledge gained from the study results.

The disclosure of personal information can be considered a risk as it can result in prejudicial treatment of your subjects long after your study is complete. You must ensure the anonymity and/or confidentiality of your human subjects and their data both during and after your research.

The IRB will disapprove the research or ask for revisions of the project proposal for any project that does not minimize harm to human subjects or does not make it clear that all potential risks have been considered. The IRB will also disapprove research that is poorly designed as a good research design is important to conducting research that has a potential benefit to society. Research conducted using human subjects must produce useful general knowledge that cannot be obtained in any other way.

The process requires that you log into the IRB Training Course in Canvas and read the instructions, watch two training videos, and take a quiz. Once you have passed the quiz you will submit your proposal and the IRB application. You have the choice to submit a proposal for expedited review or full committee review. Under the Expedited Review procedure, the review may be carried out by one of the Institutional Review Board Chairs and a rotating regular member(s) who will comprise a subcommittee of the Institutional Review Board. Only studies that involve minimal risk to participants and meet certain federal guidelines (see <http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/policy/expedited98.html>) will qualify for an expedited review. The researcher cannot make the determination of minimal risk themselves, but they may ask for expedited review based on their belief that the risks of their research are no more than minimal. If your study is submitted for expedited review, but it does not meet these requirements it will be sent to the full committee for review. Researchers can expect a response from the IRB within 5-10 business days from the time of submission. Expedited review of proposals will begin on the first day of fall semester and proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis during the academic year. Proposals for full committee review must be submitted no later than six weeks prior to the end of the semester.

Once IRB approval is granted, the proposed research must be carried out as stated in the IRB application. Any changes must be approved by the IRB for that project to continue to have IRB approval. The IRB Committee must be notified of any injuries or harm that comes to a subject because of that subject's participation in the proposed research. IRB approval is valid for one year from the date of approval. If the research is not completed by that time, a new application must be submitted to IRB for approval.

Preparing the Thesis

The thesis will demonstrate high standards of scholarship and contribute to the existing body of knowledge. The student works with an advisor while doing research and writing. Committee members may be consulted for insight, suggestions, and feedback. Committee members will make suggestions and comments for strengthening the document using the rubric provided. It is suggested the student consult an outside editing service before submitting a final draft to

committee members for the final review. An approved list of editors will be provided to the student. Editorial fees are the responsibility of the student.

Once the advisor determines that the thesis is ready the student will distribute a final, edited copy of the thesis either electronic (PDF file) or hard copies (as per the preference of the committee member) for review for all committee members.

The final thesis must be submitted to the committee one week prior to finals of fall, spring or summer semesters in order to be reviewed in time for graduation. This date will be published on the FTC Academic Calendar. Failure to meet the date of submission will mean you need to re-enroll in EDU553 Project Seminar 2 the following semester. This process requires sufficient time for each member to read the document make required adjustments, return the document to the committee for final approval. The selected committee must sign off on the completed project in order to receive a final grade and for graduation.

Submission and Binding

The final document should be printed on 24# white bond paper. It should be bound with a card stock cover and black tape binding. One additional copy of the thesis is required. The original thesis will be submitted to the library. The second copy will be submitted to the music education division chair for filing in the division office. It is the responsibility of the student to make any copies of a thesis for her/his own possession. See the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Master's Theses and Doctoral Dissertations* for further clarification on submission guidelines.

Final Project

The final project is an original culminating work that emerges from the student's program of study, demonstrating mastery of content, critical thinking, and scholarship. Possible projects are a lecture recital, a curriculum project or an analysis for a K-12 District, or a repertoire analysis of a three to four year choral or instrumental ensemble at either the elementary, middle, or high school level. All projects must be approved by the Music Education Committee by the conclusion of enrollment in EDU552 Project Seminar 1.

The purpose and parameters of the project must be clearly outlined in the proposal that is submitted at the conclusion of EDU552 Project Seminar 1. A *Masters Degree Final Project Application* must be completed and turned in at the time of the Research Proposal. The format of the proposal should adhere to the guidelines listed below:

FORM OF A PROPOSAL

1. Title page

2. Introduction

- a. Context or Background
- b. Rationale
- c. Research Questions or Hypothesis
- d. Definitions

3. Literature Review

- b) All relevant information published on the topic
- c) Need for the project
- e) How will the project be executed? (Provide details)

4. Methodology Design and Parameters

- a) Provide a clear statement of how you are going to study this topic.
- b) Where will you find your information?
- c) How will you analyze the information that you get?
- d) How do you plan to present the results of your research

5. Summary

- a) Provide an overview
- b) What are some possible outcomes you may find as a result of your research?
- c) Identify any potential problems that may occur.
- d) What are the implications for the academic community?

6. Appendices as needed.

7. Works Cited

Lecture Recital

- It is the student's responsibility to select a committee of three faculty members to review the written work and attend the lecture recital.
- The lecture recital must be 45 minutes in length and include a live performance or demonstration with a prepared dialogue.
- All three faculty members selected by the student must attend the lecture recital. The date of the lecture recital must be arranged no less than three weeks prior to the event.
- A Facilities Use Request form must be submitted and approved for the use of the venue for the recital.
- The student must submit a formal paper to the committee prior to the recital providing the rationale for the presentation. The student should explain in detail the research and content of the presentation, any additional materials that will be used, e.g. (a script, PowerPoint slides, scores, etc.), and include a Works Cited page.
- The selected committee must sign off on the completed project in order to receive a final grade and for graduation.

Curriculum Project or Analysis

- It is the student's responsibility to select a committee of three faculty members to review the curriculum project or analysis.
- The project should be an original curriculum that is created for a K-12 school district and must be inclusive of no less than three music programs (general, choral, and instrumental). The curriculum must include a rationale, a Scope and Sequence, NY State Standards, the district mission statement, course descriptions, and assessments. The curriculum should be clear and concise, flexible, relevant to the demographics of the district, inclusive and diverse, with measurable outcomes.
- A curriculum analysis would consist of a description of the curricula to be studied, an analysis of no less than three curricula that includes a description of each curriculum, school demographics, an examination of rigor, diversity and inclusion, outcomes, strengths and weaknesses, and thoroughness of content. The analysis should also include theoretical argument about what works for each curriculum and how they could be improved or modified.

- The student must submit a paper to the committee at the conclusion of EDU552 Project Seminar 1 and provide the rationale for the project or analysis as well as the purpose of the project with anticipated outcomes. This paper should also explain the project in detail, include a Works Cited page, and provide a timeline from beginning to completion.
- The final project should be submitted with the same formatting that would be followed for a thesis. See *Guidelines for the Preparation of Master's Theses and Doctoral Dissertations*
- The selected committee must sign off on the completed project in order for the student to receive a final grade and graduate.

Repertoire Analysis

- It is the student's responsibility to select a committee of three faculty members to review the repertoire analysis.
- The project can consist of an analysis of choral or instrumental literature that would be used in elementary, middle or high school ensembles over a period of three to four years. This analysis will examine awareness of repertoire scope, knowledge of school performance events such as seasonal concerts, district music festivals, and state music adjudications. The repertoire should be diverse and inclusive of all cultures, demonstrating progression for student growth and assessment over the course of the three to four years.
- The student must submit a paper to the committee at the conclusion of EDU552 Project Seminar 1 that provides the rationale for the analysis and the purpose and anticipated outcomes. The paper should explain the project in detail, include all titles of all scores, include a works cited page, and provide a timeline from beginning to completion of the project.
- The final project should be submitted to the selected committee with the same formatting that would be followed for a thesis. See *Guidelines for the Preparation of Master's Theses and Doctoral Dissertations*
- The selected committee must sign off on the completed project in order to receive a final grade and qualify for graduation.

Timeline Start to Finish

Students have five years to complete all necessary coursework and thesis or final project:

- Acceptance into the MM program;
- Complete all coursework in the approved plan of study;
- Take and successfully pass the comprehensive exams;
- Receive proposal approval for the final project or thesis;
- Present the final project or thesis to the selected committee.