

Program Overview: Bachelor of Arts in Music Music Education (K-12) Concentration



About This Major . . .

The Music Education concentration provides students with the knowledge, skills, and musicianship to become a successful music teacher and leader. Courses in music theory, history, literature, ensemble performance, and applied studies gives students a strong foundation on which to build a successful teaching career. Classes in conducting, instrumental, choral, and elementary techniques, as well as music education philosophy develop the skills and knowledge needed for a rewarding career as a K-12 educator. These skills and knowledge are applied during field experiences as well as during the student teaching internship.

As a student, you will gradually accumulate over 200 hours of observation and field experience before beginning student teaching. School districts throughout western Colorado provide opportunities to gain experience with children of all ages and backgrounds in a variety of school settings.

Music education majors are trained to be excellent performers and musical leaders through strong solo and ensemble performance opportunities, culminating in a public recital of solo and chamber music.

All CMU baccalaureate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking, communication fluency, quantitative fluency, and specialized knowledge/applied learning.

In addition to these campus-wide student-learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

1. demonstrate keyboard competency at the level determined by the piano proficiency requirements outlined in the Music Student Handbook.
2. hear, identify, and realize the elements of music (such as rhythm, melody, harmony, structure, timbre, and texture), demonstrating general musicianship and skills appropriate for the particular music concentration.
3. demonstrate in a historical context a broad knowledge of musical literature, cultures, principal genres, and industry practices.
4. develop and defend music judgments through solo performances, ensemble performances, and academic/scholarly work.
5. identify current national and state music education curriculum standards.
6. demonstrate techniques and strategies associated with teaching successful elementary and general music curricula.
7. identify appropriate literature for use in both instrumental and vocal music ensembles at the secondary level.
8. demonstrate conducting techniques and musical leadership appropriate for use with secondary level performing ensembles.
9. demonstrate basic pedagogical techniques and strategies for teaching in beginning instrumental or vocal settings.

Program Highlights:

The employment rate is outstanding for CMU Music Education graduates actively seeking a teaching position.

A music education lab in which students become members of CMU's collegiate chapter of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME).

As members of the collegiate chapter of NAfME, students have opportunities to attend CMEA, participate in enriching activities that enhance curriculum offerings, and participate in professional organizations such as ACDA and ASTA.

Excellent student teaching placement with highly qualified mentor teachers.

Strong alumni base of successful teachers.

Over 40% of Mesa County Valley School District 51 music teachers are CMU alumni.



Program Requirements

A student must follow CMU graduation requirements by completing 126 semester credit hours, including 40 credits of coursework at the 300+ level. See the "Undergraduate Graduation Requirements" in the catalog for additional graduation information. Students should work closely with a faculty advisor when selecting and scheduling courses prior to registration. In general, CMU's programs of study are based on two curriculum groups:

1. Essential Learning

CMU's Essential Learning program provides the foundation of skills and information that cuts across all fields of study and the support for advanced concepts that students will later encounter in their majors. Before moving into work at the 300+ level, students complete the Maverick Milestone and its co-requirement, Essential Speech. This pair of courses is a capstone experience where students integrate what they have learned from their foundation courses by making connections among diverse areas of knowledge. The capstone is also an opportunity for students to work with disparate ideas, a critical skill expected of all CMU graduates that will aid them in solving the complex and unscripted problems they will encounter in their personal, professional, and civic lives.

2. What You Will Study in This Major. . .

Foundational Courses

These courses in music give you the technical foundation on which to build your musical leadership.

- Music Theory I, II, III, IV
- Music Technology
- Beginning Conducting
- Ear Training and Sight Singing I, II
- Performance Ensembles
- Private Lessons

Music Core

These courses in advanced musical training and leadership prepare you to begin your career as a successful and effective educator.

- Music History and Literature
- Orchestration
- Advanced Conducting
- Jazz Improvisation
- The Music of World Cultures
- Advanced Private Lessons
- Performance Ensembles
- Senior Recitals

Music Education Courses

These courses are specific to music education and prepare you for K-12 music education licensure.

Pedagogy and Materials

- Strings
- Woodwinds
- Brass
- Percussion
- Voice/Diction

Advanced Methods

- Elementary and General Music
- Vocal Music K-12
- Instrument Music K-12
- Jazz Ensemble
- Marching Band
- Jazz Choir

Education

- Introduction to Music Education
- Foundations of Education
- Teaching to Diversity
- Student Internships

Performance Opportunities

Choral – Vocal

Concert Choir
Chamber Choir
Women's Choir
Vocal Chords (Vocal Jazz)
Opera Scenes

Band

Wind Symphony
Jazz Ensemble
The Maverick Stampede
(Marching Band)
The Maverick Sound
(Pep Band)

Orchestra

Symphony Orchestra
Chamber Orchestra
String Orchestra

Chamber Ensembles

String Quartet
Brass Quintet
Woodwind Quintet
Saxophone Quartet
Clarinet Quartet
Flute Choir
Piano Ensemble
Percussion Ensemble
Jazz Combo

For more information about this major, go to: <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/music/degrees.html> or contact the Academic Department Head for Music, 001 Moss Performing Arts Center, 970.248.1163.