

MUSIC: MUSIC COMPOSITION, MMUS

for the degree of Master of Music in Music, Music Composition Concentration

director of school: Dr. Jeffrey Sposato

associate director of graduate studies: Dr. Reynold Tharp

program contact: Jenny Phillips

overview of school of music admissions & requirements: <https://music.illinois.edu/graduate-admissions> (<https://music.illinois.edu/graduate-admissions/>)

admissions questions: musicadmissions@illinois.edu | (217) 244-7899

overview of grad college admissions & requirements: <https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply> (<https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/>)

department website: <https://music.illinois.edu>

department faculty: Music Faculty (<https://music.illinois.edu/people/>)

college website: <https://faa.illinois.edu/>

department office: School of Music, 2040 Music Building, 1114 West Nevada Street, Urbana, IL 61801

phone: (217) 333-3459

Students must choose a concentration:

- Choral Music (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/choral-music/>)
- Instrumental Conducting - Band (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/instrumental-conducting-band/>)
- Instrumental Conducting - Orchestra (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/instrumental-conducting-orchestra/>)
- Jazz Performance (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/jazz-performance/>)
- Music Composition (p. 1)
- Music Theory (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/music-theory/>)
- Musicology (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/musicology/>)
- Performance & Literature (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/performance-literature/>)
- Piano Pedagogy (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/piano-pedagogy/>)
- Vocal Coaching & Accompanying (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/vocal-coaching-accompanying/>)

Graduate Degree Programs in Music

- Artist Diploma in Music (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/artist-diploma-music/>)
- Music and Sound Studies Minor (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/minor/music-sound-studies/>)
- Music, DMA (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-dma/>)
 - Choral Music (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-dma/choral-music/>)
 - Instrumental Conducting - Orchestra (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-dma/instrumental-conducting-orchestra/>)
 - Instrumental Conducting – Wind Band (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-dma/instrumental-conducting-wind-band/>)
 - Jazz Performance (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-dma/jazz-performance/>)
 - Music Composition (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-dma/music-composition/>)
 - Performance & Literature (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-dma/performance-literature/>)
 - Vocal Coaching & Accompanying (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-dma/vocal-coaching-accompanying/>)
- Music, MMUS (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/>)
 - Choral Music (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/choral-music/>)
 - Instrumental Conducting - Band (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/instrumental-conducting-band/>)
 - Instrumental Conducting - Orchestra (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/instrumental-conducting-orchestra/>)
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 - Performance & Literature (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/performance-literature/>)

- Piano Pedagogy (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/piano-pedagogy/>)
- Vocal Coaching & Accompanying (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/vocal-coaching-accompanying/>)
- Music Education, MME (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-education-mme/>)
- Music Education, PhD (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-education-phd/>)
- Musicology, PhD (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/musicology-phd/>)
 - Medieval Studies (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/medieval-studies/>)

The School of Music has been an accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Music since 1933.

Admission

For all degree programs, consult the admission requirements stated on the School of Music's website: <https://music.illinois.edu/prospective-students> (<https://music.illinois.edu/prospective-students/>).

Requirements for admission to the **Master of Music (MM)** programs are a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign or an equivalent degree from another accredited institution. Students holding other degrees may be admitted but will be expected to make up any deficiencies in addition to fulfilling all requirements for the graduate degree.

Applicants to choral music, instrumental conducting (wind band or orchestra), jazz performance, piano pedagogy, performance and literature, and vocal accompanying and coaching must pass a qualifying audition for their major area or submit satisfactory recordings. Applicants in musicology and composition must present writings or other evidence of their ability to pursue work at the graduate level. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not required.

The School of Music requires all-new MM students to complete entrance examinations in music theory and musicianship. These exams take place the week before the fall term begins. See the School of Music's Graduate Resources (<https://music.illinois.edu/graduate-academic-affairs/>) page for more information.

A prerequisite for admission to the **Artist Diploma** is a bachelor's degree in music performance.

Applicants to the MM and the Artist Diploma (AD) whose native language is not English must present an iBT score of 79 for admission to the Artist Diploma (AD), 90 for the Master of Music (MM), excluding Musicology; MM in Musicology requires an iBT score of 96. A TOEFL iBT of 103 or higher is required for Full Status Admission to the University of Illinois Graduate College and School of Music. For the full English proficiency requirements, please see <https://music.illinois.edu/english-proficiency-requirement> (<https://music.illinois.edu/english-proficiency-requirement/>). Fall admission only; other terms of entry by departmental petition approval only.

Requirements for admission to the **Master of Music in Education (MME)** are:

For MME applicants with public school experience:

For MME applicants without public school experience:

Applicants seeking admission to the MME + Licensure program, should review the requirements found online at <https://music.illinois.edu/prospective-students> (<https://music.illinois.edu/prospective-students/>).

Applicants to the MME whose native language is not English must present an iBT score of 96 for the Master of Music Education (MME). A TOEFL iBT of 103 or higher is required for Full Status Admission to the University of Illinois Graduate College and School of Music. For the full English proficiency requirements, please see: <https://music.illinois.edu/english-proficiency-requirement>

The School of Music offers an academic year program and a Summers-only MME. For academic year applications, the School of Music offers Fall admission only; spring term of entry by departmental petition approval only.

Requirements for admission to the **Doctor of Musical Arts** and the **Doctor of Philosophy** in Musicology programs are the Master of Music degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign or an equivalent degree from another accredited institution.

Applicants to the **Doctor of Musical Arts** programs must have:

The School of Music requires all new **DMA** students to complete entrance examinations in musicology, music theory, musicianship, and score reading. These exams take place the week before the fall term begins. See the School of Music's Graduate Resources (<https://music.illinois.edu/resources/>) page for more information.

Applicants to the DMA or PhD whose native language is not English must submit an iBT score of 96. A TOEFL iBT of 103 or higher is required for Full Status Admission to the University of Illinois Graduate College and School of Music. For the full English proficiency requirements please see: <https://music.illinois.edu/english-proficiency-requirement> (<https://music.illinois.edu/english-proficiency-requirement/>).

For information about admission to the MME and PhD in Music Education, please visit www.music.illinois.edu (<https://music.illinois.edu/>).

Language Requirements

For the Master of Music program, applicants in voice and vocal accompanying and coaching are required to have had at least one year each of college-level French, German, and Italian or the equivalent. Applicants in other applied music areas, composition, conducting, and musicology are required to have had one year of any language at the college level or the equivalent.

All Doctor of Musical Arts candidates will be required to demonstrate proficiency in at least one language other than English. Each area may specify which language is required or may require proficiency in more than one language. Please review the current Graduate Music Handbook (<https://music.illinois.edu/graduate-handbooks/>) for more details.

Proficiency is required in two languages, depending on the proposed field of specialization, for candidates in the Doctor of Philosophy in Musicology program. This may be demonstrated through two years of undergraduate study in each language.

For all Graduate Degrees:

For those students who do not meet the language requirement at the time of entrance, it may be satisfied by evidence of two years of undergraduate study or the equivalent, or by completion of a two-semester, or by satisfactory test scores. For up-to-date information regarding the language requirements of the School of Music, please see the Graduate Music Handbook (<https://music.illinois.edu/graduate-handbooks/>).

Graduate Teaching Experience

Although teaching is not a general Graduate College requirement, experience in teaching is considered an important part of the graduate experience.

Financial Aid

Fellowships, teaching, graduate, and research assistantships are awarded on a one-year basis with continuation dependent upon success in the program. Specific information on application procedures is available from the Music Admissions Office, (217) 244-7899; musicadmissions@illinois.edu.

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For additional details and requirements refer to the department's Graduate Handbook <https://music.illinois.edu/graduate-handbooks> (<https://music.illinois.edu/graduate-handbooks/>) and the Graduate College Handbook (<http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/>).

Code	Title	Hours
MUS 528	Res & Bibliography in Music (sections A1-A3)	2
MUS 506	Graduate Level Composition	12
Courses in Theory of Music		8
choose one from MUS 400 or MUS 408 sections B-C		
choose one from MUS 408 sections D-E		
additional courses may be selected from MUS 407, 505, 507 and 525		
Electives selected in consultation with the student's advisor.		10
Master's Comprehensive Examination		
Must present a portfolio of their works for approval by the composition faculty.		
Language Requirements:		
Courses taken to meet language requirements do not count toward the degree. See the departmental handbook for details.		
Code	Title	Hours
Concentration requirements as listed in table above.		
Total Hours		32

Other Requirements

Requirement	Description
Other requirements may overlap	
Concentration required	Yes
Minimum 500-level hours required overall:	12
Minimum GPA:	3.0