

THE CRANE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Graduate Programs of Study

Master of Music

Composition, Music Education or Performance

The Crane School of Music is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM).

The Crane School of Music offers programs leading to the Master of Music (MM) degree in composition, music education and performance. These programs are designed to meet student interests, needs and requirements within a framework that provides opportunities to pursue a balance of academic and professionally oriented courses. Full-time students with no deficiencies can usually earn a master's degree in one full calendar year (three semesters of study). Music education students may complete their program in three or more summers.

A minimum of 24 credit hours for 30-hour programs must be earned in courses offered by SUNY Potsdam. A minimum of 18 credit hours must be earned at the Potsdam campus. With prior approval from the Dean of The Crane School of Music or his designee, a maximum of six credit hours may be transferred from other approved colleges and universities.

For those persons holding Initial certification to teach music K–12 in the State of New York, all degree programs in The Crane School of Music are designed to fulfill the academic requirements for Professional certification to teach music K–12 in the State of New York. Candidates must submit their certification application directly to the New York State Education Department.

For persons who have earned a baccalaureate degree in music that did not lead to teacher certification, it is possible to complete the undergraduate coursework required for Initial certification as a separate program or while working on coursework for a Master's degree. The program takes at least two (2) years. Contact the Crane Office of Music Education for more information.

The master's degree candidate has six years from the date of Full Admission to satisfy all degree requirements.

Performance

Master of Music (MM)

Course Requirements

A minimum of 30 credit hours with an overall grade point average of 3.0 or higher is required for the granting of the Master of Music, Performance degree.

The 30 credit hours are divided as follows:

- MUCH 611* Introduction to Graduate Study
- MUCP 640 Literature and Pedagogy (2 credits)
- MUCP 681 Chamber Music (1 credit)
- MUCS 630 Performance Concentration (9 credits)
- MUCP 5xx Performance elective
- MUCX 5xx Non-performance elective
- Music Theory or Music History/Literature Electives (9 credits)
 - a. at least three credits in music theory
 - b. at least three credits in music history and literature

* MUCH 611 should be taken during the first semester of study.

All courses are 3 credits unless noted.

Additional Graduation Requirement

Each student in the Master of Music degree program in Performance must also perform a graduate recital and complete a final oral examination. Both requirements will be evaluated by a committee of faculty members. Successful completion of the graduate recital is a requirement for the Master of Music degree in Performance. Prior to the graduate recital, the student will submit to the committee one of the following:

- a. detailed program notes of the works to be performed on the recital; or
- b. an analytical/historical paper focusing on the works to be performed on the recital.

The format will be at the discretion of the studio instructor. The document will be discussed/defended during the final oral examination.

Composition (academic year program only)

Master of Music (MM)

Course Requirements

A minimum of 30 credit hours with an overall grade point average of 3.0 or higher is required for the granting of the Master of Music, Composition degree.

The 30 credit hours are divided as follows:

MUCH 611* Introduction to Graduate Study
MUCT 697 Thesis in Music Composition (6 credits)
(original composition with accompanying analytical paper)

Electives:

MUCH 6xx Music History and Literature
MUCT 6xx Composition (9 credits)
(including a course in electronic music)

MUCT 5xx Music Theory (6 credits)

Elective

* MUCH 611 should be taken during the first semester of study.

All courses are 3 credits unless noted.

Music Education

Master of Music (MM)

Course Requirements

A minimum of 30 credit hours with an overall grade point average of 3.0 or higher is required for the granting of the Master of Music, Music Education degree. Students may select one of two options: with Thesis (Option A) or without Thesis (Option B). Upon entering the program all students are placed in the Option B (without thesis) program. If a student would like to transfer to the Option A (with thesis) program they should request the change after taking "Introduction to Graduate Study."

Music Education Final Oral Exam

Upon entering the program, students will create a list of 3 questions; one question based on curriculum work, one question based on historical/philosophical influences and one question self-generated. These questions will frame the graduate learning experiences and culminate with a presentation during the final oral exam. Four weeks before the final oral exam, students will submit an outline of their final oral presentation along with a bibliography. For the final oral meeting, students will create a ½ hour presentation which highlights how their graduate journey has answered the questions posed in the beginning of the degree work and illustrate how the student has synthesized their learning. The presentation will end with the student's vision for future learning. Following the presentation, committee members will have 45 minutes to question the candidate about the presentation or any aspect of their degree program.

Presentation and documentation will be evaluated on the following:

1. Thoroughness in addressing the questions submitted.
2. Synthesis of understanding through application of learning to future teaching and a plan for implementation of new ideas.
3. Artistry in presentation so that what is presented is synthesized and artfully arranged.
4. General scholarship and organization.

Music Education (MM)

Option A: Music Education with Thesis

The 30 credit hours are divided as follows:

MUCE 601 Philosophy & Issues in Music Education
MUCE 608 Curriculum Development in the School Music Program

MUCH 611* Introduction to Graduate Study
MUCE 699 Thesis/Graduate Research Project in Music Education (6 credits)

MUCE 5xx A course in Music Education
MUCH 6xx A course in Music History & Literature
MUCT 5xx A course in Music Theory
Elective A course in Education

A music content course (3 credits in Graduate Music History, Theory or Performance)

* MUCH 611 should be taken during the first semester of study.

Music Education (MM)

Option B: Music Education without Thesis

The 30 credit hours are divided as follows:

MUCE 601 Philosophies & Issues in Music Education
MUCE 608 Curriculum Development in the School Music Program

MUCH 611* Introduction to Graduate Study
MUCH 6xx A course in Music History/Literature
MUCT 5xx A course in Music Theory

A music content course (Music History, Theory or Performance)

Elective in Education

Elective in Music Education

General Electives (6 credits)

* MUCH 611 should be taken during the first semester of study.

All courses are 3 credits unless noted.

Piano Pedagogy Concentration (academic year only)

Course Requirements

Piano Pedagogy Concentration candidates will complete the following nine-credit sequence of courses. Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of an audition in piano and approval of the Coordinator of Piano Pedagogy. The audition should consist of 20 minutes of memorized solo piano repertoire from at least two different style periods. Piano teaching experience and completed coursework in piano pedagogy at the undergraduate level are strongly recommended.

MUCE 660 Piano Pedagogy I
 MUCE 661 Piano Pedagogy II
 MUCE 663 Project in Piano Pedagogy

Additionally, a graduate level course in performance concentration in piano (MUCE 620, two credits) is strongly recommended.

All courses are 3 credits unless noted.

General Graduate Admission Requirements (see page 9)

Additional Admission Requirements

1. Evidence of an earned baccalaureate degree in music from an accredited college or university.
2. Submission of two letters of recommendation.
3. A minimum undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 (A=4.0) is required to qualify for Full Admission. Applicants with a GPA between 2.75 and 3.0 may be granted, upon the recommendation of the Crane Graduate Program Committee, Provisional Admission. A student provisionally admitted into the graduate program cannot, during the first semester of study, enroll in more than 12 credits during any fall or spring semester or six credits during the summer session. After one semester of study, the student's progress will be reviewed by the Crane Graduate Program Committee and the student will be granted either Full Admission, a renewal of Provisional Status or be dismissed from the program.
4. A minimum undergraduate core GPA of 3.0 is required for full admission. Graduate students who earned an average GPA between 2.75 and 3.0 in their undergraduate musicianship core (music theory, music history and aural skills) must take and pass a graduate theory and history exam before admission to any music graduate program will be considered. Applicants with a core GPA of lower than 2.75 will not be admitted.

Applicants who earned an average GPA of 3.0 or higher in their undergraduate musicianship core are exempt from the exams. For more information, please contact the Crane Graduate Program Administrator.

5. A demonstration of competency, including one of the following sets of requirements as defined by the specific program of study:

A. Music Education

1. An essay or college-level paper on a topic in music education that demonstrates the student's ability to organize ideas, research a topic, and write in an academic style. The essay must be typewritten, well documented and include a bibliography; and
2. Demonstration of musicianship via an audition on the applicant's principal instrument, and a video tape/DVD/internet link of the applicant teaching in a general music classroom or conducting a rehearsal or performance of an ensemble.

B. Composition

A portfolio of representative compositions.

C. Performance

A live audition for at least three faculty in the applicant's performance area (brass, strings, voice, etc.). In some conditions, the submission of a high-quality tape, DVD, internet link or video recording will be accepted.

Notes: All papers, essays, compositions, and audio and video tapes will be reviewed by appropriate members of the Crane graduate faculty. Auditions for admission (live or taped) to the performance degree program will be heard and evaluated by at least three faculty of the appropriate performance area. The student's complete file (including faculty evaluations of the above materials) will be reviewed by the Crane Graduate Program Committee at which time a recommendation for admission to the degree program will be made to the Director of Graduate Studies and the Dean of The Crane School of Music.

6. All graduate admission materials must be received by April 1 to be considered for fall academic year admission and September 15 for Spring admission. Summer applications should be received by March 15. Please allow sufficient time for processing applications.
7. Assistantships in Music: Crane awards a number of graduate assistantships each spring for the following academic year (fall and spring only). Applicants interested in applying for a music assistantship must complete and submit an "Application for Assistantships in Music" no later than March 15 of the year of matriculation.

Assistantship applications are also distributed with all requests for graduate music admission applications.

Thesis or Graduate Research Project

A thesis or appropriate graduate project is required of all students in the following MM degree programs: Music Education with Thesis (Option A, 30 credit hours) and Composition. Students must register for the appropriate section of Thesis (MUCE 699, MUCH 699, MUCT 692, MUCT 699) every semester after they begin the project until its completion. Students enrolled in Thesis will receive the designation In-Progress (IP) on their transcript for each semester until the project is completed. Each student in the above MM degree programs must submit a proposal for a thesis or graduate project to a three-member committee by the end of the second semester or second summer of study. A student may not register for coursework beyond the second semester until the proposal has been approved by the committee.