Master of Music in Music Performance: Voice and Opera

Master of Music in Performance Degree Programs

M.M. degree programs in music performance:

- Bassoon
- Carillon
- Cello
- Church music
- Clarinet
- Collaborative piano
- Double bass
- Euphonium
- Flute
- French horn
- Harp
- Oboe
- Opera performance
- Organ
- Percussion
- Piano
- Saxophone
- Trumpet
- Trombone
- Tuba
- Viola
- Violin
- Voice

M.M. in Performance Admission

The applicant must perform an audition before at least two members of the faculty of the major performance division. In some cases, a video recording may be submitted in lieu of a live performance. A complete list of repertoire studied, including past recital programs, should be included with the graduate application. A pre-screening audition is required for voice and piano applicants. View School of Music audition requirements and procedures (http://music.ku.edu/prospective/auditions.shtml).

Students in opera performance must take a minimum of 1 year each in French, German, and Italian before entering graduate studies or before completing the M.M. degree. For the master’s degree program in voice, the language requirement is 1 year of 2 of the following: French, German, or Italian. Both programs have prerequisites in French, German, and Italian diction. Students found deficient in a particular area of diction must enroll in the specific course in which they are deficient and pass it with a minimum grade of C or demonstrate proficiency by passing a diction diagnostic examination. A student whose transcript shows she or he has passed a particular language diction course normally is considered proficient in the diction of that language.

Graduate Admission to the School of Music

Application procedures and program requirements can change. Please visit the School of Music Admissions webpage (http://music.ku.edu/applyaudition/#graduate) for current information.

Graduate programs in the School of Music are open to students with acceptable baccalaureate degrees, as specified by the admitting areas, whose academic records indicate that they can do successful work at the graduate level. Regular admission requires a bachelor's degree and a grade-point average of at least a B (3.0 on a 4.0 scale), from KU or from another regionally accredited institution or foreign university with substantially equivalent bachelor's degree requirements.

Program Areas

Graduate study in the School of Music is organized into program areas within 2 units:

- Music includes programs in composition, conducting, musicology, music theory, and areas of performance.
- Music Education and Music Therapy (MEMT) includes programs in music education or music therapy.

At least a 3.0 grade-point average, overall and in the major area, is required for all course work counted toward any graduate degree in the School of Music. If the overall grade-point average falls below 3.0, the student is placed on probation for one semester; if the cumulative average is not 3.0 or higher after the next semester, the student is dismissed from the program. Students must also achieve at least a grade of B in thesis, lecture-recital, document or dissertation, and on each recital for satisfactory completion of degree requirements.

Diagnostic Examinations

All entering graduate students (except music education, music therapy, and opera performance majors) must take written diagnostic examinations in musicology and music theory. These are given the week before the start of classes in the Fall and Spring semesters to determine whether a need exists for remedial work in those areas prior to enrolling in graduate coursework. Students who show the need for remediation must complete the prescribed review courses or show mastery of the material by re-examination. Graduate students entering programs in piano must take additional tests in piano literature given before the start of classes. A student is exempt if he or she received a bachelor’s or master’s degree in music from the University of Kansas within the previous 4 years.

M.M. in Performance Degree Requirements

A final solo recital is required for all master’s degrees in performance. A recital preview is left to the discretion of the faculty members of each division. In divisions with no preview requirement, the option to have a preview is still available to students and faculty members. Divisions must
approve recital content well in advance but no less than 3 weeks before the recital date. The Master’s recital must be given before the final oral exam can occur.

**Final Oral Exam**

Master’s degree students must schedule and pass a final oral exam. The student's 3-member Graduate Advisory Committee consists of the student's major professor, one member from the student's major division and one musicology or music theory professor. This committee administers the final oral exam.

**Language and Diction Requirements**

Students in opera performance must take a minimum of 1 year each in French, German, and Italian before entering graduate studies or before completing the M.M. degree. For the master’s degree program in voice, the language requirement is 1 year of 2 of the following: French, German, or Italian. Both programs have prerequisites in French, German, and Italian diction. Students found deficient in a particular area of diction must enroll in the specific course in which they are deficient and pass it with a minimum grade of C or demonstrate proficiency by passing a diction diagnostic examination. A student whose transcript shows she or he has passed a particular language diction course normally is considered proficient in the diction of that language.

**A program of study in opera performance (minimum of 30 credits) is as follows:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VOIC 811</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocal coaching</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSC 801</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced course in music theory or musicology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opera workshop and opera production</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant role in a fully staged opera production with orchestra</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The written diagnostic examinations in musicology and music theory are not required in the opera performance program.

**A program of study in voice (minimum of 30 credits) is as follows:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VOIC 811</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSC 801</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced courses in musicology and music theory</td>
<td>9-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced vocal repertoire</td>
<td>2-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

View a check sheet (http://music.ku.edu/resources/checksheets.shtml) for these degree programs.