MASTER OF MUSIC (MMus) Degree in the Field of Vocal Performance

Program Learning Outcomes for the MMus Degree

Upon completing the MMus degree, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate technical and musical competence in performance, composition, or historical scholarship at a professional level.
2. Develop advanced analytical skills in music theory and a deep understanding of how those skills inform music performance.
3. Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the relationship between music history and music performance.
4. Develop career development skills that complement their professional-level performance skills.
5. Demonstrate technical and musical competence in performance, composition, or historical scholarship at a professional level.

Requirements for the MMus Degree

The MMUS degrees can be thesis or non-thesis master’s degrees depending on the field declared. For general university requirements for thesis master’s degrees, please see Thesis Master’s Degrees (ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-thesis-masters-degrees). For general university requirements for non-thesis master’s degrees, please see Non-Thesis Master’s Degrees (ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-non-thesis-masters-degrees).

Students pursuing the MMUS degree programs must complete:

- A minimum of 43-54 credit hours depending on field of study to satisfy degree requirements

Students completing the MMUs degree in all fields of study must participate in core music, applied music, and other required music courses as well as in chamber music and large ensembles, plus electives. They are entitled to one hour of private lessons each week of each semester they are enrolled as an MMus degree candidate; private or group lessons beyond this may result in additional fees.

Summary

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<th>Code</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credit Hours Required for the MMus Degree in the field of Vocal Performance</td>
<td>48-52</td>
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Degree Requirements

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 673</td>
<td>VOICE FOR MAJORS-ADVANCED (minimum of 4 semesters)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>MUSI 570</td>
<td>ADVANCED OPERA STUDIES (minimum of 4 semesters)</td>
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Additional Coursework

Select 1 course from the Approved Music Theory course offerings (see below for course list)

Select 1 course from the Music History course offerings or an additional Music Theory course (see below for course list)

Select 2 courses from the Music Career and Skills Enhancement course offerings (see below for course list)

Select 6 credit hours from the Elective Requirements (see below for course list)

Additional Coursework

Select 1 course from the following:

- FREN 141 FIRST YEAR FRENCH I (3 credit hours)
- GERM 141 FIRST YEAR GERMAN I (3 credit hours)
- ITAL 141 FIRST YEAR ITALIAN I (3 credit hours)

Proficiencies

Students must demonstrate the following proficiencies:

- Piano proficiency
- Aural skills proficiency

Total Credit Hours

48-52

Academic Coursework

Academic Coursework is comprised of at least 1 course (3 credit hours) from the Approved Music Theory course offerings, 1 course (3 credit hours) from the Music Theory or Music History course offerings, 2 courses (4 credit hours) from the Music Career and Skills Enhancement course offerings, and 6 credit hours from the Elective Requirements.

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Approved Music Theory Courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 512</td>
<td>ANALYTICAL SYSTEMS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 513</td>
<td>MODAL COUNTERPOINT</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 516</td>
<td>ADVANCED ORCHESTRATION</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 517</td>
<td>EARLY MODERN MASTERS</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 613</td>
<td>TONAL COUNTERPOINT</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 614</td>
<td>SPECIAL TOPICS IN MUSIC THEORY AND MUSIC THEORY COMPOSITION</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 615</td>
<td>MUSIC OF RAVEL: MUSIC THEORY AND COMPOSITION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 617</td>
<td>MUSIC SINCE 1950</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 316</td>
<td>EXPERIMENTAL SOUND AND VIDEO</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Additional Music Theory Courses

Select 1 course from the following:

- MUSI 512 ANALYTICAL SYSTEMS
- MUSI 513 MODAL COUNTERPOINT
- MUSI 516 ADVANCED ORCHESTRATION
- MUSI 517 EARLY MODERN MASTERS
- MUSI 613 TONAL COUNTERPOINT
- MUSI 614 SPECIAL TOPICS IN MUSIC THEORY AND MUSIC THEORY COMPOSITION
- MUSI 615 MUSIC OF RAVEL: MUSIC THEORY AND COMPOSITION
- MUSI 617 MUSIC SINCE 1950
- MUSI 316 EXPERIMENTAL SOUND AND VIDEO
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 378</td>
<td>CLASSICAL, CONTEMPORARY, AND CROSS-CULTURAL ASIAN MUSIC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 403</td>
<td>BASIC ELECTRONIC MUSIC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 404</td>
<td>ELECTRONIC MUSIC COMPOSITION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 405</td>
<td>MUSIC BUSINESS AND LAW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 416</td>
<td>ORCHESTRATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 417</td>
<td>MUSIC FOR MEDIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 514</td>
<td>SCORE READING AND THEORY AT THE KEYBOARD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 605</td>
<td>ADVANCED ELECTRONIC AND COMPUTER MUSIC SYSTEMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 606</td>
<td>ADVANCED COMPUTER SOUND SYNTHESIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 611</td>
<td>CLASSROOM PEDAGOGY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 711</td>
<td>ANALYTICAL APPROACHES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 712</td>
<td>SEMINAR IN ADVANCED ANALYSIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 713</td>
<td>SPECIAL TOPICS IN ADVANCED ANALYSIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 723</td>
<td>AESTHETICS OF MUSIC</td>
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**Music History Courses**

Select 1 course from the following (or select 1 additional Music Theory Course):

- MUSI 422 RENAISSANCE MUSIC
- MUSI 429 MUSIC OF THE MIDDLE AGES
- MUSI 523 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESEARCH METHODS
- MUSI 524 AMERICAN MUSIC
- MUSI 525 PERFORMANCE PRACTICES SEMINAR
- MUSI 526 WOMEN IN MUSIC
- MUSI 527 TOPICS IN EARLY MUSIC
- MUSI 528 TOPICS IN THE 17TH AND 18TH CENTURIES
- MUSI 529 TOPICS IN 19TH AND 20TH CENTURIES
- MUSI 530 MUSIC, MAGIC, AND SCIENCE IN THE MODERN WORLD
- MUSI 534 PROGRAM MUSIC IN THE 19TH CENTURY
- MUSI 537 SATIE, COCTEAU, & LES SIX: PARIS IN THE 1920s AND BEYOND
- MUSI 543 MUSIC AND MODERNISM IN FRANCE
- MUSI 551 MUSIC OF RICHARD STRAUSS
- MUSI 552 WORDS AND MUSIC
- MUSI 621 SELECTED STUDIES IN MUSIC HISTORY
- MUSI 622 EARLY OPERA
- MUSI 623 J.S. BACH: CAREER, WORKS, AND CRITICAL RECEPTION
- MUSI 624 SEMINAR ON A SELECTED COMPOSER
- MUSI 625 MOZART OPERAS
- MUSI 626 THE CLASSICAL STYLE
- MUSI 627 ROMANTIC SONGS AND PIANO PIECES
- MUSI 721 MUSIC OF SCHOENBERG
- MUSI 722 MUSIC OF STRAVINSKY

**Music Career and Skills Enhancement Courses**

Select 2 courses from the following:

- LPCR 200 ADVANCED MENTAL TRAINING
- MGMT 621 THE NEW ENTERPRISE
- MGMT 625 CREATIVE ENTREPRENEURSHIP
- MGMT 629 BUSINESS PLAN DEVELOPMENT
- MGMT 676 SOCIAL ENTERPRISE
- MUSI 413 INTRODUCTION TO DALCROZE EURHYTHMICS
- MUSI 500 IMAGINATION AND COMMUNICATION: DEVELOPING MUSICAL SKILLS THROUGH THEATRICAL TECHNIQUES
- MUSI 501 ENHANCED PERFORMANCE: WRITING, SPEAKING, PLAYING
- MUSI 502 CONDUCTING: AN OVERVIEW OF PRACTICAL SKILLS
- MUSI 503 MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE: THE MIND/ BODY CONNECTION
- MUSI 507 TECHNOLOGY FOR MUSICIANS
- MUSI 508 FUNDAMENTALS OF PRIVATE TEACHING
- MUSI 510 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR MUSICIANS
- MUSI 515 MUSIC ENTREPRENEURSHIP
- MUSI 518 THE ART AND BUSINESS OF STUDIO TEACHING
- MUSI 519 THEMATIC PROGRAMMING: THE ART OF THE RECITAL
- MUSI 532 THE FELDENKRAIS METHOD AND THE MUSICIAN'S BODY
- MUSI 540 APPLIED JAZZ IMPROVISATION: DEVELOPING SOLO IMPROVISATIONAL SKILLS IN THE JAZZ IDIOM

**Elective Requirements**

Select 6 credit hours from the following:

- Any course at the 300-level or above
- Any language course at the 100-level or above
- Any additional Music Theory, Music History, or Music Career and Skills Enhancement course
- Secondary Lessons (any course between MUSI 251 and MUSI 297 with the exception of MUSI 281)
- MUSI 342 RICE JAZZ ENSEMBLE
- MUSI 345 APPLIED STUDIES IN JAZZ
- MUSI 381 CONCENTRATION PIANO
- MUSI 436 COLLEGIUM MUSICUM
- MUSI 444 PRACTICUM IN CONTEMPORARY MUSIC
- MUSI 585 SONATA CLASS
- MUSI 649 GRADUATE INDEPENDENT STUDY

**Footnotes and Additional Information**

1 No more than three (3) credit hours of MUSI 649 - Independent Study may fulfill this requirement. Remedial courses (such as MUSI 281, MUSI 432, MUSI 511, MUSI 521, or MUSI 522) and extra hours of required Performance Coursework (such as extra private instrumental or vocal study, ensembles, chamber music, vocal coaching, or repertoire classes) will not fulfill this requirement.
Language coursework is only required for MMus students in the field of Vocal Performance if not completed at the undergraduate level. Language coursework may be taken for Elective credit by Vocal Performance students only if the required coursework (or equivalent) is completed at the undergraduate level, otherwise language coursework is considered remedial and will not count toward the elective requirement.

Deficiencies in these areas will result in remedial coursework being added to a student's degree plan.

Policies for the MMus Degree

Admission

For Instrumental Performance, Vocal Performance, and Orchestral Conducting applicants, an audition is required. Composition applicants must submit portfolios, and Musicology applicants must provide samples of their written work. Musicology applicants must also complete advanced music tests as well as the Graduate Record Examination for admission consideration.

Academic Standards

Curriculum and Degree Requirements

Further information on curricular requirements for all majors and degree programs is available from the Shepherd School of Music.

Grading Policy

A minimum grade of "B-" is expected of all music students in their major applied area. A grade of "C+" or lower is considered unsatisfactory and will be evaluated in the following manner:

A music major who receives a grade of "C+" or lower in their major applied area will be placed on music probation. Music probation signifies that the student's work has been sufficiently unsatisfactory to preclude graduation unless marked improvement is achieved promptly. A student on music probation may be absent from class only for extraordinary reasons and may not represent the school in any public function not directly a part of a degree program.

If a student receives a second semester of "C+" or lower in their major applied area, whether for consecutive semesters or not, the student will be discontinued as a music performance major and merit scholarship from the Shepherd School will be discontinued.

Note: For music history and musicology majors a grade of "C+" or lower in any music history course is considered unsatisfactory and will be evaluated as above.

Graduate degree requirement: a minimum grade point average of 2.67 is necessary for graduation.

Leaves of Absence and Voluntary Withdrawal

Music majors must obtain permission in writing from the dean of the Shepherd School before requesting a leave of absence from the university. Requests must be in the dean’s office before the first day of classes in the semester for which leave is requested.

Music majors taking voluntary withdrawal from the university are not guaranteed readmission into the Shepherd School and may be asked to reapply/reaudition. Students should explain the reasons for their withdrawal to the dean before leaving campus.

Performance

Students are expected to perform frequently during their residency at Rice. MMus students in any of the performance fields of study must present at least two full recitals. Composition and Conducting students should present recitals as specified by their degree programs. Students are expected to attend both faculty and student recitals. In addition, all MMus students must participate in the school’s conducted ensembles as assigned.

Thesis

A thesis is required for MMus students in the field of Musicology. In lieu of a thesis, MMus students in the field of Composition must produce an original work of extended scope. Both thesis and original work must be publicly defended.

For additional information, please see the School of Music website: http://music.rice.edu

Opportunities for the MMus Degree

Other Musical Opportunities

Lectures and Performances

A visiting lecture series, a professional concert series, and numerous distinguished visiting musicians contribute to the Shepherd School environment. The Houston Symphony Orchestra, Symphony Chorus, Houston Grand Opera, Houston Ballet, Houston Masterworks Chorus, Da Camera, Context, and Chamber Music Houston, as well as the activities of other institutions of higher learning in the area, also provide exceptional opportunities for students to enjoy a wide spectrum of music.

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