

Major in Church Music

Accreditation

The School of Music graduate programs are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music.

Graduate Degrees in Music

Graduate studies in music at Baylor University are designed to bring students to the highest levels of performance and scholarship of which they are capable. The graduate faculty of the School of Music is comprised of individuals who have distinguished themselves in their chosen disciplines and who maintain active performance, research, and other professional interests. Graduates from Baylor's School of Music hold positions in orchestras, opera companies, churches, academic settings, and other venues throughout the world. Assistantships are available in many performance and academic areas to enable students of superior ability to pursue a quality education in music at Baylor.

Graduates of recognized four-year courses leading to a bachelor's degree in music may become candidates for the Master of Music degree. Students desiring to become candidates for the degree must have the equivalent of the undergraduate major in music at Baylor University in the field of concentration in which they wish to continue. Those who lack courses prerequisite to graduate study may make up the undergraduate work, for which graduate credit may be granted, provided the course work is at the 4000 level and appropriate to the degree program. All students will take music theory and music history diagnostic examinations. Appropriate remedial course work may be required.

Admission

Applicants for degrees with emphasis in performance, collaborative piano, piano pedagogy, or the performance option of church music must audition (in person or submit a video recording of a recent performance) with repertoire of at least senior recital level. A repertoire list must be submitted for evaluation at the time of the audition. Applicants for the major in composition or the composition option in church music must submit a portfolio of recently completed compositions. An example of a recent paper is required of applicants who intend to pursue an emphasis in music history and literature, church music, or music theory.

Applicants in music education must submit a sample teaching video, a writing sample, a statement of intent, and a professional resume. Applicants seeking admission to the conducting program must submit a video of their work in both rehearsal and performance. Papers, composition portfolios, and recordings should be submitted to the Graduate Program Director, School of Music, One Bear Place #97408, Baylor University, Waco, TX 76798-7408.

The Graduate Record Examination General Test (GRE) is required of applicants in music history and literature and music theory; the GRE General Test is not required of church music, music education, composition, conducting, performance, piano pedagogy and performance, or collaborative piano majors.

Applicants in music history and literature must possess intermediate proficiency in German or French (see Graduate School Language Requirement).

Special Requirements for Master's Degrees

The normal time for completion of the requirements for the degree ranges from two semesters and a summer to four semesters. A minimum of thirty semester hours is required. No correspondence work may be counted for graduate credit. Enrollment in an ensemble, as assigned by the conducting faculty, is required throughout the term of residence. Ensemble participation is not required of Music Education students. Students in piano performance, piano pedagogy, collaborative piano, and organ performance may fulfill the ensemble requirement through accompanying as assigned by the Coordinator of Collaborative Piano.

All candidates for a master's degree must pass a comprehensive oral examination. Students who desire to pursue a double major (e.g., Music Theory and Piano Performance) must fulfill all application requirements for and be accepted by both areas. An additional 15-17 credit hours will be required to complete the major in the second area (the number of hours depends upon the majors chosen). Except for the core course requirements of 9 credit hours, no courses can be credited toward degree requirements in both areas (e.g., a recital in Piano Pedagogy and Performance cannot be used to fulfill degree requirements in Piano Performance).

The Master of Music degree is offered in the School of Music with majors in church music, composition, conducting, music education, music history and literature, music theory, performance, collaborative piano, and piano pedagogy and performance.

The core of study for all Master of Music degrees is as follows:

Core Courses 9 sem. hrs.

MUS 5302 Analytical Techniques

MUS 5320 Research Method and Bibliography (Music Education majors)

will take MUS 5334 Introduction to Graduate Study in Music Education)
MUS 5321 The Middle Ages
or
MUS 5322 The Renaissance
or
MUS 5323 The Baroque Period
or
MUS 5325 The Classic Period
or
MUS 5326 The Romantic Period
or
MUS 5328 The Twentieth Century

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Students who were not church music majors in their undergraduate degree will be required to take MUS 4273 Worship in the Church, MUS 4274 Congregational Song, and MUS 5243 Church Music Ministry or do equivalent study as pre-requisites to the appropriate 5000-level courses.

Required Courses for all Church Music Majors

Core Courses 9

MUS 5240 Worship in the Church 2

MUS 5241 Congregational Song 2

MUS 5242 Seminar in Music Ministry 2

MUS 5244 History of American Church Music

or

MUS 5245 Turning Points in Church Music

or

MUS 5246 Comparative Liturgies 2

MUS 5247 Choral/Vocal Music Ministries in the Church 2

MUS 5037 Baylor Association of Church Musicians

(4 semesters)

Concentration Courses

Option A: Thesis sem. hrs.

MUS 4261 Choral Conducting 2

MUS 5V99 Thesis 3

Applied Music 4

Electives 2

Total Hours 30

After the completion of applied study, students are required to present a performance project (representative program of works appropriate for church in the student's performance medium) to the church music faculty.

Option B: Performance sem. hrs.

Conducting (MUS 4260, 4261, or 4262) 2

Applied Major 7

MUS 5170 Graduate Recital 1

MUS 5141 Performance Document 1

Total Hours 30

Piano proficiency of level 4 required for vocal, instrumental, or organ emphasis, and level 7 for piano emphasis.

In the vocal and organ emphasis areas, the recital will consist primarily of sacred music; a collaborative and/or solo recital will be acceptable for a piano emphasis.

The document that accompanies the recital (MUS 5141) will be supervised by the church music faculty in cooperation with the appropriate applied faculty member(s).

Option C: Conducting sem. hrs.

Conducting and choral literature* 6

MUS 5170 Graduate Recital 1

MUS 5141 Performance Document 1

Electives 3

Total Hours 30

**Conducting courses selected from MUS 4260, 4261, 4262, 5270 and 4337.*

To be admitted to the program, the candidate must submit a video of conducting which will be evaluated by the conducting and church music faculties.

For the conducting project, the student will assemble a choir. In consultation with the church music faculty and the appropriate conducting faculty, the student will select repertoire

that reflects music from a variety of styles and periods. Approximately six anthems will be prepared and presented. The repertoire will be prepared under the supervision of the church music and choral conducting faculties. The document, which will be related to the repertoire of the concert or service, will be written under the supervision of the church music faculty.

Option D: Church Ministry sem. hrs.

MUS 5244* History of American Church Music

MUS 5245* Turning Points in Church Music

MUS 5246* Comparative Liturgies 2

MUS 5037 Baylor Association of Church Musicians

(4 semesters)

Applied 2

Conducting (MUS 4260, 4261, 4262) 2

Electives 3

**The student will take the two courses not taken as part of the required courses for all Church Music majors.*

Total Hours 30

Option E: Composition sem. hrs.

Composition* 6

MUS 5170 Graduate Recital** 1

Conducting (MUS 4260, 4261, 4262) 2

Electives 2

Total Hours 30

**Courses to be selected from 5207, 5208, 5209, or 5V89.*

***The recital may consist of a concert format, or a presentation of original compositions within a service.*