



Summers-Only Master of Music Education  
(MMEd)

Program Handbook

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## Nature of the Degree Program

The Summers' Only Master's Degree Program in Music Education offered by the College of Music at the University of North Texas is designed for working, certified music teachers who desire to complete a master's degree in music education while maintaining their full-time teaching position. This degree is designed to focus on practical, contextual experiences that can be immediately implemented in the students' current teaching settings while also providing a space to explore critical issues in music education at-large. Students will be able to complete the degree in three summer sessions.

### I. Prerequisites for Application

The following prerequisites apply for application to the MMEd program:

1. An earned Bachelor's degree in Music Education.
2. A record of at least one (1) year of full-time, successful teaching experience in group instructional settings is recommended prior to admission. It is also recommended that this experience be completed at the institution level of a public or private school. Exceptional applicants who will be beginning their teaching career in the semester following the first summer of study will be considered. Private studio teaching alone may not suffice as a substitution for group instructional activities. The appropriateness of a candidate's teaching experiences will be evaluated by the Music Education Graduate Faculty.

### II. Applying

Application to the MUED graduate program is a *two-step process*, including (1) applying to the Toulouse Graduate School (or to International Admissions and Programs for international students), and (2) applying to the College of Music and the Division of Music Education.

Step 1: Apply to the University and the Toulouse School of Graduate Studies

Current guidelines regarding application to the University may be obtained as follows:

1. U.S. citizens and permanent resident aliens should refer to the Toulouse School of Graduate Studies website: [www.tsgs.unt.edu/newindex.htm](http://www.tsgs.unt.edu/newindex.htm)
2. International students should refer to the International Admissions and Programs website: [www.international.unt.edu](http://www.international.unt.edu). If you are a new student to UNT, you will be sent a login to access your MyUNT account. Otherwise, you will be able to use your former EUID to log in. If you need to reset your password, you can go [here](#). This allows applicants to proceed to Step 2.

Step 2: Apply to the College of Music and the Division of Music Education

**\*\*IMPORTANT:** Please select the MMEd: Summers-Only option from the pull-down menu when applying online\*\*

Applicants to the MMEd graduate program must submit a completed College of Music online application form and must upload supporting materials to the online application, except for DVDs and video tapes. Supporting materials must include:

1. A current résumé or vitae
2. A written response to the following prompt: *Describe what you perceive to be the most important benefits to students from participating in school music.* Your response should include supporting evidence in the form of references to appropriate sources, including citations and/or quotations. While this is not a research paper, the Music Education Graduate Faculty does want to see evidence of appropriate writing style and the ability to form a logical, coherent argument.
3. A personal philosophy statement that addresses teaching, music, and long-range professional goals
4. Three (3) letters of recommendation from three (3) persons qualified to evaluate the applicant's accomplishments and merits. These will be submitted using the online form included on the College of Music application.
5. A teaching video that highlights classroom instructional episodes, such as rehearsals, warm-ups, or other activities.

As a reminder, these materials will be uploaded to the College of Music online application, which can be found at: <http://music.unt.edu/admissions/graduate>. (Deadlines differ according to varying fields in the College of Music. Applications to the MMEd program are accepted throughout the year.

Individuals applying beyond regular deadlines may contact Becky Hughes by e-mail ([Becky.Hughes@unt.edu](mailto:Becky.Hughes@unt.edu)) or telephone (940-369-7771) to request an application.

#### General Application Information

1. No performance audition is required in order to apply to the MMEd program.
2. Please note that application to the Toulouse Graduate School is separate from application to the College of Music, and that *admission to the Graduate School does not imply acceptance to the Music Education program.*
3. The GRE is not required for admission to the Summers-Only MMEd program.  
International applicants in music education *must be accepted to the program* prior to beginning studies at the Intensive English Language Institute (IELI). *Acceptance to and/or studies in IELI in no way ensures acceptance to the Music Education program.*
4. In order for the Coordinator of the Master's Program to give full consideration to applicants' files, *all* supporting materials and Toulouse Graduate School requirements must be fulfilled. Application files will not be submitted to the Coordinator for review until such time as they are complete.
5. Once completed files have been reviewed, notifications of acceptance or denial will be sent to applicants from the College of Music Office of Graduate Studies, typically within a two-week time frame.

### III. Acceptance

#### Acceptance Procedures and Permission to Enroll in Coursework

After arriving on campus for the first semester's work:

1. Attend all orientation sessions scheduled by the Director of Graduate Studies in Music.
2. Meet with the Coordinator of the Master's Program in Music Education to discuss advising procedures and the facets of the degree program.
3. Make final adjustments to class enrollment for the upcoming semester.
4. The Graduate Placement Exams (GPE) are *not* required of students accepted into the

Summers-Only MMEd program.

### **Attendance and Professional Expectations**

Those interested in the Summers-Only MMEd must be available to attend courses for the entire summer term, which typically lasts from early June through mid-July. Dates are intentionally chosen to accommodate employed teachers.

Students should not expect to be excused from attending class due to summer or fall demands of their job, personal engagements, or other commitments.

Only under exceptional circumstance would a student be excused from missing meetings of summer courses. To request such an excuse, the student should contact the appropriate music education faculty member.

### **Degree Plans**

The degree plan is a contract between the student and the University as to the courses that must be successfully completed before the desired degree will be conferred. After completing **12 hours of graduate coursework**, the student is required to file a degree plan with the College of Music Graduate Office. A faculty advisor will help the student determine these courses. After the courses are agreed upon, the advisor submits the plan to the College of Music Graduate Office, and an approved copy of the plan is put on file in the Toulouse Graduate School. *(Note: Any alterations made to the original degree plan must be filed no later than the semester prior to expected graduation.)* Upon the student's application for graduation, the Toulouse School will compare the degree plan with the student's transcript. If there are discrepancies, the student will be notified so that the proper action can be taken. Discrepancies should be rectified prior to scheduling the final project defense.

### **Academic Standing and Time Limitations**

Students must receive a grade of **B** or better for all courses counting toward the degree. Students not meeting this standard will be placed on probation. Students not fulfilling the conditions of probation may be dismissed from the program. All work to be credited toward the master's degree must be completed within a period of 6 years from the date master's credit is first earned.

## Summers-Only Master of Music Education (34 hours)

The unique nature of this degree is in its flexibility and practicality. While some courses will be offered on an ongoing basis, others will be offered by visiting experts and the content will be based on their areas of specialty. These courses will typically satisfy the Non-Music Education Courses in Music requirements or the Electives requirements.

### Minimum Degree Requirements

Minimum course requirements, beyond the fulfillment of deficiencies in course work, are as follows:

**MUED(Music Education) - 12 hours**

**MUCG (Non-Music Education courses in Music) - 10 hours**

**Electives (MUED or MUCG courses) - 9 hours**

**Capstone Project - 3 hours**

Each summer, two concurrent three-week terms will be offered, the first starting in early June and the second starting in late June. For each three-week term, students will take one course together as a cohort. This course will be applicable to all music educators, regardless of their specialization. Students will take one additional course during each three-week term that is focused on their area of specialization. The three summer terms within the rotation are labeled Alpha, Beta, and Gamma to reflect that students may begin the program during any summer.

### **Summer Alpha, Term 1 (June 6–June 24, 2016)**

MUED 5900 Music in Urban/Rural Settings 3 hours

*Choose **one** course in area of specialization:*

Band: MUCG 5900 History and Literature of the Wind Band 3 hours

Choir: MUCG 5900 Vocal Pedagogy and Diction 3 hours

Orchestra: MUCG 5900 Alternative Strings 3 hours

Elem./Gen.:MUCG 5900 TBA 3 hours

Total for Term 1 6 hours

**Summer Alpha, Term 2 (June 27–July15, 2016)**

MUED 5900 Music in Special Education	3 hours
<i>Choose <b>one</b> course in area of specialization:</i>	
Band: MUED 5900 Advanced Instrumental Pedagogy, Conducting Rehearsal Techniques	3 hours
Choir: MUED 5900 Choral Techniques for Beginning-Intermediate- Secondary	3 hours
Orchestra: MUED 5900 Strings in Early Childhood	3 hours
Elem./Gen.: MUED 5900 TBA	3 hours
Total for Term 2	6 hours
<b>Total for Summer Alpha</b>	<b>12 hours</b>

**Beta (2017) and Gamma (2018) Terms**

Courses for subsequent summer terms (Beta and Gamma) will be determined by the music education faculty with input from Alpha term students. Detailed information on specific courses will be made available to students as soon as possible.

**III. Capstone Project**

During the second summer of enrollment, students will meet with an assigned capstone advisor to plan the Capstone Project. During the second three-week term of the third summer of enrollment, students will enroll in the Capstone Project course. The purpose of the capstone project will be to synthesize and apply knowledge, skills, and dispositions developed during coursework to teaching practice. While enrolled in the Capstone Project course, students will submit artifacts (e.g., videos of teaching, documents, etc.) along with self-reflection prompts and rubrics. The Capstone Project will be evaluated by the Capstone Course instructor along with a faculty member from the specialty area. The precise nature of the project will be determined based on the interests of the candidate in consultation with faculty. No traditional thesis is required of Summers-Only MMed students.