

New Program Proposal

Graduate Certificate in Music Performance

Graduate Certificate in Music Performance

Admission

Students who wish to earn a Graduate Certificate in Music Performance must hold at least one of the following degrees: a bachelor's degree in music, a master's degree in music, or a bachelor's degree in another field, providing the student can demonstrate outstanding musical achievement and ability in an audition. The prospective student must apply through initial contact with the appropriate applied instructor, and must provide this instructor with a statement of purpose and two letters of recommendation. The instructor will arrange an audition. If the student is accepted, she or he must then enroll in and be accepted to the Graduate School at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Requirements

Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 to remain in the certificate program. The certificate is awarded after completion of the courses listed below.

The Graduate Certificate in Music Performance is a 24-credit course of study made up of an 18-credit core curriculum and 6 elective credits. The Graduate Certificate in Music Performance must be completed within 3 years of initial enrollment in the program.

Core Requirements		
AP MUS 5440	Graduate Applied Music (taken each semester)	4
EN PER 5310	Graduate Chamber Ensemble (taken each semester)	4
EN PER 5490	Graduate Ensemble (taken each semester)	4
AP MUS 5001	Graduate Performers Certificate Recital I ¹	1
AP MUS 5002	Graduate Performers Certificate Recital II ¹	1
AP MUS 5003	Graduate Performers Certificate Lecture Recital ¹	1
PDGOGY 5001	Studio Pedagogy ¹	1

PRACTM 5001	Interacting with an Audience ¹	1
PRACTM 5002	Interdisciplinary Studies in Music ¹	1
Electives		
Choose 6 credit hours of electives. See below for more details.		6
Total Hours		24

Six (6) credits of elective study are required. The student is encouraged to use these elective credits to explore an interdisciplinary interest by taking any professionally pertinent course from another Department (3000-level or above), as approved by your applied music instructor, and the course instructor, if necessary. Or, these elective credits may be fulfilled by taking any 4000- or 5000-level course in the Department of Music.

The student is encouraged to consider that these electives may involve prerequisites that would not count toward the 24 credits for the Graduate Certificate in Music Performance. Check with both your advisor and the appropriate department before registering for elective classes.

Sign-offs from other departments affected by this proposal

None

Rationale

The proposed Graduate Certificate in Music Performance is an extremely cost effective way of bolstering the Department of Music's graduate presence, and improving UMSL's offerings as a serious option for post-baccalaureate music study. As this Certificate lies outside the normal progression of graduate degrees in music, it may serve students at any point in their graduate studies, as a "pre-master's degree," a degree in between the masters and a doctorate, or even a post-doctoral degree, thus making UMSL a potential destination for students specializing in music performance at any level of graduate study. In the area of classical music performance, many years of graduate study are typical, and students may well seek additional time in graduate school before finding a professional position. The flexibility of this Certificate offers graduate students the maximum number of opportunities to work with our fine faculty. In addition to the performance requirements (applied lessons, ensembles, chamber music), much of the coursework in this Graduate Certificate is performance-related and, therefore, designed to be taught and supervised by their applied instructor. For this reason, the Certificate program will not require additional faculty for its implementation. In fact, we do not foresee any additional instructional costs to the Department. Our applied faculty has received many inquiries about a program like this in recent years, and we have every reason to believe that such a certificate will be met with enthusiasm from potential students. With professional orchestras and other ensembles reducing their size or folding altogether, and with universities facing cuts causing them to rely more on adjuncts to fill teaching positions, there has been a reduction in traditional professional opportunities for performers entering the workforce. As competition for these jobs has become more intense, students are searching for graduate programs that will give them additional advantages. As such, the next generation's most successful professional musicians will be those who have devoted more time to developing additional skills and specialties, including outreach and entrepreneurial skills, coupled with interdisciplinary interests. This program encourages these areas of development, combined with traditional performance training. These areas are often neglected from traditional graduate degree programs.