



WESTERN
CONNECTICUT
STATE UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

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Departments

Art • Terry Wells, Chair, WH303, (203) 837-8407

Faculty: A. Echevarria; M. Grimes (Graduate Coordinator); M. Portnow; D. Skora; C. Vanaria; T. Wells.

Music • Dan Goble, Chair, WH126, (203) 837-8354

Faculty: M. Astrup; W. Ball; J. Begian; M. Callaghan; D. Goble; R. Hirshfield; K. Isaacs (Graduate Coordinator & Assoc. Chair); L.F. Jimenez; E. Lewis; A. Rogers; D. Smith; K. Walker.

Theatre Arts • Sal Trapani, Chair, B148, (203) 837-8258

Faculty: F. Herbert; P. McDaniel (Assoc. Chair); E. Popiel; S. Trapani.

Master of Fine Arts & Master of Science in Music Education Degree Programs

Mission and Objectives

The mission of the School of Visual and Performing Arts at Western Connecticut State University is to advance knowledge, to promote intellectual inquiry, and to cultivate creativity among faculty and students through teaching, research, scholarship, creativity in the arts and public performance.

The school provides its students with an education of high quality in the visual and performing arts, fosters excellence in creative research and discovery, nurtures ethical decision-making and leadership, and contributes to the cultural enrichment of the state and region. It prepares students for professional careers through the M.F.A. in Visual Arts and the M.S. in Music Education. WCSU is nationally accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM).

Seven objectives support the mission of the school:

1. To offer the highest quality educational and professional programming in the visual and performing arts;
2. To prepare postgraduate students for successful careers as practitioners and teachers of the arts;
3. To utilize fully the regional advantage of our proximity to New York City and other major artistic centers in the Northeast, including access to outstanding faculty, guest artists and resources;
4. To recruit the highest quality students in the arts disciplines, with special emphasis on students from Connecticut;
5. To fulfill the role of the designated "Center for the Arts" of the Connecticut State University System;
6. To attract major funding for student scholarships, student and faculty programming and endowed faculty chairs;
7. To enhance the cultural life and image of the university, the state and the region.

Admissions

Applicants for admission to a degree program at the graduate level must submit the following material to the Office of Graduate Studies:

1. Application for admission to the Division of Graduate Studies with a \$50 application fee.
2. Official transcript, including all earned grades and degrees, mailed (not hand-delivered) to the Office of Graduate Studies from each college or university previously attended. For initial non-matriculated, one-semester enrollment, a transcript indicating a 2.5 or higher undergraduate grade point average (2.8 for music education) and the baccalaureate degree is required.
3. If an applicant's cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA) is below 2.5 (2.8 for music education) the applicant must present a score rated at the 35th percentile or higher on the Miller Analogies Test.
4. Supporting documents, such as letters of reference, as required for a particular program.
5. Evidence of successful completion of prerequisite courses required for a particular program.
6. Evidence of meeting any special program requirements, such as portfolio review for art or an audition for music education. **For information about special requirements, applicants should consult the sections of this catalog that describe each program.**

After the above materials have been submitted, the applicant should call the Office of Graduate Studies at (203) 837-8243 to make an appointment for an admission interview.

Master of Fine Arts in Visual Arts

Margaret Grimes, Graduate Coordinator

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M.F.A. Overview

The Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) in Visual Arts is a terminal degree and is the preferred degree for the practicing artist who is preparing for a professional career in the visual arts. The objectives of the program are to provide a period of focused and steady study under the guidance of established professionals and to deepen and broaden the development of individual artistic character. This objective is reached through intensive work in a university studio over four semesters. Work is evaluated through a series of individual critiques with resident faculty and visiting artists, as well as in group critiques with the student body. Because of the nature of the program, full-time attendance is mandatory. M.F.A. degrees are available in painting and in illustration.

Program Mission, Goals and Objectives

The objectives of the program are to provide a period of intense, focused and steady study under the guidance of established professionals to deepen and broaden the development of individual artistic character and skill.

Admission Requirements

In addition to the graduate admissions policies of the Division of Graduate Studies, students will be admitted with a B.A. in Art plus a portfolio review, or a B.A. in another field and demonstrable competency in art, plus a portfolio review. A strong academic record will be required. Acceptance by the art department through portfolio review and interview is mandatory prior to applying to the Division of Graduate Studies.

Degree Program Requirements

Emphasis in each program to be chosen from Painting or Illustration.

Every student is expected to complete the Art Colloquium plus 56 credits of independent study under the guidance of his or her mentor/adviser and with approval of the program coordinator.

In close advisement with the student, the faculty will encourage, whenever necessary, a consistent minimum G.P.A. standard of 3.0. With adviser's approval, independent studio courses may be taken in small increments over several semesters.

Master of Fine Arts in Visual Arts

Required Courses:

ART 510 Art Colloquium	4 SH
ART 511 Advanced Independent Studies in Art History (To be taken incrementally over first three semesters)	9 SH
ART 512 Individual Introductory Graduate Studio (in area of emphasis)	3-6 SH
ART 520 Individual Applied Studio I	3-6 SH
ART 521 Individual Applied Studio II	6 SH
ART 530 Advanced Individual Studio I	12-15 SH
ART 531 Advanced Individual Studio II	9 SH
ART 580 Practicum Internship	3-6 SH
ART 581 Individual Introductory Graduate Studio in Related Area	3-6 SH
ART 590 Thesis Exhibition	6 SH

(In all studio courses, each course hour requires three hours of applied studio work per week)

Assessment

The recipient of the M.F.A. will attain a certifiable level of technical proficiency and the ability to make art. However, earning the degree does not necessarily guarantee an ability to teach this proficiency to others. When work toward the M.F.A. has been concentrated in a particular medium, there should be complete professional mastery of that medium. The generalist whose preparation has been broader and less specialized, must still meet the critical demands of the profession by convincingly demonstrating expertise and knowledge in a number of areas. Ongoing critiques with the students' mentors and visiting artists will be a continuing part of the evaluation process. It is customary for these critiques to periodically include the other students. A review of the students' progress will take place prior to admission to their final semester. Since the profession demands from M.F.A. degree recipients an ability 'to make art,' a faculty, institutional, and public review of the final product is necessary. As a final step prior to receiving the degree, each M.F.A. candidate is required to mount a substantial exhibition of his/her work.

Master of Science in Music Education

Kevin Jay Isaacs, Graduate Coordinator

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Program Overview

The Master of Science (M.S.) in Music Education program at WestConn is designed to further develop the student's cultural, musical and professional growth and to provide graduate coursework necessary for permanent teaching certification. The program is nationally accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM).

Program Mission, Goals, and Objectives

The music department at Western Connecticut State University is a friendly, vibrant, student-oriented unit committed to fulfilling the university and department mission to:

- I. Prepare students for careers in music education.
- II. Prepare students to be lifelong advocates for music and the arts.
- III. Encourage development of the creative, intuitive, and intellectual capabilities of students, faculty, and audience.
- IV. Provide for the cultural enrichment of the individual, the unit, the university, the community, the region, and the state.

- V. Provide services to the individual, the unit, the university, the community, the region, and the state. The department of music believes the earnest pursuit of this mission will have a positive effect in promoting the arts and cultivating culture in our community and will greatly enhance Western Connecticut State University's influence throughout the region and state.

The goals of our mission statement are attainable through the following objectives:

- I. Prepare students for careers in music education.
 - Help students understand the development of structures and organization of music throughout history and to enhance their appreciation and performance of diverse musical styles.
- II. Prepare students who desire further study with the necessary musical skills to pursue advanced degrees.
 - Insure students gain the necessary and fundamental musical skills to enter the music teaching profession.
 - Provide a comprehensive music education curriculum that prepares the student for the changeable climate of teaching profession.
 - Give graduate students in music the training and experiences to expand their musical skills and professional opportunities, especially in teaching.
- III. Prepare students to be lifelong advocates for music and the arts.
 - Offer a musical environment where students can hear, see, and experience musical events performed by their peers, faculty, and guest artists.
 - Instill in all music education students the importance of being both an advocate for and an expert in their field and to represent proudly their discipline to their teaching peers, to their administration, and to their students' families.
- IV. Encourage development of the creative, intuitive, and intellectual capabilities of students, faculty, and audience.
 - Train students in the fine art of musical performance through applied study with instructors who are both teachers and mentors.
 - Allow students numerous opportunities to practice their skills of musical performance through the large ensembles, chamber groups, and student recitals offered by the department.
 - Offer a musical environment where students can hear, see, and experience musical events performed by their peers, faculty, and guest artists.
 - Create an environment where the faculty is encouraged to participate in projects that will continue their creative and professional development and provide a model for students.
- V. Provide for the cultural enrichment of the individual, the unit, the university, the community, the region, and the state.
 - Help students, families, community members, and university colleagues learn to appreciate the value of the arts in their lives.
 - Promote and encourage faculty development and cultural exchange through artistic and scholarly endeavors.
 - Be a musical and cultural outlet for the university, community, and regional populations, through concerts, recitals, master classes, and lectures.
- VI. Provide services to the individual, the unit, the university, the community, the region, and the state.
 - Serve as a regional resource center for the promotion and production of the arts.
 - Serve as a regional resource center for elementary and secondary music education programs and educators.
 - Offer the services and scholarship of the music faculty, staff, and students to the populations that are served by the university.
 - Help students to develop skills in self-discipline, problem-solving, and interpersonal communication through caring and personalized guidance and academic advising.

Admission Requirements

All applicants who wish to be admitted to the Master of Science in Music Education program must submit the required materials to the Division of Graduate Studies, and in addition, provide evidence of the following:

1. An earned baccalaureate degree in music education from an accredited institution of higher education.
2. A valid certificate to teach music in elementary and/or secondary education.
3. A successful interview with the graduate program coordinator.

Students wishing to take courses for continuing education graduate credit (up to nine credits) must hold a baccalaureate degree in music from an accredited college or university.

Potential music graduate students are required to audition either in person or by submission of a video or audio cassette tape only when attempting to include ensemble or applied performance courses in their degree program. A maximum of three semester hours of ensemble and applied music may be used. Auditions and supportive materials are reviewed by the graduate program coordinator and either the conductor of the ensemble of the applied music instructor.

Degree Program Requirements

The M.S. in Music Education degree will be conferred upon matriculated students who have completed 30 graduate credits at Western Connecticut State University (minus transferred credits), using either the thesis or non-thesis approach in a program approved by the graduate program coordinator. A maximum of six credits may be taken at the 400 level.

Transfer of Courses

WCSU accepts as transfer credit toward a graduate degree course work that was completed at a college or university regionally accredited as a degree-granting institution at the time the course work was completed. No more than nine hours of transfer credit will be accepted, except in the case of work completed at another campus of the Connecticut State University system. However, a student must complete at least 15 semester credits in residence (including thesis requirements, alternative research project, departmental seminar, and/or comprehensive examination) as required for particular programs.

Master of Science in Music Education

Professional Education Requirements 6 SH

ED 500 Contemporary Educational Issues 3 SH

ED 501 Introduction to Educational Research
(after 18 SH) 3 SH

Thesis or Non-Thesis Requirements 3-6 SH

MUS 590 Music Department Seminar 3 SH

OR

MUS 591 Independent Thesis Research in Music 6 SH

Music History and Literature 6 SH

MUS 515 Chamber Music 3 SH

MUS 516 Opera 3 SH

MUS 541 Early Music 3 SH

MUS 542 Music in the Baroque Era 3 SH

MUS 543 Music in the Classic & Romantic Eras 3 SH

MUS 544 Music in the Twentieth Century 3 SH

MUS 545 Topics in Music Literature 3 SH

Music Structure and Organization 3 SH

MUS 520 Form and Analysis 3 SH

MUS 522 Twentieth Century Compositional
Techniques 3 SH

MUS 527 The Structure of Music 3 SH

Music Education 9 SH

MUS 523 Conducting 3 SH

MUS 530 Music Supervision and Administration 3 SH

MUS 533 Choral Techniques and Materials 3 SH

MUS 534 Instrumental Techniques and Materials 3 SH

MUS 535 Contemporary Strategies
in Elementary Music Education 3 SH

MUS 536 Topics in Music Education 3 SH

Applied Music 0-3 SH

MUS 509 Performing Organizations

MUS 510 Applied Music

Free music electives —

music course(s) from above 3 SH

Total Semester Hours: 30 SH

Thesis Option

The thesis is a scholarly work researched and solely written by the student under the guidance of a thesis adviser and committee. Thesis students must register for MUS 591, Independent Thesis Research in Music, a 6-semester hour requirement. Before a thesis proposal is accepted, candidates must provide information about their research to the department chair. Thesis candidates must also pass a comprehensive examination similar to the examination given to those students who elect a non-thesis approach.

Graduate music majors who elect a non-thesis approach must register for MUS 590, Music Department Seminar, a 3-semester hour requirement. In addition, all non-thesis candidates must pass a comprehensive examination that is scheduled by the music department each spring.