

VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC EDUCATION

Field endorsement to teach grades PK-12

A Music Education degree allows you to immerse yourself in your passion while sharing your love of music with the next generation. Learning and teaching music can be a transformative experience for you and your students. Not only does it help students to develop new skills, it provides an outlet for them to express their emotions and creativity. Becoming a music educator can be a personally rewarding career choice as you watch students develop their musical abilities and witness the positive impact you can make in your students' lives. Studying music education doesn't necessarily mean you're limited to becoming a classroom teacher either. You can also pursue private music instruction, music arts administration or advising, music therapy, and more.

If you choose the Vocal and Instrumental Music field endorsement, you are not required to choose any other endorsements to receive your B.A. or B.S.

fast facts

Credit hours: 96

Students must also take 30 credit hours of General Studies courses. A total of 120 credit hours are needed to graduate from WSC. Additional majors or minors can be added to help meet graduation requirements.

Degree offered: B.A.

Departments: Music, Educational Foundations and Leadership

Schools: Arts and Humanities, Education and Behavioral Sciences

Popular pairings: Coaching (7-12), Music Performance

focus on results

Skills Learned

- Music theory and ear training
- Music software: Dorico®, Cakewalk®, GarageBand®, and Audacity®
- Playing piano, guitar, woodwinds, brass, strings, and percussion
- Instrumental and choral conducting
- History and literature of music
- Performance with large and small ensembles
- Vocal and instrumental instruction techniques
- Classroom management and leadership

Possible Careers

- Music teacher
- Band director
- Choir director
- Orchestra director
- Composer
- Conductor
- Songwriter
- Private instructor
- Church musician

Types of Employers

- Elementary schools
- Middle schools
- High schools
- Music schools
- Churches
- Performance groups
- Theaters

outside the classroom



Visit www.wsc.edu/clubs to learn more about clubs and organizations on campus.

Performance Opportunities

- Chamber Choir
- Chamber Music (various ensembles)
- Concert Choir
- Fortis Tenor/Bass Choir
- Jazz Ensemble
- Lyrica Soprano/Alto Choir
- Marching Band
- Mariachi Negro y Oro
- Symphonic Band
- Wind Ensemble

Clubs/Organizations

- Kappa Kappa Psi (honorary band fraternity)
- National Association for Music Education (NAfME)
- Nebraska State Education Association (NSEA) Aspiring Educators
- Ukelele Club

Courses and outcomes

2026-27 Academic Year

The following courses are required for the program of study described on this sheet. Every effort is made to ensure this information is current, but please be aware that some content may have changed. To develop a plan for registering and taking these courses, please consult the current academic catalog and your advisor.

Program courses

Take MUS 103 Fundamentals of Music Theory for CAT 4.

Music Core Courses

MUS 101 Music Theory I.....	3
MUS 102 Music Theory II.....	3
MUS 104 Aural Skills I.....	1
MUS 305 Music Technology.....	1
MUS 402 History and Literature of Music II...3	
Primary Applied Lessons (100-level).....	4

Vocal and Instrumental Music Content Courses

MUS 105 Aural Skills II.....	1
*MUS 150 Class in Voice.....	1
MUS 171 Class in Strings I.....	1
MUS 172 Class in Strings II.....	1
MUS 173 Class in Woodwinds I.....	1
MUS 174 Class in Woodwinds II.....	1
MUS 175 Class in Brass I.....	1
MUS 176 Class in Brass II.....	1
MUS 177 Class in Percussion.....	1
MUS 178 Class in Guitar.....	1
MUS 201 Music Theory III.....	3
MUS 202 Music Theory IV.....	3
MUS 204 Aural Skills III.....	1
MUS 205 Aural Skills IV.....	1
MUS 208 Fundamentals of Conducting.....	1
MUS 280 Class in Piano I.....	1
MUS 281 Class in Piano II.....	1
MUS 306 Choral Conducting and Materials...2	

MUS 307 Instrumental Conducting and Materials.....	2
MUS 380 Class in Piano III.....	1
MUS 381 Class in Piano IV.....	1
MUS 401 History and Literature of Music I...3	
MUS 422 Marching Band Techniques.....	1
MUS 454 Senior Recital.....	1
Upper-level Primary Applied Lessons.....	2
Secondary Applied Lessons.....	2
Select one of the following.....	2
MUS 300 Choral Arranging (2)	
MUS 303 Instrumentation (2)	
Choose from the following ensemble electives.....	7
MUS 133 Fortis Tenor/Bass Choir (1)	
MUS 140 Lyrica Soprano/Alto Treble Choir (1)	
MUS 141 Choir (1)	
MUS 142 Marching Band/Wind Ensemble (1)	
MUS 147 Jazz Ensemble (1)	
MUS 149 Symphonic Band (0.5)	
MUS 441 Choir (1)	
MUS 442 Marching Band/Wind Ensemble (1)	

* Vocalists may substitute MUS 320 Diction for Singers for MUS 150.

Professional Education Courses

EDU 150 Introduction to Professional Education.....	3
EDU 245 Preparing for Level 2: Teacher Candidacy.....	0
EDU 250 Human Development and Cognition.....	3
EDU 275 PK-12 Instructional Design.....	3
EDU 310 Reading, Writing, and Assessment in Content Areas.....	2
EDU 445 Preparing for Level 3: Clinical Practice.....	0
EDU 452 Clinical Practice and Seminar for Elementary School.....	6
EDU 456 Clinical Practice and Seminar for the Secondary School.....	6
MUS 308 Teaching Vocal Music 7-12.....	2
MUS 309 Teaching Instrumental Music.....	2
MUS 411 Content Area Practicum.....	0.5
MUS 412 Secondary Education Practicum...0.5	
MUS 415 Teaching Music PK-6.....	2
SPD 302 Inclusion and Co-teaching in General Education.....	3
Select one of the following.....	3
SPD 435 Classroom Management through Social Emotional Learning K-6 (3)	
SPD 436 Classroom Management through Social Emotional Learning 7-12 (3)	

Student learning outcomes

Music programs

1. Demonstrate advanced performance skills on an instrument and/or voice
2. Demonstrate the ability to work conceptually with the rhythmic, melodic, harmonic, and structural elements of music
3. Demonstrate a broad knowledge of music literature, musical genres, and cultural sources
4. Demonstrate proficiency in current music technology relevant to the field of study

Education programs

Teacher candidates who successfully complete an education preparation program at Wayne State will be able to:

1. Create environments that support individual and collaborative

learning using knowledge of how students grow and develop, along with individual differences and diverse cultures. (InTASC Standards 1-3)

2. Plan for instruction by applying content knowledge, a variety of instructional strategies, and multiple methods of assessment to connect concepts for learners in real-world applications. (InTASC Standards 4-8)

3. Engage in ongoing professional learning and use evidence to reflect on and adapt practice to meet the needs of each learner. (InTASC Standard 9)

4. Seek leadership roles and opportunities to take responsibility for student learning, to collaborate with stakeholders, and to advance the profession. (InTASC Standard 10)

music faculty



Visit www.wsc.edu/music-department to learn more about the Department of Music.

Angela Miller-Niles, DMA

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Full-time

Matthew Armstrong, DMA
Shelly Armstrong, MME
Josh Calkin, DMA
Melissa Derechailo, DMA
Corey Estelle, DMA
Sarah Farr, DMA
Michael Genslinger, MME
Matthew Haakenson, Ph.D.
Karl Kolbeck, DMA

Part-time

Stacey Barelos, DMA
Lauren Calkin, B.A.
Kelly Coslet, M.M.
Curt Jeffries, BFA
Aaron Stroessner, DMA
Suzie Pepin, MSE
Alexandria Plumb, M.M.
Brad Weber, M.M.

Revised on: 5/7/26