About This Major . . .

The Music Education concentration provides students with the knowledge, skills, and musicianship to become a successful music teacher and leader. Studies in music theory, history, literature, ensemble performance, and applied study give 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:

- Develop and express music judgments through solo performances
- Identify current national and state music education curriculum standards
- Demonstrate techniques and strategies associated with teaching successful elementary and general music curricula
- Evaluate appropriate literature for use in both instrumental and vocal music ensembles at the secondary level
- Demonstrate pedagogical techniques 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 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 between diverse areas of knowledge. The capstone also is 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...

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

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

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

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

Music Education Courses
These courses are specific to music education and prepare you in all the areas for K-12 music education licensure.

- Pedagogy and Materials courses in:
  - Strings
  - Woodwinds
  - Brass
  - Percussion
  - Voice/Diction
- Advanced Methods courses in:
  - Elementary & General Music
  - Vocal Music K-12
  - Instrument Music K-12
  - Jazz Ensemble
  - Marching Band
  - Jazz Choir
  - Show Choir
- Education courses in:
  - Intro to Music Education
  - Foundations of Education
  - Teaching to Diversity
  - Student Internship

For more information about this major, go to:  http://www.coloradomesa.edu/music/degrees.html or contact the Academic Department Head for Music, Moss Performing Arts Center 001, 970-248-1163

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