

Major in Music Theory

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

Major in Music Theory sem. hrs.

Core Courses 9

MUS 5201 Pedagogy of Theory 2

MUS 5301 History of Music Theory 3

MUS 5328 The Twentieth Century 3

MUS 5355 Analysis Seminar (two semesters) 6

MUS 5V99 Thesis 3

Electives 4

Enrolment in MUS 5010 (Academic Division Colloquium) is
required for every term in residence.

Total Hours 30

Supportive courses in music literature, music theory, composition, or applied music to
total a minimum of thirty hours. Piano proficiency of level V or two semesters of piano
with a minimum grade of "B" is required.