The PhD in Music Education at Illinois emphasizes professional preparation for careers as researchers, music teacher educators, and leaders in the field. Doctoral students enroll in courses that provide depth and breadth in research approaches, theoretical and scholarly analysis, and opportunities to conduct research studies under the guidance of faculty members in music education and across campus. Participation in the MOSAIC Consortium, an ongoing scholarly community of doctoral students and faculty, is a critical part of the doctoral experience at Illinois.

1. Students in the PhD Program in Music Education will demonstrate knowledge of rigorous methods for conducting scholarly inquiry related to music teaching and learning. [Research]
2. Students in the PhD program in Music Education will contribute to the discovery of new evidence or the exercise of critical judgment in research and scholarship, applying and synthesizing key methodological and theoretical perspectives from their research course preparation. [Research]
3. Students in the PhD Program in Music Education will develop a research agenda for primary and secondary research emphases. [Research]
4. Students in the PhD Program in Music Education will demonstrate their ability to plan, implement, and reflect on college-level teaching. [Music Teacher Education]
5. Students in the PhD Program in Music Education will apply understanding of educational philosophy, curriculum design, methods of teaching and evaluation, and supervision of study teaching to undergraduate music teacher preparation. [Music Teacher Education]
6. Students in the PhD Program in Music Education will exhibit leadership in areas of vital importance to the field, such as curricular reform, music teacher education, community music, and social justice. [Professional Leadership]