



Guide to Majors and programs

Music

Not only does the study of music lead to satisfying careers in music itself, but it can be combined with many other interests and professional studies for a variety of lifetime pursuits.

Careers

In addition to the traditional careers in music performance and teaching, many other options are available to music graduates. Careful coordination of non-music courses with the requirements of a music degree can lead to entry into the music industry (music publishing, instrument and equipment merchandising, advertising, recording, electronic music, computer graphics, etc.). Graduates in the arts are often sought by companies for training in personnel management. More and more students are using their interest in and love of music to earn music degrees that serve as pre-professional programs for entry into medical, dentistry, law, divinity or other professional schools.

Facilities and faculty

McCain Auditorium has a theater/auditorium that seats 1,800. Included in the complex are administrative offices, classrooms, choral and instrumental rehearsal halls, individual practice rooms (additional practice facilities are located in Fairchild Hall), organ practice facilities, a music technology laboratory, instrument repair facilities, teaching studios and the Leavengood Courtyard. All Faiths Chapel auditorium adjacent to McCain is an additional performing facility used primarily for recitals and chamber music performances. The theater in Nichols Hall, equipped with the latest technology, is used for some musical productions.

A distinguished music faculty at K-State has a broad background both in performance and in academic experience. K-State music students are encouraged to maintain a balance of excellence in these two areas.

Music library

The extensive music collection in Hale Library includes standard reference sources, comprehensive collections of music from all eras and many scores of important operatic, instrumental and choral works. The music department library in McCain Auditorium has reserve materials and listening facilities to supplement those in Hale. The separate departmental library is for the exclusive use of music faculty and music majors. The extensive university record library contains recordings that cover the broad field of music literature.

Music technology laboratory

Room 324 in McCain Auditorium houses a state-of-the-art music laboratory with 15 Mac G4 computers linked to a teaching station. Each station contains an electronic keyboard, computer, monitor and headset. All stations are linked to the Internet and to the teachers station. Two large plasma screens at the front of the laboratory allow professors to communicate with the students. The computers include software for ear training, aural skills, marching band drill design, music notation, word processing and music composition and mixing.

Musical organizations

Practical experience received by singing or playing in musical ensembles is of primary importance in a musician's preparation. K-State offers this opportunity through such diverse organizations as collegiate chorale, concert band, concert choir, jazz ensemble, marching band, opera workshop, symphony band, symphony orchestra, varsity men's glee club, women's glee club and numerous smaller groups including brass ensemble, chamber orchestra, collegium musicum, pep band and theater orchestra. K-State Singers is an ambassador group composed of non-music majors.

Performance opportunities

K-State regularly presents the McCain Performance Series, which includes symphony, opera, ballet, theater and chamber music. The series is available to students at special reduced prices on a season or single ticket basis. Faculty artist presentations plus student music organizations, chamber and solo programs are free to the public and furnish a climate in which students are challenged to achieve the maximum in performance competence and experience in their applied areas.

Curriculum

All music majors declare a primary performance emphasis area in piano, voice, brass, woodwinds or percussion. Students participate each semester in a large ensemble such as band, orchestra or choir.

In addition, all music majors take the traditional core music courses: music theory, music history and aural skills. Music majors also fulfill university academic requirements such as English composition and speech. Non-music courses total approximately one-third to one-half of the requirements of the various music degrees.

Degrees

Bachelor of music

The bachelor of music, the traditional degree in music, offers specialization in music performance, music theory and composition or music history. In addition to preparing performers and composers, this degree often serves as the basis for further study leading to teaching careers at the college or university level.

Reflecting the growth and vitality of music theater activity at K-State, a new specialization within the bachelor of music curriculum is available. This course of study includes classes in acting, stage movement, technical theater and dance, as well as in music.

Bachelor of Arts

The Bachelor of Arts degree emphasizes the many facets of a liberal education while allowing concentration on one or more special interest areas. A Bachelor of Arts with a major in music is a popular option; this versatile degree also allows the student to combine music with another complementary area that might lead to some of the nontraditional careers described earlier.

Bachelor of music education

The bachelor of music education degree leads to teacher certification. In addition to preparing a student to teach in the public schools, this degree can serve as preparation for nontraditional music careers and graduate study in music performance. The degree, of special interest to individuals who are aware of the rewards of music education careers, also serves the needs of aspiring professional musicians who realize that teaching can improve the economic means often necessary to pursue a professional career.

Dual degrees

K-State offers the opportunity for students to combine degrees in diverse disciplines to meet career objectives in an ever-changing society. For example, technology has created a need for people knowledgeable in music who can also write computer programs. The entertainment media not only need performers but also have an ever-growing need for technicians who are conversant with music.

Music stores must have managers who are not only good business people, but who also can communicate effectively with the musicians who are their clientele. These are but a few of the exciting new possibilities that can be explored through dual degree options.

Graduate degrees

The graduate student in the master of music degree program, with a faculty committee, develops a program of specialization in music education, performance, pedagogy, music history, music theory, composition and conducting.

Scholarships and fees

The department of music annually sponsors Music Awards Days. Students seeking scholarships may audition for the artist faculty. Scholarship funds, primarily for music majors, are available in all performance areas. Interested students should contact the department of music.

Current information on fees is available upon request from the department of music. University students enrolled in music curricula are exempt from fees for private music lessons and music practice facilities.

Accreditation

The department of music is a member of the National Association of Schools of Music. The requirements for entrance and graduation from K-State are in accordance with the published regulations of NASM. The degrees in music education are fully accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education. K-State is accredited fully by the North Central Association.

High school preparation

All prospective music majors must be admitted to K-State. To learn more about qualified admissions at K-State please visit www.k-state.edu/admissions.

All prospective music majors must audition for the instructor(s) of their primary performing medium in order to be accepted into the music program. A proficiency exam will define student achievement levels in music theory and aural skills. Please contact the department of music for more detailed information on audition requirements and music theory preparation.

For more information about music, contact:

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For more information about Kansas State University, contact:

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