

MUSIC, MM

The School of Music offers the Master of Music (MM) in composition (arranging emphasis option), conducting (wind & choral), musicology, performance, and theory.

Admissions Requirements

All courses of graduate music study must meet the general requirements of the Graduate School as given in the Admission Criteria section of this catalog.

See the Admission Criteria section of this catalog for more information.

In addition, the School of Music imposes the following special requirements:

The Bachelor of Music degree in the chosen field of study from The University of Alabama or the equivalent from another accredited institution.

In special cases, a student holding the bachelor's degree but without a formal major in the chosen field may be admitted by examination.

All students must take examinations in music history and music theory prior to initial registration. Any required courses or other work specified as a result of deficiencies revealed in these examinations must be completed by the end of the first fall semester after matriculation. A schedule of remediation will be determined by appropriate faculty and the director of graduate studies in music and may include enrollment in MUS 595 Graduate Theory Review and/or MUS 591 Readings in Music History. Students may not earn graduate credit in theory and history until all deficiencies in the respective areas have been removed.

Any deficiencies revealed by analysis of undergraduate transcripts prior to enrollment must be removed within one year of initial enrollment.

Information about the entrance examinations may be obtained from the director of graduate studies in music.

Individual Area Requirements

Performance

An audition on the major instrument. A complete repertoire list must be submitted, noting those works prepared for the audition.

Voice

The demonstration of a satisfactory vocal technique in the classical style, and satisfactory singing diction and comprehension in French, German, Italian and English.

Composition

Submission of a group of original works, including at least one in large form.

Theory

Submission of examples of work that illustrate analytical and writing skills. Students must have a reading knowledge of a foreign language (usually German, French, or Italian). Those who do not have this skill at matriculation will be required to remove the deficiency, through the completion of appropriate language courses or by examination, before they are admitted to candidacy.

Musicology

Submission of work that illustrates research and writing skills. Students must have a reading knowledge of a foreign language (usually German, French, or Italian). Those who do not have this skill at matriculation

will be required to remove the deficiency, through the completion of appropriate language courses or by examination, before they are admitted to candidacy.

Conducting

An audition with a University ensemble. Two major works, in contrasting styles, must be conducted. Ear training and sight-singing proficiency must be demonstrated.

Curricular Requirements

These differ with the area of focus; a complete outline of requirements in each field is contained in the Graduate Handbook of the School of Music, which may be secured from the director of graduate studies in music or may be viewed on the School of Music Web page.

Focused areas of study in musicology, theory, and composition follow Plan I, which requires a written thesis. A composition student is required to present a recital of original compositions in addition to the thesis. Focused areas of study in performance, choral conducting, wind conducting, and church music, follow Plan II, which does not require a written thesis but which does require additional course hours and a recital. The focused areas in musicology and theory require a public lecture.

All MM degrees require at least 12 hours in graduate courses in music history and music theory, with at least 6 hours in each. MUS 501 Intro Grad Study In Mus must be taken in the first fall semester of enrollment. A minimum of 33 semester hours of graduate work is required to complete any MM degree.

Transfer Credit

Information on transfer credit can be found in Graduate school Transfer policies.

Comprehensive Exam/Capstone

MM students under Plan I (thesis) must pass written comprehensive examinations in theory, history, and the major area. A description of the written comprehensive examinations is included in the Graduate Handbook of the School of Music. MM students under Plan II (non-thesis) are required to take an oral examination.

All students must pass an oral examination. For students under Plan I, the oral examination will be a defense of the thesis. For students under Plan II, the oral examination will be based on the student's coursework in the MM program and will determine the student's ability to articulate a broader perspective derived from that study. For students following Plan II, the oral examination is the final step in the completion of the degree and is administered only after all other requirements have been completed.

Time limits for Degree Completion Requirements

Graduate School information on Time Limits for Degree Completion.

Academic Misconduct Information

Graduate School information on Academic Misconduct.

Withdrawals and Leave of Absence Information

Graduate School information on Withdrawals and Leave of Absence.

Academic Grievances Information

Graduate School information on Academic Grievances.

Grades and Academic Standing

Graduate School information on Grades and Academic Standing.

Graduate School Deadlines Information

Information on Graduate School Deadlines.

Application for Graduation Information

Information on the Application for Graduation.