

Voice Area

Standards for Undergraduate Admission/UDS/Senior Recital/Graduation/Graduate Admission

(Learning Outcomes)

Vocal Performance
Vocal Music Education
Music Composition (Voice)
Applied Voice (Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science)
Music Business (Voice)

The above degree programs are differentiated by specific curriculum, the voice division considers all voice majors in one of two categories:

Performance – Performance (BM)
Other – Music Education (BM), Applied Voice (BA, BS),
Music Business (BM), Music Composition (BM)

Singers in all programs must show technical skills. A higher level of vocal ability, technique and communicative ability is expected from performance majors at each level: admission, UDS and recitals. Majors in Music Education, Applied Voice, Composition and Music Business are given the same attention and care throughout their degrees as are the performance majors, with the understanding that singers in these programs have other aspirations other than “performance.”

Undergraduate Admission

Students interested in applying for admittance as a voice major at the LHOM must sing an audition for and be interviewed by the voice faculty of the school. The following statement contains the criteria for audition repertory for those students applying to enter the LHSOM as a voice major:

Students should sing two songs, preferably from the standard art song repertory. An aria from an oratorio or opera may take the place of either song. An art song can be a classical or folk song arrangement. All audition pieces should be memorized. Students should be prepared to demonstrate their sight-reading abilities – i.e. read a solo or choral part.

Upon completion of a successful audition, the voice faculty will place all undergraduates at the probationary MusA 115 level (trial period) as detailed in the undergraduate catalogue. The voice faculty evaluates the following criteria with regard to admittance of the student as a voice major in the following levels of applied study:

MusA 124, 324 Fundamental knowledge of musical notation. Demonstrated ability to sing accurately with regard to pitch and rhythm, and ability to complete minimum repertory

requirements detailed in the General Applied Voice Syllabus:

All undergraduate non-voice performance majors receiving an hour lesson time (MusA 124, 324): Four new pieces each semester for the first three semesters, and five pieces the fourth semester and beyond.

MusA 134 Fundamental knowledge of musical notation, demonstrated ability to sing accurately with regard to pitch and rhythm, demonstrated potential with regard to mastery in vocal production and interpretation, and the ability to complete minimum repertory requirements detailed in the General Applied Voice Syllabus:

All undergraduate voice performance majors receiving an hour lesson time (MusA 134, 334): Four new pieces each semester for the first two semesters, five pieces the third Semester, and six pieces the fourth semester and beyond.

Those students who do not meet the above stated criteria to the satisfaction of the voice faculty will be asked to audition again. Those students who fail to effectively demonstrate the ability to study at either the MusA 124 or MusA 134 level after a maximum of two semesters at the MusA 115 level will not be allowed to continue in the intended program of study.

Admission Standards for Non-Voice Majors

Students wishing to enroll in MusA 114, 314, 514 will be accepted into a studio based on consideration of voice faculty.

MusA 114, 314, 514

Ability to complete minimum repertory requirements detailed in the General Applied Voice Syllabus: For all students receiving a half-hour lesson time (MusA 114, 314, 514): Three new pieces memorized each semester.

Upper Division Standing

The following are standards with regard to Upper Division Standing in Applied Voice:

At the conclusion of the fourth semester of vocal study, the student will register for an Upper Division Standing Examination (UDS). This examination will be given at the same time that voice juries are held, and once passed, the student will be allowed to register for upper division lessons (MusA 324/334). Should the student not pass the examination on the first try, they will be allowed one additional opportunity to pass. They may also be advised to reevaluate their intended program of study.

Before taking the UDS examination, the student shall show evidence of having studied selections representing standard vocal literature, as normally covered in four semesters of college level work; and will have earned at least 8 credits for MusA 124 or 12 credits of MusA 134 respectively. Transfer students will take a placement examination during the first three weeks of residence to determine the level (115/315-124/134-324/334) at which they will register.

The materials presented for UDS must include:

1. Songs from at least four musical periods (Baroque, Classical 19th C. Romantic, 20th/21st C. Contemporary)
2. At least one aria from a dramatic or liturgical work. Students seeking MusA 324 may substitute an art song for the aria from a dramatic or liturgical work.
3. Demonstration of phonetic proficiency in at least the following three languages: Italian, German, and French, as well as English.
4. One piece from the 20th C. American or British art song repertory.

Total program length must be minimum of 15 minutes and a maximum of 20 minutes. All material presented must be accurately memorized. One of the songs above, in consultation with the student's voice teacher, will be learned, both accurately and musically, by the student on their own.

The student must also prepare a recital program using standard LHSOM recital format. This must be presented to the voice faculty at the time of the jury. The voice faculty reserves the right to ask the student specific questions with regard to the content of the program at the time of the jury. Upon completion of the UDS jury, the voice faculty evaluates the following criteria with regard to admittance of the student as a voice major in one of the following levels of applied study:

MusA 324 Demonstrated proficiency (to the satisfaction of the voice faculty) in areas of musical accuracy, memorization, vocal production, diction and song interpretation appropriate for the following degree programs: B.M. in Vocal Music Education, Composition or Music Business, B.A. and B.S. in Applied Study with voice as the major instrument.

MusA 334 Demonstrated proficiency (to the satisfaction of the voice faculty) in areas of musical Accuracy, memorization, vocal production, diction and song interpretation appropriate for the B.M. in Vocal Performance.

Junior/Senior Recital Approval

Upon completion of the required semesters of study in Applied Voice for their respective degree programs, the student, with the approval of their voice teacher, will prepare a recital program (preferably in the last semester of study in applied voice) to be performed in that semester. The program length must be a minimum of 30 minutes for a half-recital (all degree programs) or 50-60 minutes for a full recital (B.M. in Voice Performance). Program content is decided in consultation with the student's voice teacher. The program content must demonstrate knowledge of major periods, styles and languages similar to the criteria met in the Upper Division Standing. With the approval of the student's voice teacher, additional styles, languages or periods may be added or substituted for those examined at the UDS in order to allow the student some individual flexibility in program content. The student is also encouraged to explore chamber works outside of the voice-piano format. All solo recital pieces with piano must be memorized, with the exception of oratorio and cantata arias. Chamber works with additional voice and/or instrumentation may also be performed with music. The student is required to prepare a printed recital program using LHSOM format and program notes with text translations (which the student will also provide for audience members). The student must pass a recital jury for the voice faculty a minimum of two weeks prior to the expected recital date, as stated in the approved

LHSOM procedures for student recitals. At that time, the student and participating artists will be asked to perform requested pieces or portions of pieces from the printed recital program. Upon completion of the recital jury, the voice faculty will approve or not approve the recital based on the following:

1. Minimum length requirements as detailed above
2. Demonstrated mastery of the musical content with regard to memorization, pitch, rhythm, diction, areas related to style, interpretation and vocal coordination considered appropriate for the degree level the student is completing.

The approved content of the recital program cannot change following the approved recital jury. Those students whom the faculty believe do not meet the above-stated criteria must retake the voice recital jury as outlined in the LHSOM recital procedures.

Graduation

The same requirements as for those giving a senior recital.

Graduate Admission

The same requirements as those for any graduating senior.

Graduate Recital Approval/Thesis Defense

Because any graduate degree is tailored to the specific needs of the student, repertoire requirements, technical ability, and performance ability will be dealt with on an individual basis. In general, for all graduate non-voice performance majors in an hour lesson time (MusA 524): Six new pieces memorized each semester. For all graduate voice performance majors in an hour lesson time (MusA 534): Eight new pieces memorized each semester.

Two full recitals, 50-60 minutes in length, will be given during the course of the graduate study. One or both of these recitals will include chamber works involving instruments other than, or in addition to, piano.

If it is decided by the voice division that a graduate student, in a major opera role, has completed the necessary requirements by performing this role, then this role will count as one of the two required graduate recitals.

In order to receive recital approval, a student must reach a pre-professional level of performance that would enable them to be viable for entry in either a performance career, a doctoral program, or as a private voice teacher.

Graduation

The same requirements as for those giving a graduate recital.