Program Description

Degree Awarded: DMA Music (Performance)

The DMA in music with a concentration in performance is a professional degree program for advanced musicians desiring high levels of performance instruction and experience as well as preparation for teaching positions at the university level. The program provides extensive faculty and guest artist interaction and opportunities to develop advanced skills in traditional and contemporary pedagogy. The opportunity to collaborate with music scholars, theorists, composers, educators and other performers provides students with a broad and well-rounded foundation for advanced careers in music.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts
- **Location:** Tempe campus

Degree Requirements

90 credit hours, a research paper, a written comprehensive exam, and an oral comprehensive exam

The credit requirements for the degree are distributed as follows:

- major area (studio instruction, courses in concentration) (39 credit hours)
- music history and music theory (27 credit hours)
- recitals and research (24 credit hours)

The performance concentration requires at least three recitals after admission to the program and a research paper or project. Five recitals are required for the collaborative piano track.
**Additional Curriculum Requirements**

Completion of diagnostic exams in music history and music theory is required of all new graduate music students prior to enrollment in the ASU School of Music.

Thirty credit hours from a master's degree may be applied toward the 90 credit hour degree requirement. Once admitted to the program, a student is required to be enrolled continuously, excluding summer sessions, until all requirements for the degree have been fulfilled. In general, the student should expect to spend at least the equivalent of three academic years in the program beyond the bachelor's degree. A minimum of two semesters must be spent in continuous full-time residence at ASU. At least 54 credit hours must be completed in residence at ASU.

Vocalists: Placement tests in both foreign language diction and sight-singing are required upon entry into the program. Students who are judged to be deficient in diction are required to complete and pass a course in advanced diction. Students who are judged to be deficient in sight-singing are required to complete and pass the Musicianship for Singers course.

Additional information about degree requirements for all graduate music programs may be found on the check sheets: https://music.asu.edu/degree-programs/graduate/.

**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a U.S. bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution or the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor's degree from an institution in another country that is officially recognized by that country. Students seeking admission typically hold a Master of Music degree. Applicants with other degrees are considered if they have received graduate training similar to that normally expected in a Master of Music program.

Applicants must have achieved a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee: https://students.asu.edu/graduate/admissions
2. School of Music application (including a resume, personal statement and repertoire list): https://music.asu.edu/admissions/grad/
3. official transcripts
4. prescreening recording
5. piano pedagogy applicants: teaching demonstration video
6. three letters of recommendation
7. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency. The School of Music does not offer conditional admission under any circumstances. In order to meet English proficiency requirements, students should have a TOEFL score of at least 550 (PBT) or 80 (iBT), or an IELTS overall band score of at least 6.5, or a Pearson Test of English score of at least 60.

Students should see the program website for application deadlines.

After the applicant's complete application materials are received (including recommendation letters, transcripts and English proficiency) and a review has been conducted of prescreening materials, an applicant may be invited for a live audition. Information about the audition may be found at https://music.asu.edu/admissions/graduate-auditions.

Contact Information

School of Music | MUSIC E167
MusicAdmissions@asu.edu | 480-965-5069
Admission Deadlines