

University of New Hampshire
Master of Arts in Music
Music Education
(Option 2: Music Education)

Information for Candidates

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(Note: Please retain this booklet with your permanent graduate school papers. It contains information that you will need as you complete your degree requirements.)

ADVISORS

During the admission process Professor DeTurk was assigned to you as your academic advisor. Professor DeTurk will be able to help you to choose your initial courses and to begin the process of selecting a final project. It is expected, however, that you will soon identify some other professor who might serve as your advisor. This could be any full time faculty member in the Department of Music, preferably someone who might ultimately oversee your final project, although that supervisor could turn out to be someone else.

Should your advisor be on leave at any time during your course of study, Professor DeTurk or Stibler can select a faculty member to serve in the interim. For your convenience, a checklist of degree requirements is included in this booklet.

COLLOQUIA

Once or twice a semester the graduate program presents a public colloquium featuring faculty, guest, and graduate student scholars. This is an opportunity to experience one of the most stimulating and collegial aspects of academic life, and all graduate students are urged to attend.

INDEPENDENT STUDY

In addition to the required courses and elective course available in the UNH catalogue, students sometimes choose to enroll in MUED 895 – *Special Studies*. Doing so may allow you to study almost any appropriate topic with any professor in the department. Such an enrollment can be particularly useful in allowing a student to do preparatory study that leads to the selection and completion of the final project.

FINAL PROJECT (MUED 995)

Your final project is intended to provide a focus for your graduate work, and it should be completed as the content of MUED 995 – *Special Projects*. This is often done during the final semester of study, but that is not required. The course instructor is understood to be the advisor for your Independent Project. This faculty member may be someone different from your academic advisor, and he or she is almost certain to be one of the three members of the committee that hears your oral exam.

Your final project could take almost any form as long as it has the approval of your project advisor and your academic advisor, if they are different. Projects may include, but are not limited to, research-based theses, newly created curricula, lecture-recitals, or original musical or music teaching proposals.

Neither the Department nor the Graduate School makes any format specifications, other than for the cover page and the binding, but your project advisor certainly will. I would urge you to buy a copy of Kate Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* and consult it often. Good formal, expository writing is expected, and I highly recommend to you Darrel Walters' *The Readable Thesis: a Guide to Clear and Effective Writing*. I would be happy to show you a copy of this wonderful book.

Completed graduate final projects must include a cover page with the following information:

1. Title
2. Student's name
3. "A project presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Music at the University of New Hampshire" (The project is not technically a thesis and should not be identified as such)
4. Date of submission
5. Professor _____, Project Advisor

After your project advisor has made final approval, you must submit to me three clean copies, velo bound, with clear plastic covers, of your document. The MUB Copy Center does velo binding at very reasonable rates. One copy will remain on file in the Department. One non-circulating copy and one circulating copy will be held in the Special Collections Department of Dimond Library. Graduation certificates will not be signed until you submit the three bound copies to me, so plan accordingly. Allow plenty of time for your project advisor to make final corrections, and for you to prepare the clean bound copies. The deadline for my receipt of your project during the fall and spring semesters is the first reading day for graduation that semester. The deadline is August 1st for September graduation.

GRADUATE RECITALS

M.A. candidates who have been accepted with a performance emphasis will wish to present one or two graduate recital programs. This is very much encouraged, but note that it does not replace the final project requirement. Because of the density of the Department's concert schedule, it is advisable to stop by the music office in September to set your date.

ORAL EXAMS

Most candidates choose, for obvious reasons, to take their oral exam after having completed their course work. You must notify the Director of Graduate Studies, Robert Stibler, at least half a semester before you wish to take the exam. That is, you should let Professor Stibler know by mid-semester if you wish to schedule the exam for the end of the semester. He will select a faculty committee (generally three in number) for your exam, and will attempt to include faculty members with whom you have worked closely either on your independent project or in courses. School regulations state that you have a maximum of two opportunities to successfully complete the exam.

On the day of your exam you will be asked to describe your independent project and its significance, and you will be given materials (music, excerpts from written material, or both) to examine and comment upon. You should expect the exam to encourage you to synthesize the various things you have studied with your project. Your ability to connect your other studies with the topics presented in MUED 996 and MUED 893 will be important. It is important to remember that during your exam the idea is not simply to recognize materials and name them or make correct attributions, but to discuss with the committee members the historical significance or educational importance of the material under discussion. You will want to demonstrate the breadth and depth of your knowledge of the musical and educational materials you have studied.

Your exam might be preceded by a semester of independent study in preparation. Music Education includes a large and varied number of topics that can be difficult to make sense of. Developing a sense of how some of those topics fit together, or interact, is an important part of your graduate study.

Good Luck.

Mark DeTurk