



Master of Music  
in  
Performance or Composition

2010-2011  
HANDBOOK

# IMPORTANT CONTACTS

## THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

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Dr. Luis Engelke, MM Director	CA 2094	4664	lengelke@towson.edu
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Music Department Website			www.towson.edu/music

## COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATION

The College of Fine Arts and Communication is one of six colleges of Towson University. The College, which consists of five departments (Art, Dance, Music, Speech and Mass Communication and Communication Studies, and Theatre Arts), is under the direction of the Dean of Fine Arts and Communication. Each department has a chairperson who is nominated by its faculty and appointed by the Dean.

CONTACT	OFFICE	EXT [410.704-]
Dr. Christopher (Kit) Spicer, Dean	CA 3001D	3288
Denise Chlumsky, Administrative Assistant	CA 3001	3288
Diane Thompson, Executive Admin. Assistant	CA 3001	3288

## COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

CONTACT	OFFICE	EXT [410.704-]	E-MAIL/WEB SITE
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Graduate Catalog online			www.towson.edu/grad

## WELCOME

Towson University's Department of Music is pleased to welcome you to the Master of Music program in Performance or Composition. This handbook includes the program's requirements and procedures and serves as a guide toward completion of the degree. Students are responsible for knowing and following these requirements and procedures as well as those contained in the Towson University Graduate Catalog.

The MM program has a successful

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# THE MASTER OF MUSIC PROGRAM IN PERFORMANCE OR COMPOSITION: AN OVERVIEW

## THE PROGRAM AND GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The Master of Music program offers advanced performers and composers the opportunity to study with highly qualified faculty at an affordable institution and prepares candidates for careers in studio teaching, professional ensembles, and further graduate work. The MM Degree is granted upon

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Please contact Dr. Luis Engelke, MM Director, via e-mail at [lengelke@towson.edu](mailto:lengelke@towson.edu) or by telephone (410-704-4664) if you have any questions regarding the program or admission.

Students

## AUDITION DATES AND APPLICATION DEADLINES

The Department of Music holds auditions three times annually (usually in January, February, and March or April). Students with a performance concentration must submit their applications two weeks prior to the published audition dates. Check the Department of Music web site for audition dates. Applicants for the MM in Composition must submit application materials by December 21 for Fall semester entry and October 1 for admission to the subsequent Spring semester.

## AUDITION REQUIREMENTS: PERFORMANCE

All candidates must bring a list of their repertoire to the audition. This list should be comprehensive and include dates of performances.

## APPLIED INSTRUMENTS: JAZZ/COMMERCIAL PERFORMANCE

Applicants must be prepared to perform



## ORGAN

The audition will be in the form of a program selected by the applicant, the duration of which must be at least 30 minutes. No specific repertoire is required, but the following should be used as a guide, and all categories of the literature should be covered.

1. Works from early Spanish, early Italian, early French, or 17<sup>th</sup> century North German repertoire.
2. A major work of J. S. Bach (a prelude and fugue, toccata, or similar work).
3. A chorale setting of J. S. Bach which is either in trio form or a florid treatment of the chorale melody.
4. A major work of the romantic period, either French or German.
5. A contemporary work written after 1930. The style should contrast with that of the romantic-period work selected.
6. Sight Reading.

Applicants are judged not only on the quality of performance, especially in matters of accuracy of notes, rhythm, etc., but also on the level of musicianship exhibited at the audition.

## PERCUSSION

Applicants must perform one work for solo marimba or vibraphone demonstrating four-mallet technique and one etude, solo, or orchestral excerpt demonstrating two-mallet technique; one snare drum solo, etude or orchestral excerpt; and one timpani solo, etude, or orchestral excerpt. World percussion techniques and/or drum set are optional. All applicants will be asked to sight read on marimba and snare drum.

## STRINGED INSTRUMENTS VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO, DOUBLE BASS

Applicants must perform two contrasting movements from a sonata, suite, or partita by J. S. Bach. Also required is the first movement of a major concerto and one of the following: a contrasting movement of the same concerto, a sonata movement, or a virtuoso piece.

## VOICE

Six selections as follows (Nos. 1-5 memorized):

1. Art song in English.
2. Art song in Italian.
3. Art song in French.
4. Art song in German.
5. Operatic aria in original language and key.
6. Oratorio aria in original language and key.

All candidates must perform the equivalent of an undergraduate senior vocal recital. Each candidate's potential for completing the Master of Music Degree in Voice Performance will be judged according to the following criteria:

1. Musical skills: accuracy, phrasing, general musicality.
2. Basic knowledge of English, Italian, French and German diction.
3. Vocal skills appropriate for study of advanced vocal literature.
4. Performance potential: stage presence, poise, interpretation, expression, and communication.

## WOODWINDS

### FLUTE

Applicants must perform a 30-minute audition that features a minimum of four compositions—one each from the Baroque, Classic, Romantic, and Contemporary periods. Representative literature includes sonatas by J. S. Bach, concertos by W.A. Mozart, and sonatas by Reinecke or Piston.

### CLARINET

Applicants must perform a minimum of two major solo works, one from the 20<sup>th</sup> century and one from the 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century. Orchestral excerpts from the Bonade or McGinnis Book I or II should also be included.

## PLACEMENT EXAMINATIONS

After being admitted to the program students must take advisory examinations in music theory and music literature. These exams are generally given in the week preceding the start of fall classes (usually the from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. the Thursday before the Fall Semester and 9:00 a.m. to noon the Saturday before Spring Semester). Consult the following website for further information: [http://www.towson.edu/music/grad\\_advisory\\_exam.htm](http://www.towson.edu/music/grad_advisory_exam.htm). Students who score less than 70% on the Music Theory Exam and/or the Music History/Literature Exam will be required to take Concepts of Music Theory (MUSC 629) or Perspectives in Music History (MUSC 621), respectively. These courses can be applied to the degree as electives. Students with very low scores on either exam may be required to take undergraduate music theory or music history/literature classes that cannot be applied to the degree. Exam descriptions are shown below.

### THEORY PLACEMENT EXAM

The theory exam is designed to be diagnostic, and questions may be asked in a wide variety of formats. Complete information including a practice test and online resources are available at [www.towson.edu/music/GradTheory/](http://www.towson.edu/music/GradTheory/). Students should review and possess fluency in the following areas:

1. Have complete mastery and fluency with all music rudiments.
2. Kno

## MUSIC HISTORY PLACEMENT EXAM

Materials for the music history exam are drawn from all style periods from medieval music through the contemporary period. The exam is comprised of four sections:

1. Matching definitions of musical terms with terms and appropriate composers' names selected from a list of each. Matching names of standard works with composers' names selected from a comprehensive list.
2. Identification of selected pages from musical scores by appropriate style period, type of work, and a possible composer. In addition you will select several of these to discuss in essays of style analysis.
3. Identification of a number of listening examples played on tape by appropriate style period, type of work, and a possible composer.
4. An essay on an historical topic (Western Music History or Jazz History as appropriate).

For study and review please consult: Wold, Milo and Edmund Cykler. *An Outline History of Music*, 6th edition. Dubuque Iowa: William C. Brown, 1990. Standard histories of music such as Burkholder/Grout may also be used.

For further information contact:

Dr. Carl B. Schmidt

Department of Music, R7e7.010 Tm0 0 0.3333333 181.1016 376cm BT 36 09148aterials  
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## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

All requirements must be completed within a 7-year period. A minimum average of 3.0 in all courses is required. No more than two C grades and no more three 500-level courses can be applied toward the program of study.

### TRANSFER CREDIT

Six credit hours of electives may be transferred (see UMBC Collaborative Agreement for exceptions that may apply to students matriculating from that program). Required courses and applied lessons credits must be completed at Towson University. Degree recitals cannot be transferred. All decisions regarding credit transferability rest with the MM Director and the Department of Music Graduate Committee.

### REQUIRED COURSES (21 credits)

Applied Lessons - (one-hour private lessons)	12 credits
Advanced Theory (MUSC 631)	3 credits
Music Bibliography & Research (MUSC 685)	3 credits
Ensembles	2 credits
Recital	1 credit

### ELECTIVE COURSES (10 credits)

Electives must be selected from 500-600 level music courses with the approval of the MM Director. In general, elective course work should have a direct association to the student's major. A maximum of four elective credits may be applied lessons and/ or ensembles. Concepts of Music Theory (MUSC 629) and/or Perspectives in Music History (MUSC 621) may be counted as elective courses.

Performance students whose undergraduate coursework has not included a pedagogy course must take one of the following courses as appropriate:

Upon successful completion of the recital, an archival CD and a program copy must be submitted to the MM Director for retention in the student's permanent file. Students are allowed to repeat MUSC 797 (Graduate Recital) only one time. A second failure of a graduate recital will result in termination from the program.

### COMPOSITION RECITALS

The MM recital for composition majors will consist of works completed during the student's graduate tenure at Towson University. Total performance shall be no less than 30 minutes of music. The recital program will be drawn from works in the student's Master's portfolio (see below). Repertoire for the recital is subject to approval by the composition faculty, and the recital will be evaluated on musical excellence and organizational skill as evident in the student's ability to compose the music, find performers, organize rehearsals, and present the recital.

A composition student must formally apply to present his/her recital no later than eight weeks prior to the expected recital date. This process involves completing the Graduate Composition Approval for Recital Form, selecting the works to be

that the portfolio be turned in as a DVD-ROM with all score files in both Finale and PDF format and with a web page that links to streaming audio files, to PDF files of scores, and to program notes for each work. The department will keep these portfolios.

### Grading of Recitals

Evaluation of the performance is based on technical ability, repertoire, and interpretation.

Grade of A - Recital demonstrates performance commensurate with a Master of Music Degree at a distinguished level.

Grade of B - Recital demonstrates performance commensurate with a Master of Music degree at an acceptable level.

Grade of F - Recital does not demonstrate a performance level commensurate with a Master of Music degree. The performance reveals inadequate technical ability, repertoire, and/or interpretation.

## MM COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW

MM students with a performance track may pursue either one of the following two options for their Comprehensive Review: 1) a Recital Research Paper or 2) a Comprehensive Written Exam with Portfolio. Both options culminate with an Oral Exam. Students in the composition track must pursue the Recital Research Paper option. Each MM student with a performance track must inform the MM Director of his/her choice for the Comprehensive Review by the end of their first year in the program.

## RECITAL PAPER AND ORAL EXAMINATION

Students must register for MUSC 796 (Recital Research Paper) the semester prior to performing their recital. During the first two weeks of this pre-recital semester, they must request a meeting with the MM Director to form a graduate committee. The committee will consist of



Martin's) is expected. Forms must comply with CMS (Chicago Manual of Style) conventions. Information about the Hacker text can be found at [dianahacker.com/writersref](http://dianahacker.com/writersref).

#### Content for Performance Majors

For performance majors, the research paper will address historical, theoretical, and/or pedagogical aspects of the recital repertoire with bibliographic documentation. The scope and content must be defined by students in their proposals.

#### Content for Composition Majors

In-depth discussion of two works presented on the recital. Discussion of stylistic and programmatic influences on those compositions. The works may be examined separately or compared to each other. Internal constructive aspects must be disclosed using appropriate analytic methodology.

#### Timeline and Submission Process

5. No later than the 11th Friday of the semester. Notification from each remaining committee member is due to the student and the Principal Advisor. Committee members may 1) accept the paper without changes 2) accept it pending minor changes, or 3)

(Project Continuum) or another course during this additional term of study provides compliance with Towson University's continuous enrollment policy. A second failed examination will result in termination from the degree program. With the exam, students must submit a portfolio with the following materials:

1. A copy of the recital recording.
2. A paper with grade of B or higher from a TU graduate history and literature with course.
3. A representative sample of analytical work from a graduate-level music theory course.

By the last day of classes, students must submit a MM Comprehensive Exam Form signed by each committee member along with their portfolio and recital program to the MM Director.

## GRADUATION

Candidates must notify the MM Director in writing of their intention to complete the program before the beginning of the last semester of study. They must submit a Request for Graduation Review to the Graduate Office by the deadline published yearly in the Academic Calendar. If the application is submitted late, graduation will be postponed until the next graduation date. All graduation requirements, including resolution of incomplete grades and passing of the Comprehensive Review must be completed by the last day of the semester in which a student has applied for graduation. If the student does not complete graduation requirements as anticipated, the application must be resubmitted when he/she again seeks graduation in a subsequent semester.

## EXCEPTIONS TO MM HANDBOOK POLICIES

Requests for exceptions to any policy or procedure stated in this document must be submitted to the MM Director in writing with a clear rationale. Any major decisions normally include consultation with the Department of Music Graduate Studies Committee. Students should accommodate this process by submitting requests as early as possible.