

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Graduate Music Education Handbook

Guide to Program and Admissions 2007-2008



Department of Music/College of Fine Arts
4505 Maryland Parkway
Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-5025

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University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Department of Music – College of Fine Arts

The purposes of this Handbook are to:

- Provide information concerning graduate programs in Music Education at UNLV;
- Explain the steps that must be completed for admission into the appropriate graduate program; and
- Describe requirements for completion of specific degrees.

GRADUATE DEGREES

The following degrees are offered through the Department of Music and/or the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education under the supervision of the faculty of Music Education and Curriculum and Instruction:

Master of Music Education (M.M.)
Master of Music Education – Orff Schulwerk Emphasis (M.M.)
Master of Education with Certification - Instrumental and Vocal/General (M.Ed.)
Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction/Teacher Education
with a Cognate in Music Education (Ph.D.)

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IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

The Graduate College

<http://graduatecollege.unlv.edu/>

Office: FDH 352

Address: 4505 Maryland Parkway, Box 451017, Las Vegas, NV 89154-1017

Department of Music

<http://music.unlv.edu/home.shtml>

Office:

Address: 4505 Maryland Parkway, Box 455025, Las Vegas, NV 89154-5025

Graduate Coordinator: Andy Smith

andrew.smith@unlv.edu

Music Education Coordinator: Eugenie Burkett

eugenie.burkett@unlv.edu

Department of Curriculum and Instruction: Master's Programs

<http://ci.unlv.edu/masters>

Office; CEB 354

Address: 4505 Maryland Parkway, Box 453005, Las Vegas, NV 89154-3005

Department of Curriculum and Instruction: Office of Doctoral Studies

<http://ci.unlv.edu/doctoral>

Office; CEB 343A

Address: 4505 Maryland Parkway, Box 453005, Las Vegas, NV 89154-3005

College of Fine Arts

<http://finearts.unlv.edu/>

Office: HFA-125 (Box 5013), Fax 54194

Address: 4505 Maryland Parkway, Box

MASTER OF MUSIC EDUCATION (M.M.)

MASTER OF MUSIC EDUCATION – ORFF SCHULWERK OPTION (M.M.)

Designed to address the professional development needs of music teachers in the field, the Master of Music Education program prepares individuals for careers as master teachers and supervisors in elementary and secondary schools. Students are challenged to develop a greater understanding and mastery of the music teaching-learning processes, to improve personal musicianship, and to become leaders within the music education profession.

The Master of Music Education with Orff Schulwerk emphasis is designed to provide students with opportunities to increase their professional preparation for teaching and to provide for scholarly growth in the area of Orff Schulwerk approach. Students complete a program that emphasizes increased knowledge in the pedagogy of using the Orff Schulwerk strategies and a deeper level of musical skill and understanding.

While prior teaching experience is not a requirement for entrance into this degree program, individuals considering pursuit of the M.M.E. are urged to plan to teach one to three years prior to initial enrollment or before completing the degree (graduate study will be more meaningful if teaching experience in the field has first been gained).

Residency Requirements

A minimum of 50 percent of the total credits required to complete the master's, specialist, or doctoral degree not including transferred credits, the thesis, dissertation, or professional paper must be earned at UNLV after admission to a graduate degree program.

Transfer of Credit

Not more than one-third of a student's degree program (not including the thesis, dissertation, or professional/scholarly paper) may be transferred from another university at the time admission is granted. Courses used to fulfill requirements for one degree may not be used to reduce credit hour requirements in another degree program.

For UNLV non-degree graduate students, a maximum of 15 graduate credits taken at UNLV may be applied toward a graduate degree program.

Once admitted to an advanced degree program, students must obtain prior written consent of the department and the Graduate Dean to take course work elsewhere and use it in their degree program. If transferring Orff Schulwerk Teacher Training courses (Level I, II, II), transferred course(s) must have been taken for credit and at an AOSA approved course. Such work must be graduate level, graded, and must not be experimental, correspondence, or extended in nature.

Criteria for Admission

Admission into the M.M. degree program is based on consideration of the following criteria:

1. Undergraduate degree in Music Education or the equivalent from an accredited institution;
2. An overall undergraduate grade of at least 2.75 (on a 4.0 scale).

3. The grade average of at least 3.00 (on a 4.0 scales) in music;
4. Recommendations from two individuals (preferably former instructors) who can discuss the applicant's musicianship, ability to undertake graduate level study, and teaching ability/potential. These letters are to be sent to the Department of Music.
5. Official transcripts of all college-level work must also be sent to the department.
6. A 500-word essay on the applicant's philosophy of music education.

Steps to Admission

In order that your application may be processed in a timely manner and to ensure consideration for financial assistance, complete the following steps as promptly as possible. All required forms are included in the application materials. Consideration for financial aid for the following academic year begins February 1 each year. All materials listed below should be sent to the following address:

1. Complete the on-line application with non-refundable admission application fee. This document may be accessed at: <http://graduatecollege.unlv.edu/>
2. One official transcript from all postsecondary institutions attended, showing all degrees and dates awarded and extension and correspondence work should be sent to:

The Graduate College
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 Maryland Parkway, Box 451017
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1017

The following admission materials should be sent to the Graduate Coordinator in the Department of Music at the address provided on the front cover of this publication:

1. One official transcript from all postsecondary institutions attended.
2. Letters of recommendation.
3. 500-word essay.

International Applicants

International applicants are considered for the Graduate Standing classification only. In addition to the admission requirements, international applications must achieve a minimum score of 550 (written), 213 (computerized, or 80 (Internet-based) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or 85 on the Michigan Test when the applicant is from a country where English is not the native language or attended an institution where English was not the language of instruction.

Placement Exams

Prior to registration, all graduate students must take placement examinations in history, theory, and sight-singing. The student must pass history and theory placement examinations before registering for courses in these areas. The student must pass the sight-singing examination before selecting the examination committee and scheduling the final comprehensive examinations.

Completion of Program

The Graduate College allows M.M. candidates a maximum of five years from the date of the student's initial enrollment in graduate school at UNLV to complete degree requirements. The M.M. in Education is awarded to students who:

1. Maintain an overall grade point average of 3.0 or higher for all coursework taken at the master's level with no more than two grades of C (2.00), and no grade lower than B (3.00) in the major area of concentration.
2. Complete a minimum of 33 credit hours of study as stated in the candidate's program of study with a maximum of 3 workshop credits (Music Education Option) or 9 credits (Orff Schulwerk Option).
3. Successfully pass the written and/or oral comprehensive examination. A thesis is optional and may, with approval, be used in lieu of six credits in the student's program.

The student is responsible for completing:

- Proposed Masters Degree Program form (Part I and II),
- Appointment of Advisory Committee Approval Form,
- Prospectus Approval Form (if needed),
- Graduation Application

Comprehensive Review Requirement

All students must pass a Comprehensive Review. This will consist of a written examination and may also include an oral examination. In this review, the student must demonstrate knowledge of the major field of study with an emphasis on the interrelationships of performance, history, theory, style, analysis, literature, and pedagogical practice.

The Final Examination for Advanced Degree is the form that must be completed and submitted to the Graduate College during the semester in which the student is graduating. Notification of the final examination must be given at least two weeks prior to the date of the final examination therefore, the final examination must be taken and completed a minimum of three weeks prior to the last day of classes for the semester the student is graduating.

The following procedures will apply:

1. Exams will be administered each semester in Lied Library, third Floor, Graduate Student Lounge or another comparable location of the comprehensive exam advisor's choosing.
2. Students must bring a 250 MB Zip disc or a 1 or 2 blank CD-R to the exam.
3. Students need to activate their student account in Lied 3251 or online at the UNLV website under Student Labs.
4. The exam will begin at 10:00 a.m. and end at 5:00 p.m.
5. Class notes, books, any other materials will not be allowed.
6. Questions will not be given to the students before the text with the exception of the General Bibliography question.
7. It is highly recommended that students go to the Graduate Student Lounge or Lied Library at least a week before the exam to become acquainted with the hardware and software. The phone number for the Graduate Lounge is 895-2261.
8. At the completion of the exams, a copy will be sent to the Music Coordinator as an e-mail attachment. The coordinator will also pick up all exams and discs on the day of the exam.
burkette@unlv.nevada.edu

9. Students have two (2) opportunities to pass the exam. Students will receive either 1) pass, 2) provisional pass, or 3) fail. The provisional pass will require a follow-up oral examination.

Comprehensive exams are evaluated in terms of 1) depth of content; 2) demonstration of research and practical applications; 3) ability to thoroughly answer the questions; and 4) ability to formally express ideas in writing. Students will receive a formal letter regarding the results of their comprehensive exams.

The oral examinations are scheduled at the discretion of the student’s major committee chair and generally take place in the event the student receives a provisional pass and/or the committee finds the written examinations inadequate. Oral examinations and subsequent deliberations concerning the graduate student are open to all UNLV graduate faculty and administrators.

The content of the examination questions is based upon the student’s course of studies. Suggested topics for study include:

Research Techniques	Educational Assessment	Music History
Bibliography	Curriculum	Form and Analysis
Current Trends	Music Education Philosophy	Literature by genre and/or instrument
Methodologies	Music Education History	
Conducting/Research Technique	Literature appropriate for public school setting	

Financial Aid Information

Information on financial assistance, such as loans and grants, may be available to graduate students. Interested students should contact the Student Financial Services at <http://financialaid.unlv.edu/>

A limited number of assistantships, scholarships and fellowships are available. The deadline for application is March 1. Contact the Department of Music Graduate Coordinator for more information.

THE PROGRAM: MASTER’S OF MUSIC IN EDUCATION

Music Education Option	Credits	Orff Schulwerk Option	Credits
Bibliography	3	Bibliography	3
Music History	6	Music History	6
Music Theory	3	Music Theory	3
Music Education (MUS 751, 752, 771)	9	Music Education (MUS 752, 771)	6
Music Education elective	3	Orff Levels I-III (MUS 742, 743, 744)	9
Electives (with approval to include Applied Music or Conducting)	9	Electives (with approval to include Applied Music or Conducting)	6
TOTAL	33	TOTAL	33