

DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

Renardo Murray, Ph.D., Interim Department Chair
Fine Arts Building, 1st Floor
1000 ASU Drive #29
Phone: 601-877-6261 FAX: 601-877-6262

Degree Offered

Secondary Education Masters: Music

Requirement for Admission

Standard Educator License

Graduate Faculty

Byron Johnson, D.M.Ed., Associate Professor of Music

Donzell Lee, Ph.D., Interim President and Professor of Music

Everson Martin, M.M., Assistant Professor of Music

David Miller, D.A., Professor of Music

Renardo Murray, Ph.D., Interim Chair, Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music

ENDORSEMENT AREA: Music Education

Program Description

The Master's degree at Alcorn State University is designed to meet all criteria set forth by the State Department of Education. The Department of Fine Arts offers a contemporary curriculum that embraces the ever-changing world of music in the public and private sector. This degree consists of 33 hours of course requirements and leads to AA licensure in music education. This degree is designed to allow students to explore issues, design curriculum and learn new strategies and techniques that will enable them to become more effective music educators, through the application of theory and new research to their educational practice. It also gives the practitioner a means to use creativity in the latest content and approaches to music to reach and teach students. Music teachers in both public and parochial settings can expand their musical expertise as a teacher continue their professional work as they gain advanced knowledge and skills to move their students to higher levels of achievement.

Specific objectives of this endorsement are to:

1. Provide advanced knowledge and theory for students in music;
2. Explore, develop, and disseminate techniques and methods of teaching and research in music education subject area;
3. Encourage within students a sharpened sense of awareness of current and future developments in music education;
4. To prepare students to serve as a resource for schools and other community organization as it applies to music education.

Admission Requirements

The Music Graduate Committee evaluates a candidate for admission based on several criteria. A candidate may be required to take specific prerequisite undergraduate music courses before full admission into the program can be granted.

1. A candidate is expected to have a musical background-- previous participation in choir and/or band or other performance activity
2. Basic keyboard proficiency
3. Basic knowledge of music theory

Curriculum

The graduate program for the Master of Science in Secondary Education requires completion of 33 semester credit hours of course work which includes 12 semester graduate hours of Core Courses; 21 semester graduate hours in the content.

Course Requirements

Core Education Courses (12 hours)		Credits
ED 512	Foundations of American Research	3 hrs.
ED 514	Methods of Educational Research	3 hrs.
ED 533	Curriculum (Methods) Development	3 hrs.
PH 513	Advanced Educational Psychology	3 hrs.
Required Courses* (21 hours)		Credits
MU 500	History and Philosophy of Music Education	3 hrs.
MU 501	Methods of Teaching Music in the Secondary School	3 hrs.
MU 502	Survey of Research in Music Education	3 hrs.
MU 503	Administration of the School Music Program	3 hrs.
MU 504	Contemporary Issues in Music Education	3 hrs.
MU 505	Seminar in Music Theory	3 hrs.
MU 506	Seminar in Music Education	3 hrs.
TOTAL		33 hrs.

Music Course Descriptions (MU)

MU 500 – HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF MUSIC EDUCATION

(3 Credits)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the ideas, people, and events that inform the history and philosophy of music education. The course will acquaint students with tools of philosophical and historical inquiry appropriate for their ongoing engagement with music education as reflective practitioners.

MU 501 – METHODS OF TEACHING MUSIC IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

(3 Credits)

This course is an intense and comprehensive study of instructional materials for the secondary general music teacher. Topics include developing curricula, scheduling, motivation, and issues associated with teaching music in the secondary schools.

MU 502 – RESEARCH IN MUSIC EDUCATION

(3 Credits)

This course serves as an introduction to graduate level research in music education concentrating on content as well as on methodological, stylistic, and philosophical issues that arise when writing about music within a music education setting. The course covers basic statistical concepts, library research techniques, standard reference tools and electronic resources.

MU 503 – ADMINISTRATION OF THE SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM

(3 Credits)

This course is designed to prepare music educators for supervisory and administrative positions in school music programs. The course covers strategies in communication, classroom management, current trends, teaching and learning styles, and teacher assessment and evaluation.

MU 504 – CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN MUSIC EDUCATION

(3 Credits)

This course examines current trends and issues in music education. Particular attention will be given to curricular issues and other issues arising from state and national assessments and developments.

MU 505 – SEMINAR IN MUSIC THEORY

(3 Credits)

This course will cover one or more of the following areas of music theory: Pedagogy of Music Theory, Analytical Techniques and/or Orchestration and Arranging. The specific topic or topics will be chosen through collaboration between student and instructor and is designed to broaden knowledge and develop further skills in selected areas of music theory.

MU 506 – SEMINAR IN MUSIC EDUCATION

(3 Credits)

Topics for this course will be chosen from the following: Band/Choral Conducting, Instrumental/Choral/Keyboard Methods and Materials, Marching Band Techniques, Advanced Studies in Music History, and/or Instrumental/Vocal/Keyboard Applied Pedagogy. The specific topic or topics will be chosen through collaboration between the student and instructor. The course is designed to broaden knowledge and develop further skills in selected areas of music education