

# Music Education

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## Master of Music (MM)

The education programs at SUNY Potsdam are committed to the preparation and enhancement of teachers who are grounded in disciplinary knowledge emanating from the arts and sciences and in curricular and instructional theory and practice. The Master of Music in Music Education program strives to assist teachers to become reflective practitioners, lifelong learners, and persons able to integrate their knowledge of subject matter, pedagogy, students, the school and the larger community to maximize the education and welfare of students. The program is committed to enriching and sustaining teachers who hold knowledge and attitudes needed in dealing with the challenges facing schools today and in the future, including the increased diversity of the student population in terms of abilities, linguistics, ethnic and cultural backgrounds; rapid technological advancements; changes in assessment practices; and school restructuring and reform.

### 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*.

See below for details about the two options.

## **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 or 6xx A course in Music Education

MUCH 5xx or 6xx A course in Music History & Literature

MUCT 5xx or 6xx A course in Music Theory\*\*

Elective A course in Education or Music Education

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

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

\*\* Composition courses (MUCT 601, 602, 603, 611, 612, 613) cannot be used to fulfill this requirement

*All courses are 3 credits unless noted.*

#### Thesis or Graduate Research Project

- A thesis or appropriate graduate project is required of all students in the M.M. Music Education, Option A degree program.
- Students must register for MUCE 699: Thesis in Music Education every semester after they begin the project until its completion.
- Students will receive "In-Progress" (IP) on their transcript each semester until the project is completed.
- A proposal must be submitted 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.

#### *Music Education Final Oral Exam*

For students in Option A, the thesis will be discussed and defended during the final oral examination.

## **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 5xx or 6xx A course in Music History/Literature

MUCT 5xx or 6xx A course in Music Theory\*\*

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

MUCE 5xx or 6xx A course in Music Education

Elective A course in Education or Music Education

General Electives (6 credits)

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

\*\* Composition courses (MUCT 601, 602, 603, 611, 612, 613) cannot be used to fulfill this requirement

*All courses are 3 credits unless noted.*

### *Music Education Final Oral Exam*

Upon entering the program, students in Option B 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 half-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:

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

The three-person oral examination committee will confer immediately following the examination and announce the results to the student.

- For the student whose performance during the final examination is satisfactory, each committee member will sign the Final Oral Examination Completion form. The recommendation of the committee must be unanimous in order for a student to pass the final oral examination.
- For the student whose performance during the final examination is unsatisfactory, the committee has

two options:

- a. The student must retake the oral examination, presenting the entire oral presentation or the portion(s) of the presentation that the committee found to be unsatisfactory followed by the questions from the committee. A student is allowed one rehearing. A third examination will not be given.
- b. The student must prepare a formal paper focusing on the portion(s) of the examination that the committee found to be unsatisfactory. The paper will be evaluated either by the full committee or by one designated member of the committee. The paper must be submitted within two semesters of the original examination date. A student is only allowed one opportunity to submit a paper. A second paper will not be considered.