

Music (Music Learning and Teaching), PhD

FAMUSEDPHD

Join one of the most innovative programs in the United States. Prepare yourself for a career as a leader in music learning and teaching by developing your skills as a flexible musician, an innovative practitioner, an inquisitive thinker and a leader to make a difference in the lives of your students and community.

Program description

Degree awarded: PHD Music (Music Learning and Teaching)

The PhD in music with a concentration in music learning and teaching is a world-class degree for musician-teacher-scholars who seek careers in musical and educational leadership. Students are immersed in an inclusive and multifaceted community of dynamic partnerships and research and teaching collaborations. They work with faculty on creative projects that lead to independent and co-authored research publications, creative projects and professional presentations.

The program includes specialized study in music education, elective studies with scholars and artists in the Herberger Institute, and opportunities for transdisciplinary elective study with faculty and colleges across ASU. A plan of study is designed by the student in consultation with the faculty to support the student's career trajectory. Typical projects interrogate and broaden discourse and practice in music education, and challenge methodological and disciplinary boundaries to imagine what could be. The program concludes with dissertation research that springboards to the next phase of their careers.

At a glance

- **College/School:** [Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts](#)
- **Location:** [Tempe](#)

Degree requirements

90 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, a prospectus and a dissertation

Required Core (10 credit hours)

MSI 601 Contemporary Topics in Music Research (2)

MSI 602 Current Issues in Music Research (2)

MSI 755 Historical Research in Music (3)

MTC 520 Analytical Techniques (3)

Concentration (30 credit hours)

Electives (29 credit hours)

Research (6 credit hours)

Other Requirements (3 credit hours)

MUE 784 Internship (3)

Culminating Experience (12 credit hours)

MUE 799 Dissertation (12)

Additional Curriculum Information

Completion of diagnostic exams in musicology and music theory is required of all new graduate music students prior to enrollment in the ASU School of Music, Dance and Theatre.

Students should see the academic unit for a complete list of approved electives.

When approved by the student's supervisory committee and the Graduate College, this program allows 30 credit hours from a previously awarded master's degree to be used for this degree. A minimum of two semesters must be spent in continuous full-time residence at ASU.

Additional information on degree requirements for this degree is available on the curriculum check sheet located at the bottom of [the school's degree page](#).

Admission requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts.

Applicants are eligible to apply if they have earned a U.S. bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution or the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor's degree from an institution in another country that is officially recognized by that country.

Applicants must have achieved a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. [graduate admission application](#) and application fee
2. [School of Music, Dance and Theatre application](#) (including curriculum vitae, personal statement and a writing sample)
3. official transcripts
4. teaching demonstration video
5. three letters of recommendation
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of their current residency. The School of Music, Dance and Theatre does not offer conditional admission under any circumstances. In order to meet English proficiency requirements, students should have a TOEFL iBT score of at least 80, or an IELTS overall band score of at least 6.5, or a Pearson Test of English score of at least 60. More information about English proficiency requirements is available on the [Admission Services website](#).

Applications are accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis until all spaces are filled. Applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible. Students should see the program website for more information on application deadlines. To ensure prompt processing of application, students should email MDTAdmissions@asu.edu after submitting an application. An interview with the music learning and teaching doctoral faculty in person or via electronic media is scheduled after review of application materials.Â

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

Application deadlines

Fall

[expand](#)

Program learning outcomes

Program learning outcomes identify what a student will learn or be able to do upon completion of their program. This program has the following program outcomes:

- Design individual teaching practices that are appropriate to a beginning faculty position in music education at college level.

- Implement a major independent research project that makes a unique contribution to the field of music learning and teaching.
- Apply research methods to conduct independent research.

Career opportunities

Graduates have many possible career options and pathways.

Musicians with expertise in performing, composing, teaching, researching and arts advocacy are in high demand across many sectors and industries, including performing arts organizations, educational institutions, entertainment companies, health and wellness industries, and community arts organizations. Skills such as creativity, collaboration, innovation, entrepreneurship and the focused discipline needed for success as musicians are all highly valued by a wide range of companies and professions.

The School of Music, Dance and Theatre graduate programs inspire and empower students to become creative leaders who transform society through music. Graduates become scholars, researchers, music and arts administrators, and public policy advisors to education and arts organizations or civic and governmental groups.

Career examples include:

- arts administrator
- community arts advocate
- community arts educator
- performing musician
- public or community school teacher
- teaching artist
- university professor
- worship music leader
- youth development facilitator

Contact information

[School of Music, Dance and Theatre](#) | MUSIC E167

mdtadmissions@asu.edu | 480-965-5069

[Admission deadlines](#)