

Music

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 Department website (<http://music.dixie.edu>)

To find faculty & staff phone numbers and email addresses, please consult the University Directory (<http://www.dixie.edu/directory/directory.php>).

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Program Description

Welcome to Music at Dixie State University. There is a place for you in the Dixie State University Music Department. The Music options at DSU are varied, ranging from participation in a large ensemble to majoring in Music and pursuing a bachelor's degree.

The Music Department is committed to preparing students with the necessary tools to function as a musician in the performance hall, in the classroom, or for their own enjoyment. The mission of the Dixie State University Music Department is to prepare students for professional careers in music; to provide a high quality educational experience for all students; to serve as an educational and cultural resource for Dixie State University, the local community, and the region; to develop character, dedication and excellence; and to encourage lifelong learning.

Students may elect to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Music (BS), Bachelor of Arts in Music (BA), or a Bachelor of Science in Music Education. The BA requires 16 credits of a foreign language. The BA/BS both require a minimum of 120 credits. The Bachelor of Science in Music Education is 125 credits.

The Music baccalaureate degrees provide a core of music courses giving students a fundamental background in theory, ear training, history, conducting, private applied lessons, piano proficiency, and large ensembles. The BA/BS degrees are designed to fit within the context of a liberal arts curriculum. The Bachelor of Science in Music Education is a professional degree leading to licensure to teach in the state of Utah.

The music curriculum is designed to prepare students in foundational areas such as theory, history, performance, keyboard, and pedagogy to facilitate establishing careers in the work force or continuing their studies in graduate programs. Additional elective credits beyond the core and liberal arts courses offered combine to offer a meaningful preparation for career pursuits.

A Music Theory Placement Exam is administered during the first week of classes of the Fall Semester of MUSC 1110 Music Theory I. Students who do not pass the Placement Exam must enroll in MUSC 1100 Fundamentals of Music in addition to MUSC 1110. In some cases, students may be counseled to only enroll in MUSC 1100 Fundamentals of Music to strengthen their music knowledge foundation. Based on the exam, students may also be placed in MUSC 2110 Music Theory III. The same placement guidelines apply to Ear Training/Sight Singing courses.

Music majors are required to take private applied lessons for each semester. A minimum of eight credits is required to earn the degree. Music majors are also required to participate in a large ensemble each semester while at DSU. For instrumentalists, options are MUSC 3310R Symphony Band and MUSC 3350R Symphony Orchestra. For vocalists the option is MUSC 3250R Concert Choir. Pianists may use any of the above options or may enroll in MUSC 4433R Piano Ensemble & Accompanying. Guitarists may enroll in MUSC 3370R Guitar Ensemble.

Students are limited to three ensembles per semester. Participating in more than three ensembles is counterproductive. Exceptions to this policy must be approved by the department chair. All students receiving a scholarship from the Music Department are required to enroll in an ensemble as assigned.

Each student majoring in Music is required to perform a jury before a panel of faculty every semester. Juries are scheduled during the final exam period. Students should plan well in advance of that week to avoid any conflicts.

Music majors are required to complete the Department's Piano Proficiency during the first two years of study. Completion of the Piano Proficiency is a prerequisite to Junior-level private lessons. A placement exam is administered during the first week of classes each semester. Students enroll in group piano courses (MUSC 1150, 1160, 2150, and 2160) to fulfill the requirements. Once the proficiency is passed off students are not required to enroll in group piano. Enrolling in private lessons is not an acceptable solution to achieving proficiency.

Music majors are required to perform at least once per semester in a department recital or a department sponsored performance. Department recitals are scheduled on Friday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. Best dress is required. Students are encouraged to sign up for a recital time during the first two weeks of each semester. After that period, each student will be assigned a recital time by the department.

A grade of C or higher is required for all core Music courses, ensembles, and private lessons. Grades of C- (minus) or below will not satisfy this requirement.

Facilities

The Music Department is housed primarily in the Eccles Fine Arts Center. Honored by the Intermountain Contractor's Association as 2004's "Best Architectural Design," "Best Higher Education Design," and also the "Best Public Project Design Silver Award," Dixie State University's Dolores Dore Eccles Fine Arts Center represents the pinnacle of Arts Facility design and construction, beautifully blending the Sears Art Gallery, three performance venues, and all of the support facilities needed for active Music, Dance and Theatre departments. Music performance spaces include a 300 seat recital hall and a 500 seat main stage. The Music Department also utilizes the Cox Performing Arts Center with a 1,200 seat auditorium, 20-station piano lab, and rehearsal room. The adjacent Performing Arts Building (PAB) also houses music activities. It has a chamber music rehearsal room, ten practice rooms, teaching studios, and classrooms.

Accreditation

The DSU Music Department is an accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM). Learning and skill outcomes for the program have been designed to align with the NASM guidelines. Students entering this degree are expected to develop the knowledge, skills, concepts, and sensitivities essential to the professional life of the musician, including technical competence, broad knowledge of music and music literature, the ability to integrate musical knowledge and skills, sensitivity to musical styles, and an insight into the role of music in intellectual and cultural life.

Scholarships

The Music Department has access to state and privately funded scholarships. The amount tends to vary each year. Receiving a music scholarship is contingent on performing in department ensembles as outlined in the scholarship award letter.

Students must fill out the Talent Scholarship application form every year to be considered. The form is filled out online (http://new.dixie.edu/financial/scholarships/talent_application.php). Audition dates change each year.

Students who receive music scholarship awards must accept the award by returning the signed award letter to the Music Department AND accept the award online in the Financial Aid tab of the Student Services webpage. All talent scholarships require full-time enrollment, minimum 2.5 GPA, and participation in ensembles as outlined in the scholarship award letter. Scholarship offers are unique for each student and are based on many factors.

Course Prefixes

- MUSC

Degrees & Minors

- Bachelor of Arts/Science in Music (catalog.dixie.edu/programs/music/bachelor_of_artsscience_in_music)
- Bachelor of Science in Music Education with Secondary Education Licensure (catalog.dixie.edu/programs/music/bachelor_of_science_in_music_education_with_secondary_education_licensure)
- Bachelor of Arts/Science in Integrated Studies - Music Emphasis (catalog.dixie.edu/programs/interdisciplinaryartsandsciences/bachelor_of_sciencebachelor_of_arts_in_integrated_studies_music_emphasis)
- Minor in Music (catalog.dixie.edu/programs/music/minor_in_music)

Career Information - Music

Career Strategies

In addition to the required coursework in music, students can do the following to enhance the career opportunities:

- Advance their understanding of the structural aspects harmony and counterpoint
- Seek greater mastery of their instrument or voice
- Endeavor to improve their ability to accurately perform an extended variety of scales
- Develop basic keyboard skills
- Develop strong interpersonal skills
- Develop good writing and oral communication skills
- Build collegial relationships with other musicians, even if they specialize in different genres
- Find a mentor willing to share their valuable experiences.

Career Opportunities *

The need for trained musicians is a constant because there are so many career paths open to them such as:

- Music education
- Instrumental or vocal performance
- Conducting
- Composing
- Music-related businesses
- Instrument making and repair
- Music publishing
- Music communication in film, radio, television, and the recording industry
- Music technology, librarianship, and therapy

Job Outlook *

Employment opportunities for musicians and related occupations are projected to grow by approximately 3% from 2014 through 2024. This career field is rewarding but very competitive.

Salary Range *

Starting and career salaries differ greatly within the each music career field depending on variables such as music genre, music industry specialty, geographical location, economic factors, talent, and experience. However, according to the 2015 Occupational Outlook Handbook, music directors and composers earned an annual median wage of \$49,820, and musicians and singers earned a median hourly wage of \$24.40.

Career Information - Music Education

Career Strategies

In addition the required coursework in music, a prospective music educator can do the following to enhance career opportunities:

- Advance their understanding of the structural aspects harmony and counterpoint
- Seek to master all instruments as well as voice
- Pursue coursework in an area other than music to be considered a more versatile teacher candidate
- Develop basic keyboard skills
- Develop strong interpersonal skills
- Develop good writing and oral communication skills
- Build collegial relationships with other musicians and music educators

Career Opportunities *

Qualified music educators are employed in public and private schools all over the world from preschool through college in vocal music performance, instrumental music performance, conducting, musicianship, music history, music theory, and composition.

Job Outlook *

Employment of high school teachers is projected to grow 6% from 2014 to 2024, about the average increase for all occupations. The average classroom size is expected to grow as well, which will mean a stronger demand for capable educators.

Salary Range *

In May 2015, the median annual wage for high school teachers was \$57,200. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$37,800 and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$91,190.

* From the Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2015