

# MUSIC EDUCATION, MA

**Degree:** Master of Arts (MA)  
**Field of Study:** Music Education

## Program Overview

The Master of Arts in Music Education program is for individuals with an undergraduate degree in music education, a teaching certificate/license, and at least one year of music classroom teaching experience, who wish to pursue further academic study as a means to develop professionally. Coursework combines the study of philosophical, research-based, and theoretical approaches to teaching and learning music with pragmatic approaches to improving music learning. Students meet with their academic advisor each semester to select the most appropriate trajectory for advancing through the program. Full-time students can expect to complete the MA degree in two years (9 credit hours per semester). Part-time students can expect to take one class (3 credit hours) per semester, completing the degree over the course of five years.

The MA for Licensure (MAL) concentration is for students with an undergraduate degree in music who wish to obtain licensure to teach music in the public schools while simultaneously pursuing graduate study in music education.

## Admission

Applicants with good academic records from fully accredited universities and colleges will be considered for admission to graduate study at Case Western Reserve University. Admission must be recommended by the department or professional school of the university in which the applicant proposes to study and must be approved by the dean of graduate studies.

Applicants for the MA in music education must have at least a 3.0 GPA from a completed undergraduate degree program in music education, a minimum of one year of successful school music teaching experience in group settings, and evidence of strong written and spoken English skills. After initial review, applicants may be invited to campus for an interview. The MA does not require a vocal or an instrumental audition.

Applicants for the MAL in music education should have an undergraduate degree in music (BA or BM) with a GPA of 3.0 or better and some prior experience in working with children. The MAL requires a vocal or an instrumental audition.

## Music Handbook and Advising

Current graduate and professional students in music should review departmental policies and procedures in the Graduate Music Handbook. The handbook provides additional information regarding graduate assistantships, general expectations and responsibilities, program outcomes, decision points, performances, scholarly activity, outside work, prizes/awards, deadlines, petitions, examinations, advancement to candidacy, and student record-keeping.

## Graduate Policies

For graduate policies and procedures, please review the School of Graduate Studies section of the General Bulletin.

## Program Requirements

The MA in Music Education has two options for final project:

### Plan A, Thesis

Students write a thesis based on original research and defend the thesis in an oral examination. Students in Plan A receive 6 credit units for thesis research.

### Plan B, Comprehensive Exams

Students complete a comprehensive examination in music education at the conclusion of coursework.

Applicants for Plans A or B should have an undergraduate degree in music education with a GPA of 3.0 or better and at least one year of successful music teaching experience, usually in the public schools.

A minimum of 30 credit units is required for Plan A and Plan B. MA students may take 300-level classes provided that 18 credit units of 400-level courses have been completed (faculty approval required).

### Requirements for Plan A, Thesis

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Graduate music education core (Plan A)</b>		<b>15</b>
MUED 440	Scholarship in Music Education	
MUED 441	Philosophical Foundations of Music Education	
MUED 442	Curriculum and Assessment in Music Education	
MUED 443	Music Cognition	
MUED 640	Qualitative Research in Music Education	
	or MUED 641 Quantitative Research Methods in Music Education	
<b>Graduate Music Core</b>		<b>9</b>
MUTH 422	Musical Analysis for Educators	
MUHI 430	History of Music Pedagogy	
	Additional course in theory (MUTH), history (MUHI), and/or performance (MUAP or MUEN).	
<b>Thesis</b>		<b>6</b>
MUED 651	Thesis (M.A. and M.M.)	
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>30</b>

### Requirements for Plan B, Comprehensive Exams

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Graduate Music Education Core (Plan B)</b>		<b>12</b>
MUED 440	Scholarship in Music Education	
MUED 441	Philosophical Foundations of Music Education	
MUED 442	Curriculum and Assessment in Music Education	
MUED 443	Music Cognition	
<b>Graduate Music Core</b>		<b>9</b>
MUTH 422	Musical Analysis for Educators	
MUHI 430	History of Music Pedagogy	
	Additional courses in theory (MUTH), history (MUHI), and/or performance (MUAP or MUEN).	
<b>Electives</b>		<b>6</b>
	Music education courses, seminars, and independent studies suited to the student's interests and approved by the music faculty.	
<b>Degree Credit</b>		<b>3</b>

One additional core or elective course to meet the minimum of 30 credit units required to earn the MA in Music Education.

<b>Comprehensive Exam</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>30</b>

## MA for Licensure (MAL)

The MAL option is for students with an undergraduate degree in music who wish to obtain a licensure to teach music in the public schools while simultaneously pursuing graduate study in music education. Applicants for the MAL should have an undergraduate degree in music (BA or BM) with a GPA of 3.0 or better and some prior experience in working with children.

Course requirements span six semesters and combine core graduate music and music education courses (30 credit units), licensure courses (31 credit units), with student teaching (12 credit units). The regulations for students in the BS program regarding advanced standing, grade point averages, and the Ohio Assessments for Educators exam apply to graduate students in Plan C as well. Completion of the Plan C degree does not ensure that the State of Ohio music teacher license will be awarded.

Plan C requires a minimum of 73 credit units. Classes at the 200-level, while required for teacher licensure, do not count toward the graduate degree and therefore are not included in GPA calculations. However, they do appear on the transcript with a grade and serve to satisfy the academic requirements for licensure. MAL students may take 300-level classes provided that 18 credit units of 400-level courses have been completed (faculty approval required).

To remain in the MAL program, students must meet GPA and professional standards each year. Please review the Graduate Music Handbook for more information.

### Requirements for MA for Licensure Concentration

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Music Education Licensure Area</b>		<b>43</b>
<b>Methods</b>		
MUED 410	Professional Music Education: A Career Introduction	
MUED 400	Intensive Field Experience	
MUED 420	Technology Assisted Music Teaching and Learning	
MUED 305	World Music in Education	
MUED 350	General Music Methods	
MUED 352	Instrumental Methods and Materials or MUED 353: Choral Methods and Materials	
MUED 355	Vernacular Music in Education	
MUED 275	Elements of Conducting	
Secondary Instrument Classes (6 of 8 are required): *		
MUED 200A	Basic Skills and Pedagogy: Voice	
MUED 200B	Basic Skills and Pedagogy: Guitar	
MUED 200C	Basic Skills and Pedagogy: Brass	
MUED 200E	Basic Skills and Pedagogy: Clarinet and Saxophone	
MUED 200F	Basic Skills and Pedagogy: Double Reeds and Flute	
MUED 200H	Basic Skills and Pedagogy: Strings	

MUED 200J	Basic Skills & Pedagogy: Piano for Music Educators	
MUED 200P	Basic Skills and Pedagogy: Percussion	
<b>Student Teaching</b>		
MUED 496A	Student Teaching in Music Education	
MUED 496B	Student Teaching Seminar in Music Education	
<b>Teacher Licensure Professional Education Core</b>		<b>9</b>
EDUC 301	Introduction to Education	
EDUC 304	Educational Psychology	
EDUC 255	Literacy Across the Content Areas	
<b>Graduate Music Education Core</b>		<b>12</b>
MUED 440	Scholarship in Music Education	
MUED 441	Philosophical Foundations of Music Education	
MUED 442	Curriculum and Assessment in Music Education	
MUED 443	Music Cognition	
<b>Graduate Music Core</b>		<b>9</b>
MUTH 422	Musical Analysis for Educators	
MUHI 430	History of Music Pedagogy	
One additional course in theory (MUTH), history (MUHI), and/or performance (MUAP or MUEN).		
<b>Successful completion of comprehensive exam</b>		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>73</b>

\* See the required methods for choral, instrumental, and general focus (Music Education, BS)