

Montana University System
INTENT TO PLAN FORM

Program/Center/Institute Title: Master of Music (M.M.) with Options in Music Education and Music Technology

Campus, School/Department: MSU (Bozeman)/School of Music

Expected Submission Date: Spring '19

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To increase communication, collaboration, and problem-solving opportunities throughout the MUS in the program/center/institute development process, please complete this form not more than 18 months in advance of the anticipated date of submission of the proposed program/center/institute to the Board of Regents for approval. The completed form should not be more than 2-3 pages. For more information regarding the Intent to Plan process, please visit <http://mus.edu/che/arsa/academicproposals.asp>.

1) Provide a description of the program/center/institute.

The proposed Master of Music (M.M.) degree with options in Music Education and Music Technology will provide new opportunities for Montanans to pursue advanced degrees in Music and will build on existing strengths in the college. The M.M. Option in Music Education is designed for practicing ("in-service") music educators and can be completed entirely online, allowing music educators to pursue an advanced degree at a distance without a break in employment. The online delivery of the M.M. Music Education Option will fill a need in the region for high-quality, accessible, advanced instruction in Music Education. No other National Associate of Schools of Music (NASM) accredited school in the region (MT, WY, ID, WA, OR, NV, CO, UT, ND, SD) offers any master's degree in music education 100% online. The program will focus on music pedagogy, music education research, and the practical application of knowledge in K-12 music classrooms. The participants in this program will typically enroll in one to two 3-credit courses each fall, spring, and summer semester while continuing in their professional careers. Students taking two courses a semester would be expected to complete the program in two to three years. Initially, students in the program will primarily be music teachers in Montana. Over time, we expect that this program could reach a larger audience outside of the state.

The M.M. Music Technology Option builds on the strong foundation of the B.A. in Music Technology at MSU and would allow graduate students to focus their studies on advanced creative practices and research using audio and music technologies, interactive performance technologies, audio and music software and hardware development, human-computer interface design, interdisciplinary and intermedia arts, and the pedagogy of music technology. The M.M. Music Technology Option would draw upon existing relationships between the School of Music's internationally recognized faculty in Music Technology with faculty from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Gianforte School of Computing and the other Schools within the College of Arts and Architecture. It is envisioned that the new curriculum would also play a role in support of doctoral students who are pursuing a Ph.D. in the Individual Interdisciplinary Program. Interest in studying music technology at the graduate level is high among our current students, recent graduates, and students nationally.

2) Describe the need for the program/center/institute. Specifically, how the program/center/institute meets current student and workforce demands. (Please cite sources).

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Currently, there are many music teachers throughout the state of Montana who, due to their geography, cannot access on-campus graduate studies in music education. Additionally, there is currently no graduate music education degree offered 100% online from an institution of higher education in Montana. At MSU, the graduate degree available to practicing music teachers is a Master of Education in Curriculum & Instruction (M.Ed. in C&I). Unlike the M.Ed. in C&I or the newly approved Master of Arts in Teaching, the M.M. Music Education Option places music as the teachers' primary area of study, allowing music studies to hold the more prominent position in their advanced degree. The M.M. with an Option in Music Education program will also have an impact beyond the graduate students who officially enroll. It will be possible for individual courses within the program to be taken by music teachers outside of the degree program for recertification or licensure, and credits will allow teachers to progress on their district's salary scale (Montana Office of Public Instruction). This program will also create the opportunity for music teachers across Montana to build connections, foster a sense of community, and develop professional networks.

Prospective students with undergraduate and graduate degrees in music as well as a variety of technical and scientific disciplines living in Montana and elsewhere around the country have shown interest in pursuing a graduate degree in Music Technology at MSU. Several of these students have decided to pursue the B.A. in Music Technology as Post-Baccalaureate students. However, for many students, a second Bachelor's degree in music was not their preferred option, especially if they have already earned an undergraduate or graduate degree in music. Other Post-Baccalaureate students who have shown interest in studying Music Technology with faculty at MSU have decided to pursue programs of study at other universities that lead to the awarding of a graduate degree upon completion of the program. The M.M. Music Technology Option will enable these students to be better served within the MUS with the possibility to pursue and earn a graduate degree in Music Technology at the MSU School of Music. Currently, the MUS does not offer a graduate degree in Music Technology. In addition, only three schools in a nine-state region (Colorado, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming) offer a similar graduate degree.

3) Describe how the program/center/institute fits with the institutional mission, strategic plan, and existing institutional program array.

Each of the proposed options for the M.M. degree, Music Education and Music Technology, align with MSU's mission and strategic goals and complement other graduate degree programs. The proposed M.M. Music Education Option is designed with a primary focus on disciplinary coursework (music and music education) and so differs from the M.Ed in C&I which emphasizes instruction more generally with fewer credits allotted specifically for music and music education coursework. The M.M. Music Education Option offers something unique that will draw a wider market than is currently being served by the university and will also complement other programs available online at MSU such as the in the M.Ed in C&I or the M.A. in Native American Studies, as students in any of these programs may take an elective or two in another graduate program. Primarily, the M.M. Music Education is responsive to the needs of the music teachers in Montana who have expressed a desire to have a program that offers opportunities to deepen content and pedagogical knowledge specific to music education. It aligns with the MSU Strategic Plan Access Goal A.1 of widening access to higher education and ensuring equality of opportunity for all.

The M.M. Music Technology Option is responsive to MSU's mission and strategic plan in a number of ways. It will allow the MSU School of Music to significantly increase enrollment at the graduate level, making available an area of study that currently has no availability in Montana and limited accessibility in our geographic region. This goal aligns with the MSU Strategic Plan Learning Metric L.2.2 related to graduation rates, and L.3.2 increasing the percentage of graduates pursuing an advanced degree, providing an option that is geographically accessible to Montanans and students in our region. Given the interdisciplinary nature of study in Music Technology and the ability of the curriculum to serve as a secondary area in the Individual Interdisciplinary Ph.D., the M.M. in Music Technology will address Integration Goals I.2, relating to the

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development and graduation of students in interdisciplinary programs, and will foster an increase in interdisciplinary research and creative projects on the MSU campus.

Both of the proposed options will align with the MSU Strategic Plan Learning Goal to “prepare students to graduate equipped for careers” and Strategic Plan Discovery Goal to “expand the scale, breadth, and quality” of graduate education by attracting a new set of students to MSU.

- 4) Describe how the program/center/institute overlaps, complements, or duplicates existing efforts in the MUS. Describe efforts that will be made to collaborate with similar programs at other institutions. If no efforts will be made, please explain why.**

The University of Montana currently offers a Master of Music (M.M.) degree with an Emphasis in Music Education. The focus of the UM program differs substantially from the M.M. in Music Education Option MSU is proposing. The curriculum at UM includes a greater number of courses in the areas of music performance, music theory, and musicology, while the option at MSU will focus on pedagogy and music education research. There are also differences regarding the delivery of content. While the University of Montana offers an online option, according to their published materials there are required courses within the program which must be taken in-person, including three semesters of ensemble participation. (<https://www.umt.edu/music/academics/degrees/master-of-music/music-education/online-program.php>) MSU’s M.M. with an Option in Music Education program does not require any on-campus residency to complete the degree and is accessible to all music teachers in the state and beyond.

The M.M. Music Technology Option offers advanced study to music students and does not duplicate any existing program in the MUS. It will certainly complement graduate programs in music, electrical and computer engineering, and computer science programs at MSU, allowing for students in these and similar programs to study the interconnectivity of music and technology at the graduate level.

Signature/Date

College/School Dean:  10/22/2018

Chief Academic Officer:  10-23-18

Chief Executive Officer:  October 23, 2018

Flagship Provost*:  10-23-18

Flagship President*:  October 23, 2018

*Not applicable to the Community Colleges.

Date of Final Review:

When submitting the proposal to the BOR, include this signed form with the Level II request.

October 23, 1918

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