

What type of work is expected outside of the coursework?

You will have multiple opportunities to work with local schools to enhance your teaching skills. There are some volunteer hours required as part of your coursework, but none are required outside of course expectations.

If I graduate from K-State, will I be licensed to teach in multiple states?

Upon graduating from K-State, you will be licensed to teach K-12 music — choral, instrumental and general — in the state of Kansas.

This license will be transferrable; however, requirements for transfer vary from state to state.

What if I want to teach in a nontraditional (nonpublic school) setting?

You will learn about nontraditional and alternative approaches to teaching early in the curriculum. We believe this is critical to expanding the impact and reach of music education.

Will I get to teach in the classroom during my time at K-State?

Yes! You will be in the classroom teaching public school students a minimum of 90 hours prior to your student teaching semester.

What courses transfer to K-State?

The short answer is: many! Visit k-state.edu/undergradadmit/transferequivalency.html for more specific information.

How many years will it take to complete the degree?

You can complete this degree in four years. However, some students extend their degree to maximize their musical experience.

Are there any courses you suggest for dual credit or concurrent enrollment?

If you are taking courses in high school, we suggest English Composition 1 and 2, Public Speaking, College Algebra and Statistics. They will prepare you for entry into our program.



What do graduates say?

"I feel like my time at K-State prepared me for the real world of teaching in the best way possible and I could not be more grateful for it! Not only do I have a good foundational knowledge of music, but I also have a great set of tools to help others learn music and an ever-evolving philosophy of what music education should look like. If you get involved and plug in, you walk out the doors of K-State with a great starter set of tools to be a successful musician and educator."

— Brett Eichman, instrumental music teacher, Shawnee Mission School District, 2015 graduate

"My time in the K-State music education program was exceedingly fulfilling. My schedule was full of classes I loved. I had equally excellent instruction in music and education, as well as the field's best models from which to learn. I truly believe that nowhere else can you find music education training that is as well-rounded, deeply developed, research-based, current, relationship-driven, reformative, has as many opportunities, or is as passionate as the one at Kansas State University."

— Annika Stucky, vocal music teacher in the Geary County School District, 2015 graduate

Learn more

Contact the music education program to learn more or schedule a visit.

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BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN MUSIC EDUCATION

KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

School of
Music, Theatre, and Dance



About our program

Kansas State University offers future music educators a program focused on authentic, hands-on experiences. Each semester, K-State music education students observe and participate in music classes at area schools. These experiences, combined with coursework, performance opportunities and mentoring, allow students to have an immediate effect on the music education profession.

Explore our courses

- **EDSEC 200/230** — *Teaching as a Career: Overview of curriculum, field and peer-teaching experience and lesson planning.*
- **MUSIC 112/113** — *University Band/Choir: Student-led rehearsals and applied rehearsal planning.*
- **MUSIC 232** — *Teaching General Music in Secondary Schools: Professional e-portfolios, specific strategies in lesson planning, Garage Band pedagogy.*
- **MUSIC 417** — *Conducting I: Basic conducting patterns, musical error detection skills.*
- **MUSIC 517/518** — *Choral/Instrumental Conducting: Expressive conducting skills, school music literature, rehearsal planning, score marking and analysis.*
- **MUSIC 511** — *Music in the Schools K-6: Elementary general music instruction. Practice teaching in a local school, band method analysis, run a recruiting night for a local elementary school, develop a public relations brochure.*
- **MUSIC 512** — *Music Program in Junior/Senior High Schools: Develop a yearlong curriculum trajectory, peer-teaching experiences with multicultural content, design a music program handbook, explore classroom management.*
- **MUSIC 670** — *Advanced Studies in Music Education: Music teaching units for the elementary and secondary levels, lesson design with musical technology, extensive field-experience, complete e-portfolio.*
- **EDSEC 582** — *Student Internship: 16-plus weeks of a full-time internship taking place during the final semester before graduation.*

Annual events

Future Music Educators Days — In the spring and fall, K-State hosts events for high school students, preparing them for their music education experience. Both days include hands-on, interactive activities.

New Music Teacher Day — Once you graduate, the journey has just begun! We offer a professional development day for teachers in their first four years of teaching.

Westmoreland Instrument Night — Every spring, music education students design and implement this outreach event at a local elementary school, applying all teaching techniques they have learned.

Our faculty

Phillip Payne — assistant professor and chair of music education, specializing in instrumental music education. He serves as lead advisor for music education majors and supervises student teachers.

Ruth Gurgel — assistant professor of music education, specializing in elementary music education.

Frederick Burrack — professor of music education. He oversees the music graduate program, serves as director of the Office of Assessment and holds positions in numerous other prominent organizations.

FAQ

What makes our program unique?

Kansas State University music education majors begin coursework in their freshman year, encouraging them to think critically as future teachers. They read scholarly texts; design and teach lessons; and study traditional, nontraditional and developing practices. Music education majors leave K-State with the ability to immediately affect school, community and international music settings.

What is the job placement rate for students?

In the last 10 years, we have placed more than 99 percent of students who have sought a job after graduation.

Are there instrumental and vocal emphases?

Yes. In either curriculum, you will have experiences teaching in both disciplines.

