



MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

The Master of Music in Musicology

The scholarly study of music in cultural contexts and historical settings.



The MTSU School of Music Graduate Program



Description

The Master of Music program in Musicology is an advanced course of study for musicians holding the Bachelor's degree. It permits the interdisciplinary study of music by examining when, where, how, and why people create, experience, understand and write about music. Coursework in the program is designed to provide access to in-depth studies of music history and culture while the free electives allow for the student to conduct specialized and cross-disciplinary investigations into their chosen topic of study. The program typically provides students the skills needed to continue their studies towards the Ph.D. in Musicology.

Program Structure

A common set of core courses provides students with comprehensive insights into the basic expectations, problems and methods of research in music. These courses introduce topics in Music History, Music Theory and Analysis. Successful students will develop a skill for conducting indepth research into music; a skill that they will put into practice through the creation and defense of a thesis to a faculty committee.

Core Studies (9 Credits)

- Bibliography and Research
- Music History
- Analytical Techniques

Electives (9 Credits)

- Typically Music Courses

Specialization Courses (12 Credits)

- Two Seminars
- Thesis Research
- 6000 level elective in a related field

How to Apply

Applicants must apply and be admitted to the College of Graduate Studies at MTSU. Complete the application process online at <https://mtsu.edu/graduate>

Visit the program website at

<https://www.mtsu.edu/music/graduate.php>

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0120-8662 / Middle Tennessee State University does not discriminate against students, employees, or applicants for admission or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, disability, age, status as a protected veteran, genetic information, or against any other legally protected class with respect to all employment, programs, and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries related to nondiscrimination policies for MTSU: Assistant to the President for Institutional Equity and Compliance. For additional information about these policies and the procedures for resolution, please contact Marian V. Wilson, assistant to the president and Title IX Coordinator, Institutional Equity and Compliance, Middle Tennessee State University, Cope Administration Building 116, 1301 East Main Street, Murfreesboro, TN 37132; Marian.Wilson@mtsu.edu; or call (615) 898-2185. MTSU's policy on nondiscrimination can be found at <http://www.mtsu.edu/iec>.



The Details

The Curriculum

The Master of Music in Jazz Studies is a 30 credit hour degree consisting of 9 hours in core coursework, 12 hours in guided electives and 12 hours in courses for the specialization (Seminars and work in related fields).

Time to Completion

Full-time: typically two years

Part-time: approximately three to four years

Maximum: 10 years (MTSU Policy)

Cost of Attendance

Instate credit hours cost \$497 + \$78 Program Fee

Regional Scholars (<250 miles) \$785 + \$78

Out of State: \$1,376 + \$78

Typical Fulltime Schedule is 9 to 12 credits

Proficiencies

Depending upon the result of diagnostic examinations in music theory and history, students may be required to complete additional course work in Music Theory and Music History. Before they graduate, students must also demonstrate, through exam or MTSU coursework, the equivalent of one year of foreign language study (typically Italian, German or French.)



Musicology Faculty

- **Dr. Joshua Bedford** whose main research area explores the relationship between Soviet opera and 19th-century Russian opera, the modernist synthesis of styles of the 1920s, and the aesthetic formation of socialist realism in the 1930s. He also examines issues of gender, sexuality, love, laughter, and violence in Soviet opera.
- **Dr. Mei Han** is an ethnomusicologist specializing in Chinese music and an internationally claimed concert artist on the *zheng* (Chinese long zither). The Director of the Center for Chinese Music and Culture, her research interests extend to the music of East Asia, the Chinese diaspora within North America, and contemporary music influenced by Asian philosophies.
- **Dr. Joseph E. Morgan** focuses on the dramatic music, theory and aesthetics of Germany in the early 19th century. His secondary research interests extend into popular music.
- **Dr. Gregory Reish** is an established authority on twentieth-century Italian music and he currently focuses on old-time country, bluegrass, and other traditional musics of the American South. The Director of the Center for Popular Music, he has also developed interests in South Texas *conjunto* music and *son jarocho* from the Mexican state of Veracruz.

Facilities

In addition to the excellent facilities at MTSU, including the School of Music and the James E. Walker Library (a four story, 250,000-square-foot building with over 1 million volumes and more than 33,000 periodicals), Musicologists will have access to complete research at the:

The Center for Popular Music: One of the world's oldest and largest research centers devoted to the study of American folk and popular music. Established in 1985, the Center's mission is to promote research in American vernacular music and to foster an understanding and appreciation of America's diverse musical culture.

The Center for Chinese Music and Culture: A one of a kind center in North America that, through its extensive collection of Chinese musical instruments, library and archives seeks to promote cultural diversity and mutual understanding through learning and scholarship.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the program requires an earned bachelor's degree in music from an accredited university or college and a grade point average in all college work of at least 3.0).

To apply, a student should:

- submit application with the appropriate application fee (online at www.mtsu.edu/graduate/apply.php)
- submit official transcripts of all previous college work
- submit three letters of recommendation
- submit two (2) research papers of at least five (5) pages in length, one of which is on a music topic.



Deadlines

Students are admitted on a rolling basis, but to be considered for a Graduate Teaching Assistantship their application must be completed by **February 1**.

Graduate Assistantships

The Master of Music program offers a limited number of graduate teaching assistantships to qualified applicants. Two types are available: 20-hour and 10-hour. The 20-hour assistantship covers full tuition plus a stipend of \$6,500 per year and requires 20 hours of work. The 10-hour assistantship covers 50% tuition plus a stipend of \$3,250 per year and requires 10 hours work per week.

Teaching Experience

As part of their duties under the graduate teaching assistantship, students will gain important experience first assisting and then teaching their own sections of our undergraduate course "Introduction to Music" MUS 1030.

