

# MUSIC, MM

**Banner Code:** AR-MM-MUSI

## Music Academic Advisor

A417 deLaski Performing Arts Building  
Fairfax Campus

Phone: 703-993-1392

Email: [music@gmu.edu](mailto:music@gmu.edu)

Website: [music.gmu.edu/degree-programs/graduate/](http://music.gmu.edu/degree-programs/graduate/)

The Master of Music (MM) degree is offered as an educational channel to meet the intellectual and career needs of qualified students. It is a comprehensive and advanced program of study with a choice of concentrations in Performance, Music Education, Composition, Conducting, Jazz Studies, Collaborative Piano, and Pedagogy. The Master of Music with a concentration in Music Education does not provide licensure to teach music in public or private schools.

## Admissions & Policies

### Admissions

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified on the Graduate Admissions policy page (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/>). Specific graduate admissions requirements can be found on the College of Visual and Performing Arts Graduate Admissions requirements page (<https://cvpa.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/graduate-admission-requirements/>).

### Diagnostic Entrance Exam

All students except those enrolled in the MM in music education are required to complete diagnostic entrance examinations in music theory, music history, aural skills, and basic keyboard skills. These examinations must be taken prior to the beginning of the first semester of graduate study. A sufficient placement score can reduce or eliminate prerequisites for some of the 600-level and above courses in music theory and history.

### Foreign Language Exams (Vocal Performance Emphasis)

Students in the MM degree program (emphasis in vocal performance) must take proficiency exams in French, German, Italian, and English to demonstrate diction competency. Students may be required to take MUSI 525 (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/search/?P=MUSI%20525>) Performance Seminar and Vocal Literature for Singers and Accompanists I and MUSI 526 (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/search/?P=MUSI%20526>) Performance Seminar and Vocal Literature for Singers and Accompanists II.

### Policies

500- to 800-level music courses may be counted as electives except for the following classes: MUSI 501, MUSI 502, MUSI 516, MUSI 532, MUSI 533. These are review courses that cover undergraduate-level material and they may not be counted toward the MM, DMA, or Ph.D.

For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/>).

See College of Visual and Performing Arts (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/visual-performing-arts/>) for policies specific to the college.

### Program Requirements

A student must successfully complete the appropriate 30 credits in graduate music courses. With approval of the graduate advisor, 3 non-music graduate credits may be taken.

The student is admitted as concentrating in one of seven areas: performance, music education, composition, conducting, jazz studies, collaborative piano, or pedagogy. All students are required to complete the 11 credits described as General Requirements plus 19 credits in one of the six areas identified as Additional Requirements. There are some limited possibilities for double concentrations. For details, see the director of graduate studies.

## Requirements

### Degree Requirements

Total credits: 30

#### General Requirements for All Concentrations

Music Education students will have 9 credits of General Requirements and 21 credits of Concentration Requirements; all other concentrations will have 11 credits of General Requirements and 19 credits of Concentration Requirements.

Code	Title	Credits
Select 2 credits of Graduate Ensemble (all concentrations except Music Education) from the following:		
MUSI 681	Graduate Choral Ensembles	
MUSI 682	Wind Symphony	
MUSI 683	Symphonic Band	
MUSI 685	Graduate Chamber Ensemble	
MUSI 687	Symphony Orchestra	
MUSI 688	Opera and Musical Theater Ensemble	
MUSI 689	Jazz Ensemble	
MUSI 611	Analytical Techniques	3
or MUSI 610	Topics in Music Theory	
or MUSI 710	Advanced Topics in Music Theory	
MUSI 630	Topics in Music History and Literature	3
or MUSI 640	Topics in World Musics	
or MUSI 730	Advanced Topics in Music History	
MUSI 662	Introduction to Research in Music	3
MUSI 698	Comprehensive Exit Exam/Portfolio	0
CVPA 600	CVPA Graduate ProSeminar <sup>1</sup>	0
Total Credits		11

<sup>1</sup>

Must be taken within the student's first 2 semesters.

### Concentration in Composition (CPO)

Code	Title	Credits
Nine credits of		9
MUSI 728	Applied Music in Composition	
MUSI 613	Graduate Orchestration <sup>1</sup>	3
Select one from the following:		3
MUSI 630	Topics in Music History and Literature	
or MUSI 640	Topics in World Musics	
MUSI 730	Advanced Topics in Music History	
MUSI 610	Topics in Music Theory	
MUSI 710	Advanced Topics in Music Theory	
MUSI 790	Graduate Recital	1
Graduate Electives		3
Total Credits		19

1

Students may pass out of MUSI 613 Graduate Orchestration with a satisfactory score on the Graduate Orchestration Placement Exam. In this case, students will take an additional 3 credits of a theory or history elective chosen from: MUSI 610 Topics in Music Theory, MUSI 710 Advanced Topics in Music Theory, MUSI 630 Topics in Music History and Literature, or MUSI 730 Advanced Topics in Music History.

### Concentration in Conducting (CDC)

The number of students accepted in the graduate conducting concentration is limited by the extent to which it is possible to provide students with practical experience.

Code	Title	Credits
Nine credits of		9
MUSI 729	Applied Music in Conducting	
MUSI 613	Graduate Orchestration	3
MUSI 790	Graduate Recital	1
Select 3 credits of graduate electives		3
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
MUSI 610	Topics in Music Theory	
or MUSI 710	Advanced Topics in Music Theory	
MUSI 630	Topics in Music History and Literature	
or MUSI 640	Topics in World Musics	
or MUSI 730	Advanced Topics in Music History	
MUSI 712	Composition for Conductors and Performers	
Total Credits		19

### Concentration in Jazz Studies (JAZZ)

Code	Title	Credits
MUSI 615	Advanced Jazz Improvisation	3
MUSI 650	Topics in Jazz Studies	3
Select 9 credits of Graduate Applied Music from the following:		9
MUSI 721	Applied Music	
MUSI 722	Applied Music in Keyboard	
MUSI 723	Applied Music in Voice	
MUSI 724	Applied Music in Woodwind	
MUSI 725	Applied Music in Brass	
MUSI 726	Applied Music in String	

MUSI 727	Applied Music in Percussion	
MUSI 790	Graduate Recital	1
Select 3 credits of graduate electives		3
Total Credits		19

### Concentration in Music Education (MUE)

Code	Title	Credits
Six credits of		6
MUSI 592	Topics in Music (or)	
MUSI 660	Topics in Music Education	
MUSI 661	Psychology of Music Teaching and Learning	3
MUSI 663	Philosophy of Music Education	3
Select 9 credits of 500 - 800 level MUSI courses <sup>1</sup>		9
Total Credits		21

1

Must be approved by advisor.

### Concentration in Performance (PFM)

Code	Title	Credits
Select 1 credit of Graduate Ensemble from the following:		1
MUSI 681	Graduate Choral Ensembles	
MUSI 682	Wind Symphony	
MUSI 683	Symphonic Band	
MUSI 685	Graduate Chamber Ensemble	
MUSI 687	Symphony Orchestra	
MUSI 688	Opera and Musical Theater Ensemble	
MUSI 689	Jazz Ensemble	
Select 8 credits of 500 - 800 level MUSI electives <sup>1</sup>		8
Select 9 credits of Graduate Applied Music from the following:		9
MUSI 721	Applied Music	
MUSI 722	Applied Music in Keyboard	
MUSI 723	Applied Music in Voice	
MUSI 724	Applied Music in Woodwind	
MUSI 725	Applied Music in Brass	
MUSI 726	Applied Music in String	
MUSI 727	Applied Music in Percussion	
MUSI 790	Graduate Recital	1
Total Credits		19

1

Piano Performance requires 3 credits of MUSI 573 Accompanying and Musicianship III and 5 credits of 500 - 800 level MUSIC electives.

### Concentration in Pedagogy (PDGY)

Code	Title	Credits
MUSI 573	Accompanying and Musicianship III (piano pedagogy only; all other areas take 3 elective credits)	3
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
MUSI 551	Keyboard Pedagogy	
MUSI 552	Vocal Pedagogy and Lab	
MUSI 553	Instrumental Pedagogy and Literature	

Select 3 credits from the following:	3
MUSI 651 Keyboard Pedagogy II (piano pedagogy only)	
MUSI 652 Vocal Pedagogy II (vocal pedagogy only)	
MUSI 653 Instrumental Pedagogy II (instrumental pedagogy only)	
One credit of	1
MUSI 690 Graduate Lecture Recital	
Select 6 credits from the following:	6
MUSI 721 Applied Music	
MUSI 722 Applied Music in Keyboard	
MUSI 723 Applied Music in Voice	
MUSI 724 Applied Music in Woodwind	
MUSI 725 Applied Music in Brass	
MUSI 726 Applied Music in String	
MUSI 727 Applied Music in Percussion	
MUSI 695 Teaching Internship	2
MUSI 790 Graduate Recital	1
Total Credits	19

### Concentration in Collaborative Piano (COLP)

Code	Title	Credits
MUSI 573	Accompanying and Musicianship III	3
MUSI 695	Teaching Internship	2
8 credits of:		8
MUSI 722	Applied Music in Keyboard	
2 credits of:		2
MUSI 790	Graduate Recital	
Select 4 credits of electives from the following:		4
MUSI 525	Performance Seminar and Vocal Literature for Singers and Accompanists I	
MUSI 526	Performance Seminar and Vocal Literature for Singers and Accompanists II	
MUSI 541	Diction for Singers I: Italian Diction and English Diction	
MUSI 542	Diction for Singers II: German Diction and French Diction	
MUSI 572	Techniques of Accompanying II	
MUSI 610	Topics in Music Theory	
MUSI 630 or MUSI 640	Topics in Music History and Literature or Topics in World Musics	
MUSI 685	Graduate Chamber Ensemble	
MUSI 695	Teaching Internship	
MUSI 710	Advanced Topics in Music Theory	
MUSI 730	Advanced Topics in Music History	
Total Credits		19

## Accelerated Master's

### Music, BM (Performance)/Music, Accelerated MM (Performance)

#### Overview

Academically strong undergraduates in the Music, BM (Performance concentration) program may apply to the accelerated Music, MM (Performance concentration). If accepted, students will be able to earn a Music, BM (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/visual-performing-arts/music/music-bm/>) (Performance concentration) and a Music, MM (Performance concentration) after satisfactory completion of 150 credits.

For more detailed information, see AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-7>). For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/>).

#### BAM Pathway Admission Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in the Graduate Admission Policies (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/>) section of this catalog.

Students are eligible to apply for this accelerated program once they have earned at least 60 undergraduate credits. After successfully completing 75 undergraduate credits, students must use at least 3 and no more than 12 credits of advanced standing courses (see below) to both complete the bachelor's degree and begin the masters. An additional six credits may be held in reserve for the master's degree, but cannot be used to complete the bachelors.

Important information on how to apply for this accelerated master's program can be found in the University's Accelerated Master's Application Guide. (<https://www2.gmu.edu/admissions-aid/apply-now/how-apply/accelerated-masters/>)

#### Accelerated Master's Admission Requirements

Undergraduate students admitted to the accelerated master's program pathway will be fully admitted into the MA program if they meet the following requirements, as verified on the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form (<https://registrar.gmu.edu/wp-content/uploads/BAMT.pdf>):

- Minimum overall GPA of 3.00
- Completion of specific undergraduate coursework
- Successfully meet Mason's requirements for undergraduate degree conferral (graduation) and complete the application for graduation
- Minimum grade of B in each advanced standing course
- Submission of BAM Transition Form to the School of Music advisor at the beginning of student's final undergraduate semester. Full details can be found at AP.6.7.3 (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-7-3>)

#### Accelerated Pathway Requirements

To maintain the integrity and quality of both the undergraduate and graduate degree programs, undergraduate students in the Accelerated Pathway must choose from the following Advanced Standing courses,

which can be taken as Advanced Standing or Reserve Graduate credit courses. Reserve Graduate credit course options cannot be taken as Advanced Standing.

Code	Title	Credits
Advanced Standing courses (up to 12 credits with a minimum grade of B in each) <sup>1</sup>		
MUSI 573	Accompanying and Musicianship III	3
MUSI 613	Graduate Orchestration	3
MUSI 651	Keyboard Pedagogy II	3
MUSI 652	Vocal Pedagogy II	3
MUSI 653	Instrumental Pedagogy II	3
Reserve Graduate Credit courses (up to 6 credits) taken while an undergraduate and will only count for the graduate degree program		
MUSI 610	Topics in Music Theory	3
MUSI 611	Analytical Techniques	3
MUSI 630	Topics in Music History and Literature	3
MUSI 640	Topics in World Musics	3
MUSI 662	Introduction to Research in Music	3
MUSI 664	Advanced Pedagogy	3

<sup>1</sup>

These courses are cross-listed graduate/undergraduate classes and must not have been taken previously at the undergraduate level.

For more detailed information on coursework and timeline requirements, see AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-7>).