

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

GRADUATE APPLICATION

Program for which you are applying: (Check One)

_____ Master of Science (M.S.) in Music Education (Complete Sections A, B, C, E and F)

_____ Post-baccalaureate Certification Program in Music Education (Complete Sections A, B, C, D, E)

Please note: You must apply to BOTH the Department of Music and to CCSU

SECTION A: PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone Number(s): _____ (home)

_____ (cell)

E-Mail: _____

SECTION B: RESERVATION

Check the date you are reserving for the interview/theory exam. Upon receipt of your application materials, we will be in touch with you regarding your schedule:

Fri., Nov. 9, 2018

Sat., Feb. 9, 2019

Thurs., March 7, 2019

Sat., April 6, 2019

SECTION C: EDUCATION

1. Describe the education you have completed beyond high school by providing the information requested below.

Degree

School

Dates

2. List the college level musical activities in which you participated, including positions or chairs held in organizations and special performances as a soloist or member in a small ensemble.

3. List the musical activities in which you have participated other than in high school or college.

4. Teaching: Please list any teaching experience you may have, including dates and location of positions held.

School

Position

Dates



SECTION D: CERTIFICATION STUDENTS

Post-baccalaureate Certification students must also audition (in addition to an interview and the theory entrance examination). Please prepare two contrasting pieces that demonstrate your technical training and musicianship. Traditional classical repertoire is expected. If you have any questions about the audition procedure or repertoire, call the Department of Music at (860) 832-2912.

1. MAJOR INSTRUMENT: _____
 2. What other instruments do you play? _____

(Title) (Composer)
 3. Audition Pieces: _____

 4. Send pages 1-2 of the application form and a 2-3 page word-processed essay to the Department of Music prior to the audition date. See Section E for guidelines for the essay.
 5. See Section F-3 for guidelines in preparing for the theory entrance examination.
-

SECTION E: ESSAY

All applicants must complete a 2-3 page word-processed essay as part of the application process. The essay should be sent to the Department of Music prior to the audition date. The essay should be double-spaced and address the following:

1. Describe your area of teaching expertise and activities relevant to the field of music and music education.
 2. Discuss your philosophy of music education, your professional goals and how you feel the curriculum at CCSU could help you achieve your goals. You may also discuss future areas of research, pedagogy or performance you would like to explore.
 3. Identify the personal and professional characteristics you believe will contribute to your success in a CCSU graduate music education program.
-

SECTION F: MASTER OF SCIENCE (M.S.) IN MUSIC EDUCATION

1. APPLICATION FORM:

Send pages 1-2 of the application form and a 2-3 page word-processed essay to the Department of Music prior to the audition date. See Section E for guidelines for the essay.

2. **GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)** for all undergraduate courses: Minimum requirement is a 2.70 GPA based on a 4.00-point scale where an A is 4.00.

3. MUSIC THEORY AND AURAL SKILLS EXAMINATION:

A theory and aural skills examination, which will be given on the day of the interview, is intended to evaluate your knowledge of basic undergraduate theory and aural skills. These skills are deemed important for any practicing musician, and represent the basic skills learned in any accredited music program found nationally. While this examination is primarily a placement examination, a low score could influence the decision about the applicant's acceptance.

The theory exam will presume the ability to handle tasks such as these:

- a. Spelling chords, chromatic or diatonic, in any standard clef including the C clefs.
- b. Part-writing in four voice choral style from a figured bass. This also includes the ability to read a figured bass.
- c. Basic skills in harmonic analysis and elements of form.

The aural skills exam will presume the ability to handle the following:

- a. Interval dictation, i.e., pitches played as a series, which have no diatonic connection with one another. A typical example would be a hexachord played in a slow tempo in half-note or quarter-note rhythm.
- b. Melodic dictation of examples of usually four measures in length. This would be primarily diatonic with the potential for some decorative or functional chromaticism.
- c. Harmonic dictation--as a progression is played, you need to be able to notate the soprano and bass lines and provide Roman numeral functions with inversion symbols. These progressions may include chromatic harmony.

In preparing for these exams, and that preparation is highly recommended, one may use any standard harmony text, such as *Tonal Harmony* by Stefan Kostka and Dorothy Payne, which reads easily, and also the practice of solfeggio to sharpen aural acuity of a tonal sort. For dictation practice, additionally, one may use a source such as MacGamut.

Any inquiries may be directed to Dr. Brian Kershner, kershnerbrk@ccsu.edu.

4. **PERSONAL INTERVIEW:**

A personal interview with members of the Department of Music's Graduate Committee will be conducted on the day of the theory examination. The committee will assess the student's ability to analyze and synthesize their life experiences as indicators of the student's potential for a Master's in Music Education candidacy.

5. **PORTFOLIO:**

All applicants to the Master of Science in Music Education Program should bring a portfolio to the interview. For below for a description of what should be included in the portfolio. If you have any questions about the portfolio, call Dr. Robert Schwartz, Graduate Coordinator at (860) 832-2910 or send an email message to robert.schwartz@ccsu.edu.

The content and rationale for entries in the portfolio are as follows:

- a. Vitae or Resume
- b. Two or three written recommendations from individuals able to testify to the student's suitability as a master's candidate in music education.
- c. Evidence of Teaching Experience and Musicianship: Examples of programs, student work and/or performances to demonstrate the applicant's competency as a teacher particularly as they relate to the implementation of the National Standards for Music and/or the candidate's local curriculum, (i.e., CD's of your performance, your students' performances/concerts, compositions, etc.).
- d. Unofficial Transcript to document undergraduate coursework.
- e. **OPTIONAL:** Examples of competency in technology to demonstrate the applicant's competency in using notation software, and other examples of how the applicant uses technology as a teaching tool or as a management tool may be included in the portfolio.

6. **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- a. Upon acceptance by both the Graduate School and the Department of Music, all M.S. in Music Education students must contact Dr. Schwartz to determine an official Plan of Study. This plan provides a map that ensures that the candidate will complete the degree program within the required time line. While each plan is tailored to the individual, there are six (6) required core courses. (A schedule of the core courses is provided in the Graduate Handbook of the Department of Music which is on the Department's website.) Additionally, all masters' candidates must successfully complete 12 hours of electives. The Plan of Study is not official until it has been approved by the Dean of the Graduate School.
- b. Subsequent changes in the Plan of Study may be made with the approval of Dr. Schwartz and the Dean of the Graduate School.
- c. The time limit for the M.S. degree is six years from the time one takes the first graduate course used towards the degree, including any approved transfer courses.
- d. Students may transfer up to nine (9) Semester Hours (SH) graduate credits from other accredited colleges or universities with the approval of the faculty academic advisor and the Dean of the Graduate School.

- e. If students are not proficient in notation software, they may be required to take a course in notation as part of the Plan of Study.
 - f. All M.S. in Music Education candidates must complete a Capstone Requirement as part of the degree program. This requirement includes a comprehensive examination at the end of their course of studies. (See the Graduate Catalog or website for the application). Additionally, students must select one of the following to complete the capstone requirement:
 - 1) Plan A: 30 SH plus a Thesis (3 SH—research in an unresearched area);
 - 2) Plan C: 30 SH plus a Special Project (3 SH—may take the form of an Action Research Project, a Performance Recital, a Composition Project, a Conducting Project, or other projects that may be considered for approval by the Department’s Graduate Committee (i.e., a Technology Project – developing CAI program, etc.). All projects must be approved by the candidate’s project advisor and the Graduate Committee before registration is permitted.
 - g. Each student is responsible for reading the graduate catalog and meeting deadlines for filing for graduation, comprehensive exams, obtaining a letter of completion, etc.
-

Please contact us with any questions:
860.832.2912 or music@ccsu.edu

Please mail this application and your essay to:
*Central Connecticut State University
Department of Music
1615 Stanley Street
New Britain, CT 06050-4010*

Upon receipt of your application materials, we will be in touch with you regarding your audition/interview.



Visit us on the web:
www.ccsu.edu/music



On Facebook as
CcsuMusic



On Twitter as:
@CCSU_music