

MUSIC EDUCATION - PH.D.

College of the Arts
School of Music
www.kent.edu/music/

About This Program

Embark on a transformative journey in music education with our Ph.D. degree. Dive deep into innovative research, refine your teaching methodologies and become a trailblazer in the field. Join us at Kent State University and shape the future of music educators.

Contact Information

- **Jay Dorfman** | jdorfma2@kent.edu | 330-672-3871
- Connect with an Admissions Counselor: U.S. Student | International Student

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Art, drama, and music teachers, postsecondary

- 5.6% faster than the average
- 116,300 number of jobs
- \$69,690 potential earnings

Education teachers, postsecondary

- 4.8% about as fast as the average
- 77,300 number of jobs
- \$65,440 potential earnings

Middle school teachers, except special and career/technical education

- 3.6% about as fast as the average
- 627,100 number of jobs
- \$60,810 potential earnings

Secondary school teachers, except special and career/technical education

- 3.8% about as fast as the average
- 1,050,800 number of jobs
- \$62,870 potential earnings

Accreditation

National Association of Schools of Music; National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

For more information about graduate admissions, visit the graduate admission website. For more information on international admissions, visit the international admission website.

Admission Requirements

- Master's degree from an accredited college or university
- Bachelor's or master's degree in music education
- Minimum 3.000 undergraduate GPA on a 4.000-point scale
- Official transcript(s)
- Current and valid state teaching license earned from an accredited U.S. university program
- Minimum three years of successful teaching experience at elementary and/or secondary levels
- Video/DVD sample of school music teaching
- Résumé or curriculum vitae of professional musical and teaching work
- Goal statement
- Scholarly writing sample of related discipline
- Three letters of reference (professional and pedagogical)
- Interview with music education faculty (via voice, video or personal campus visit)
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions to waive) by earning one of the following:¹
 - Minimum 71 TOEFL iBT score
 - Minimum 6.0 IELTS score
 - Minimum 50 PTE score
 - Minimum 100 DET score

¹ International applicants who do not meet the above test scores may be considered for conditional admission.

Application Deadlines

- **Fall Semester**
 - Rolling admissions
- **Spring Semester**
 - Rolling admissions
- **Summer Term**
 - Rolling admissions

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements		
CI 77001	FUNDAMENTALS OF CURRICULUM	3
CI 87000	THEORY AND RESEARCH IN TEACHING	3
MUS 73261	ADVANCED STUDIES IN SECONDARY CHORAL AND GENERAL MUSIC	3
or MUS 73262	ADVANCED STUDIES IN INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC	

or MUS 73263	ADVANCED STUDIES IN GENERAL MUSIC FOR CHILDREN	
MUS 73283	RESEARCH IN MUSIC EDUCATION	3
MUS 86001	SEMINAR IN MUSIC EDUCATION I	3
MUS 86002	SEMINAR IN MUSIC EDUCATION II	3
RMS 75510	STATISTICS I FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	3
RMS 85515	QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH DESIGN AND ANALYSIS	3
or RMS 85516	QUALITATIVE RESEARCH DESIGN	
Musical Literacy Electives ¹		6
Music Education Electives, choose from the following:		9
MUS 73272	LEARNING THEORIES IN MUSIC	
MUS 73273	PSYCHOLOGY OF MUSIC	
MUS 73274	FOUNDATIONS OF MUSIC EDUCATION	
MUS 73284	HISTORY OF MUSIC EDUCATION	
MUS 73285	PHILOSOPHY OF MUSIC EDUCATION	
MUS 73286	SOCIOLOGY OF MUSIC EDUCATION	
MUS 73295	SPECIAL TOPICS IN MUSIC EDUCATION	
Curriculum and Instruction Electives, choose from the following:		6
CI 71130	MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION: STRATEGIES	
CI 77002	CURRICULUM LEADERSHIP	
CI 77003	TEACHER EDUCATION	
CI 77004	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN TEACHING	
CI 77010	CURRICULUM EVALUATION	
CI 87001	THEORY AND RESEARCH IN CURRICULUM	
CI 87002	FORMS OF INQUIRY IN CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION	
<i>Culminating Requirement</i>		
MUS 88199	DISSERTATION I ²	30
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		75

¹ Students may be required to take courses in music theory, which will be applied toward the Musical Literacy requirement of the degree. Requirements will be determined based on the results of a diagnostic exam as stated in the Music Graduate Handbook. Remaining Musical Literacy credit hours are fulfilled by taking courses in music theory, music history, ethnomusicology, composition, conducting, music performance or other related topics of student interest as approved by the academic advisor.

² Upon successful completion of the candidacy examination, students take a dissertation topic from the proposal stage through approval, writing, submission and an oral defense process with a faculty committee comprised of the music education advisor, one additional music education faculty member, one representative from music education or education, a member from another music discipline area or education and an appointed graduate faculty representative. Each doctoral candidate, upon admission to candidacy, must register for MUS 88199 for a total of 30 credit hours. It is expected that a doctoral candidate will continuously register for Dissertation I, and thereafter MUS 88299, each semester, until all requirements for the degree have been met.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
-	3.000

Residency Requirements

Student must complete a residency requirement of minimum 9 credit hours each year until qualifying exams.

Candidacy Requirements

For the Ph.D. a comprehensive, qualifying, candidacy examination is taken when the student has substantially completed his/her coursework and has received the consent of the advisor committee to attempt the examination. The examination includes an extensive written section consisting of proctored and non-proctored questions, and an oral section taken before a faculty committee. Material for both written and oral sections is drawn from the coursework taken during the degree program, current professional research literature, and current topics in music education. Students who fail the candidacy examination two times will be dismissed from the doctoral program.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the program will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of music education research and practice relative to primary, secondary, undergraduate, masters and doctoral levels through writing and oral communication.
2. Engage in research activities appropriate to doctoral and professional level practice in music education.
3. Demonstrate active involvement at local, national and global levels through diverse professional activities, including but not limited to scholarly publications and presentations, collaborative research and engagement with other scholars in order to share knowledge in music and related fields.
4. Communicate a comprehensive and sophisticated knowledge of music education through the lens of history, philosophy, psychology, sociology, research methodologies, advanced pedagogy, learning theories and methods of curricular structure.
5. Demonstrate reading, research, writing and critical-thinking skills related to contemporary music education contexts.

School of Music Graduate Study Program Requirements

Each student will be accepted as a major in a specific curricular area. It may be necessary for the student to complete Kent State University requirements for the appropriate undergraduate degree. Students' academic requirements are based on the catalog in effect during their first semester at Kent State University. Students may elect to complete their degrees under the most recent catalog, but must comply with all the new requirements relevant to their program under the new catalog.

Master's Thesis, Essay, Recital and Final Oral Examination

All Master of Music degree candidates in Performance must perform two recitals or one recital and write an essay depending on their specific degree requirements. Final oral examinations are required for all masters programs. The final oral examination may be attempted two times.

Research Tool Requirement

Candidates for the Master of Arts degree in Ethnomusicology must demonstrate a reading and understanding knowledge of one foreign language. Credit hours earned in meeting this requirement are not applied toward the credit hour requirement for the program.

For Ph.D. degree candidates in Music Theory - Composition, this requirement may be either a reading translating knowledge of one foreign language or demonstrated competence in an area of research specified by the doctoral advisory committee and approved by the Graduate Studies Committee. Credit hours earned in meeting this requirement are not applied toward the credit hour requirement for the program. For Ph.D. degree candidates in Music Education, this requirement is MUS 73283 and related research methods courses in the College of Education, Health and Human Services. These courses are applied toward the credit hour requirement for the program.

Ph.D. Candidacy Exams, Dissertation and Dissertation Defense

Doctoral candidates will take a comprehensive examination upon completion of their coursework and research tool requirement. This candidacy exam normally takes place within four years of beginning coursework. All doctoral candidates write and defend a dissertation via a final oral examination. The dissertation phase normally is completed within five years of passing the candidacy exams.

Time Limits

Master of Arts and Master of Music degree candidates must complete their degree within six calendar years after their first graduate registration at Kent State University. Any credit transferred for meeting degree requirements must also have been earned within the six-year period.

Ph.D. degree candidates must complete their degree within nine calendar years after their first doctoral registration at Kent State University. Any credit transferred for meeting degree requirements must also have been earned within the nine-year period.

Workshop Credit

A maximum 4 credit hours of workshop credit may be applied toward certain graduate degrees. The credit hours must pertain to the degree emphasis. Only workshop credits earned with a B grade or higher may be transferred into a program.

Full Description

The Ph.D. degree in Music Education integrates teaching, theory and research in inquiry about music teaching and learning. Through a collaboration with Kent State's College of Education, Health and Human Services, the degree program allows for emerging scholars to engage in coursework and research in areas connecting musical and educational pedagogies. Students pursuing the Ph.D. degree are interested in preparing music teacher educators at institutions of higher learning; engaging in arts education activities; and exploring emerging practices in curriculum, artistic instruction and educational thought.