Music (Music Learning and Teaching), PhD

Would you like to be a part of one of the most innovative programs in the United States? Prepare yourself for a successful 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 community 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 transformative degree for musician-teacher scholars who seek careers in musical and educational leadership.

Doctoral students of music learning and teaching are immersed in an open, inclusive and multifaceted community of dynamic partnerships, research and teaching collaborations. Each semester, students work with outstanding faculty on creative projects and initiatives that lead to independent and co-authored research and publication, and they have opportunities to diversify their thinking and further their goals by collaborating with internationally recognized faculty in other schools and colleges at ASU.

The music learning and teaching doctoral program includes highly specialized study in music education, elective studies with scholars and artists in the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, and opportunities for transdisciplinary elective study with faculty in schools and colleges across the university. A plan of study is designed by the student in consultation with the faculty to support a research trajectory identified by the student.

Research conducted by students in the music learning and teaching concentration aims to reexamine, interrogate and broaden discourse, practice and policy in music education, and to expand music and education scholarship by challenging methodological and disciplinary boundaries. Students analyze what is and imagine what could be. They complete the program 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 all graduate music programs may be found on the [check sheets](#).
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 applicants must have 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. GRE or MAT scores
6. three letters of recommendation
7. 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. GRE or MAT scores may be submitted after deadlines, but these must be received before enrollment at ASU.

Tuition Information

When it comes to paying for college, everyoneâs 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

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