

Piano Pedagogy MM

Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts / BOYER COLLEGE OF MUSIC AND DANCE

Learn more about the Master of Music in Piano Pedagogy.

About the Program

The master's degree in Piano Pedagogy expands the resources, skills and insights of pianists who wish to be teachers, either in a private studio or at an institution, and who—in addition to having a comprehensive knowledge about teaching children and adults at an elementary level—are equipped to teach intermediate and early advanced students.

Time Limit for Degree Completion: 6 years

Campus Location: Main

Full-Time/Part-Time Status: The degree program can be completed on a full- or part-time basis.

Accreditation: Temple University is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM).

Areas of Specialization: While private lessons and ensemble participation are required each term, a major concentration of the curriculum is the study and practice of the teaching of the piano. Included in this concentration are coursework and fieldwork through the College's preparatory division.

Job Prospects: The program prepares musicians for teaching careers, professional activity or doctoral study.

Non-Matriculated Student Policy: Non-matriculated students may enroll in selected courses in music with permission, but may not take applied lessons until they have been fully admitted and matriculated.

Financing Opportunities: Boyer College of Music and Dance offers a number of assistantships and academic internships to full-time matriculated graduate students. Full awards carry a stipend plus full tuition remission for the Fall and Spring terms. Partial awards also are available in values of a quarter, half, or three quarters of a full award. Duties for assistantships and internships vary, but typically include teaching, tutoring, classroom assistance, research, artistic performance and/or direct service related to academic programs. All incoming graduate students are automatically considered for an award by the department and Dean of Admissions.

Admission Requirements and Deadlines

Application Deadline:

Fall: March 1

Spring: November 1

Applications are processed as they arrive. Late applications may be considered for admission.

APPLY ONLINE to this graduate program.

Letters of Reference:

Number Required: 2

From Whom: Letters of recommendation should be obtained from evaluators who can provide insight into the applicant's abilities, talents and aptitude for graduate study.

Coursework Required for Admission Consideration: All applicants must present credentials that are the equivalent of the appropriate Bachelor of Music degree at Temple University, which is based on a curriculum of 124 to 135 hours.

Bachelor's Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline: A degree in Music is expected.

Statement of Goals: Share your special interests within the discipline and expectations for the program.

Standardized Test Scores:

Applicants who earned their baccalaureate degree from an institution where the language of instruction was other than English, with the exception of those who subsequently earned a master's degree at a U.S. institution, must report scores for a standardized test of English that meet these minimums:

- TOEFL iBT: 79
- IELTS Academic: 6.5
- PTE Academic: 53

Audition: See <https://www.temple.edu/boyer/admissions/graduate-admissions/audition-requirements.asp> for audition repertoire requirements.

Resume: Current resume required.

Transfer Credit: A student who wishes to transfer credit should speak with their academic advisor and obtain a "Request for Transfer of Graduate Credit" form, found in TUportal under the Tools tab within "University Forms." Transfer credits must be approved by the advisor, the department chair, and the Associate Dean. The maximum number of credits a student may transfer is 6.

Other: Due to the large number of applications for admission and the competitive nature of its music programs, the College admits only a portion of its applicants. In addition to the general admissions credentials required of all Temple University graduate applicants, specialized admission criteria (i.e., auditions, portfolios, interviews, recommendations, departmental term papers, and standardized examinations) are very heavily weighted in admission decisions of the Boyer College of Music and Dance. Graduate applicants may be rejected for admission for failing to obtain the required level of proficiency in any one area of the specialized admission criteria regardless of the level of success in meeting the Temple University general admission criteria. In addition to the level of success demonstrated in the above-mentioned criteria, a final admission factor is the College's Optimum Enrollment Policy. This policy may preclude the admission of any student who meets the minimum requirements.

Program Requirements

General Program Requirements:

Number of Credits Required Beyond the Baccalaureate: 30

Required Courses:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Courses		
MUSC 8004	Piano Major Concentration in Pedagogy	2
MUSC 8014	Piano Major Concentration in Pedagogy	2
MUSC 8024	Piano Major Concentration in Pedagogy	2
MUSC 8461	Piano Pedagogy I	2
MUSC 8462	Class Piano Pedagogy	2
MUSC 8463	Class Piano Practice Teaching II	2
MUSC 8477	Baroque Keyboard Performance Practice	3
MUSC 8478	Classical Keyboard Performance Practice	3
MUSC 8701	Research in Music	3
Electives ¹		6
Public Recital		
MUSC 8084	Piano Major Concentration in Pedagogy (Recital)	3
Total Credit Hours		30

¹ Select from Music, Music Education, Music Studies, or other graduate departments. Advisor approval required.

Additional Requirements:

Diagnostic Examinations:

Diagnostic examinations in Aural Theory, Written Theory, and Music History are **required** for all entering master's students, except students in the Jazz Studies, Music Education, Music Technology, and Music Therapy programs, who arrange their examinations within their respective departments. In addition, Keyboard students take an additional two-hour examination in Keyboard Literature. As stated in the Boyer College Graduate Handbook, "students may not take final qualifying examinations nor perform graduation recitals until all diagnostic examinations have been successfully completed."

Entering master's students who require the diagnostic examinations in Aural Theory, Written Theory, and Music History will be contacted by the Music Studies department to schedule the testing date and time.

A. Graduate Diagnostic Examination in Aural Theory

The examination lasts approximately 40 minutes and asks students to:

1. Dictate a chord progression that modulates and contains chromatic harmony by writing out the bass line and identifying chords with Roman numerals and inversions.
2. Complete a two-part melodic dictation that modulates and contains chromatic pitches.

B. Graduate Diagnostic Examination in Written Theory

The examination lasts one and one-half hours and is in three parts:

1. Harmonic analysis of a diatonic chorale, and basic part-writing exercises using diatonic harmony.
2. Harmonic analysis of a chromatic chorale, and part-writing exercises using chromatic harmony.
3. Analysis of the form, motives and phrase structures of the first movement of a Classical-era piano sonata.

C. Graduate Diagnostic Examination in Music History

The examination consists of objective questions (multiple choice, matching, and/or true/false) covering musical works, composers, forms, styles, terms, and instruments. It is divided into five sections: Medieval/Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and 20th Century.

D. Conditions for Exemption from Diagnostic Examinations

The requirement to take the Diagnostic Examination in any area is waived only for graduates of the Boyer College of Music and Dance who:

- matriculate and enroll in the term immediately following completion of all undergraduate degree requirements; and
- received grades of "B-" or better in every undergraduate course taken in each individual examination area to be waived.

Professional Development Policy:

In addition to taking the required subjects for their degrees, all students in the Boyer College of Music and Dance are obligated to serve in a number of capacities in order to enrich their academic and musical expertise. Boyer College of Music and Dance believes that such experiences give impetus to successful professional careers. Among the duties that may be required are conducting laboratory classes; tutoring; teaching private lessons; coaching; participating in the distribution and inventory control of Temple University-owned musical instruments and instructional materials; participating in ensembles; accompanying; performing at admissions and open house events; supervising performance classes; and engaging in other academic activities.

Performing Ensembles:

1. Touring: All students in touring performing ensembles are required to participate in all scheduled tours. These tours, usually one or two weeks in length, often take place immediately after termination of academic terms. Students must arrange their schedules to accommodate this requirement.
2. Participation: Master's degree candidates in wind, brass and percussion instruments must be available for ensemble assignments at the discretion of the department chair, including participation beyond curricular requirements.
3. Non-Credit Participation: With special permission, graduate students for whom there is no ensemble requirement, or where previous ensemble credits exceed the graduation requirement, may participate in choral and instrumental ensembles without cost, with prior permission from the ensemble director, the department chair and the Associate Dean.

Independent Study Courses:

Independent study courses provide a special opportunity for graduate students to work in a highly individualized setting with one or more faculty members. All such study must receive the approval of the faculty member providing the instruction, the students' major advisor, and the Associate Dean. Approval is granted only after the student has presented a detailed description of the intended independent study project. Approval of independent study projects is granted only for students whose academic and musical record provides substantial support for the benefits of this type of study. In no case may more than 20% of a graduate student's curriculum be taken as independent study. Private lessons beyond those required in the curriculum are not an appropriate form of independent study.

Acceptable English:

All students, including those for whom English is not the native language, are expected to present all written work in acceptable English. No double standard exists to differentiate students on the basis of proficiency in the use of the English language. Students are also responsible for becoming familiar with the College's statement on plagiarism and academic honesty.

Graduate Private Lesson Policy:

Weekly one-hour private lessons are provided for all matriculated master's and doctoral performance majors in good standing, provided at least three additional credits of programmatically required graduate-level study are taken simultaneously. A \$250 per term lesson fee (subject to change without notice) is charged for all private lessons. Tuition remission may not be used to cover the private lesson fee.

Private applied lessons beyond the four-term requirement currently in effect for graduate performance students may be extended with the permission of the jury, department chair, and the Associate Dean or Dean of the Boyer College of Music and Dance.

Recital Extension:

Students withdrawing from the recital requirement during the recital term receive an Incomplete and must register for extended study for non-degree credit (MUSC 5000 Recital Extension for 2 credits). Recital Extension must be taken each term until the recital has been presented. This course is offered on a "Credit/No Credit" basis only. Upon satisfactory completion of the recital, the Incomplete for the recital course is replaced by a letter grade and MUSC 5000 Recital Extension is issued a grade of "CR." Credit derived from Recital Extension is not counted toward degree requirements.

1. Recital Extension Fees: Tuition for these additional terms of private study is the cost of 2 graduate credits plus a \$400 Recital Extension fee. Graduate assistantships and other forms of University-sponsored financial aid do not cover the Recital Extension fee.

2. Exceptions to Recital Extension:

- a. Students who perform their recitals during the first three weeks of the Spring term are not required to register for Recital Extension that term.
- b. Students who register for Recital Extension during the Summer may perform their recitals during the first three weeks of the Fall term. However, any student who does not take Recital Extension during the Summer may not present the recital in the Fall term, regardless of the date, without also registering for the Fall term of Recital Extension.

3. Failure to Present Recital: The degree status of students who are unable to present a recital after one term of Recital Extension is reviewed by the Associate Dean and the major advisor, who, in consultation with the major teacher and department, determine whether or not the student may continue in the program. Inability to present the recital after one term of Recital Extension may be grounds for dismissal from the degree program for failing to maintain reasonable academic progress.

Incompletes:

All incomplete grades and keyboard proficiencies must be fulfilled by the first day of the month in which the student expects to graduate.

Culminating Events:*Comprehensive Final Project:*

All candidates for the Master of Music degree must submit a list of all repertoire studied with their studio teacher(s) while enrolled in the MM program. Students choose two stylistically contrasting pieces from their final recital program. (Students enrolled in programs without a recital requirement, such as Opera Coaching, choose two contrasting works studied with their assigned studio teacher.) Students choose to give either an oral presentation or submit a written document that addresses at least several of the following topics:

- Form and harmonic language of the piece
- Historical background of the work
- Aspects of the composer's style
- Relationship to other keyboard works by the composer
- Performance practice considerations
- Specific technical problems and their solutions
- Other relevant information about the piece

The goal of the presentation or paper is to demonstrate cumulative knowledge and skills gained during the course of study at the master's level. Courses taken in research, theory, history, pedagogy and performance practice can inform the discussion of the particular works chosen by the student.

If the student selects the oral option, the presentation is scheduled during end-of-term juries. At least two representatives from the graduate faculty in the Department of Keyboard Studies adjudicate the oral presentation. The session should last approximately 20 minutes with some extra time for questions from the faculty members following the presentation. Students can perform small sections of the work if germane to their discussion. Lecture notes with cited sources for information should be submitted to the Department of Keyboard Studies no later than ten days before juries.

The written document, if chosen, should be a research-quality paper of approximately 10 pages, double-spaced, and include appropriate references. This should be submitted to the Department of Keyboard Studies no later than April 1 for a May graduation or November 15 for a January graduation. At least two graduate faculty members from the Department of Keyboard Studies read the paper and confer about the final decision. Students must follow the guidelines for academic honesty found in the Graduate Bulletin.

Each reader grades the project as either pass or fail. Any student who fails is not allowed to graduate at the end of that term. Another document may be submitted after suggestions for improvement by the Department of Keyboard Studies faculty, or another oral presentation is arranged and graded as before. Students who fail a second time are dismissed from the degree program.

Public Recital:

Performance majors present a public recital as the culminating event for the master's degree (MUSC 8084). Graduation recitals are typically one hour in length; presented on campus in either Rock Hall or Klein Recital Hall; and adjudicated by three full-time music faculty members. The student must show evidence through Temple University transcript records of having taken private lessons up to the time of the graduation recital. Students who wish to play a recital in the early Fall should plan to register for and complete the final term of lessons during the preceding Summer months. A recital approval jury must be formed to demonstrate the student's ability to perform the degree recital successfully. Normally, this occurs at the preceding term's jury. If, by departmental approval, this jury does not occur, then a jury must be scheduled at least four weeks prior to the recital. If the jury is not successfully completed by that time, the department reserves the right to cancel the recital date. Further details are available from the department chair.

Contacts**Program Web Address:**

<https://www.temple.edu/academics/degree-programs/piano-pedagogy-mm-bc-pped-mmus>

Department Information:

Dept. of Keyboard Studies

Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts/Boyer College of Music and Dance

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Submission Address for Application Materials:

https://connect.temple.edu/portal/gr_applytoday

Department Contacts:

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Chairperson/Program Coordinator:

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