



The University of Mississippi

Interoffice Memorandum

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

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TO: Music students and advisors

FROM: Charles Gates 

DATE: March 14, 2007

SUBJECT: Music degree and advising issues

Priority registration for Summer 2007 terms and for the Fall 2007 semester opens on March 28 (with advising beginning on March 21). There are several changes to which we all – students and advisors – must pay close attention.

1. IHL-mandated degree credit-hour reductions take effect beginning with the Fall semester. The reductions – to 124 hours for the B.A. in Music and for the B.M. in Music Performance and Music Theory, and to 128 hours for the B.M. in Music Education – were accomplished through:
 - a. elimination of MUS 100 (Student Recital) as a credited course (see item 3 below);
 - b. a reduction in credit hours ensembles that had been credited at 2 hours to 1 credit hour;
 - c. a reduction in credit hours in the studio lessons for B.M. Performance majors that had been 4 credit hours e.g. VOIC 241, 242, 341, 342, 441, 442) to 2 credit hours (except 342 and 442, which will be reduced to 3 credit hours) **THEREFORE, UNDERSTAND THAT THE REDUCTION IN HOURS FOR THESE CATEGORIES IN THE CHARTS DO NOT INDICATE A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF SEMESTERS REQUIRED BUT A REDUCTION IN CREDIT HOURS ALLOTTED FOR EACH COURSE;**
 - d. elimination as a requirement MUS 529 in the B.M. Music Education – Vocal Principal and Keyboard Principal concentrations.
 - [e. Changes made in the General Education courses section concerning Foreign language (now referred to as Modern or ancient language) and the Science requirements are simply clarifications with regard to actual numbers required. (Credit hours actually taken in these categories will vary depending on the student's language background and the science courses chosen.)]

The changes listed above will be in effect beginning with the Fall 2007 semester, but do not appear in the 2007-2008 edition of the UM Undergraduate Catalog.

It will be incumbent upon students and advisors to ensure that the University requirement of at least 42 hours of upper-division courses (300-level and above) courses is met. Special attention must be paid to this in the B.A. in Music and in the B.M. in Music Performance and Music Theory degrees. **Note the changes in the Music electives category in these degree plans (see charts).** Depending on how far along a student is in any of these degree programs – i.e. how much s/he will be affected by the reduction in credit hours allotted to ensembles (affecting all students) and lessons for Performance majors (i.e. how much those reductions will impact the distribution at the upper-division) – students will need to be careful in taking enough elective credits at the upper-division (300-level and above) to satisfy degree requirements.

Note also that the elimination of MUS 100 (Student Recital) as a credited course may mean, during the transition (i.e. while some students who began degree programs before Fall 2007) especially in the B.A. in Music and in the B.M. in Music Performance and Music Theory degrees, will have to make sure that they have the minimum hours required for graduation (i.e. 124 hours for the B.A. in Music and for the B.M. in Music Performance and Music Theory, and to 128 hours for the B.M. in Music Education).

2. There are some other changes that the Department made with regard to distribution of courses that satisfy degree requirements in various categories and credit hours allotted to some courses:
 - a. Note the change from 2 to 3 credit hours for a number of the 500 level music theory, music history and music literature courses (effective Summer 2007). This change will affect the distribution of upper-division Music electives (and may help students in getting the 42 hours).
 - b. Note the change in the B.M. Performance – Vocal concentration in the distribution of ensemble hours, entailing an increase in the Opera component from 4 semesters (at 2 hrs. each) to 8 semesters at 1 hour each). That particular change in distribution **will not become a requirement until the printing of the next catalog.**
 - c. The addition of MUS 371 (Elementary School Music) to the B.M. Music Education – Instrumental concentration (Wind-Per percussion and String), which was made possible by trimming hours from other required courses **will not become a requirement until the printing of the next catalog.**

[d. Faculty will also recall that the Department routed a change in the Music Theory category of the B.M. Performance degrees: FROM Music 105, 106, 205, 206, 305, 347, and 512 or 514 TO Music 105, 106, 205, 206, 305, 347, and 505 or 506 or 507 or 508 or 512 or 514. This change will not be in effect until the printing of the next catalog.]

3. At UM, the NASM competency VII.D.2. (“An acquaintance with repertoires beyond the area of specialization. All students must be exposed to a large and varied body of music through study and attendance at recitals, concerts, opera and musical theatre productions, and other performances.”) has, through the present time, been met through MUS 100. As faculty will recall (10/30/06 faculty meeting), beginning in Fall 2007, upon the elimination of MUS 100 (Student Recital) as a credited course, this competency will be incorporated into studio (lesson) courses. I.e. we are acknowledging that studio courses may encompass general (non performance media-specific) musical/performance competencies, (e.g. NASM VII.D.2) as well as discrete performance media-specific skills. Per the NASM office (12/6/06) it will be sufficient to document this coverage through course syllabi (i.e. a catalog description change to

studio courses is not necessary). The College of Liberal Arts has concurred (that a catalog description change to studio courses is not necessary).

From the minutes of the October 30, 2006 meeting of the Music faculty:

1. Each area (Voice, WPS, Piano) will continue to determine its own requirements for attendance and grading policies with regard to its Area Meetings.

2. Students will be required to attend 4 Departmental Student Recitals (Wed 1:00) each semester, 2 Artist or Faculty Recitals featuring performers outside their area, and 4 formal recitals (i.e. evenings or Sunday afternoons) of any type (student, faculty, guest artist; solo or ensemble; any area).

3. Grading: "Recital Attendance" will comprise 10% of the studio course final grade so that students realize the importance of this activity. This is in addition to the weighting that any area might give to attendance at its Area Meetings. The "Recital Attendance" component can be computed using this formula:

- 4 Wednesday Student Recitals: **40% of the "Recital Attendance" component** of the grade [each miss - 10%]
- 2 Artist/Faculty Recitals: **20% of the "Recital Attendance" component** of the grade [each miss - 10%]
- 4 of any Evening/Weekend Recital/Concert: **40% of the "Recital Attendance" component** of the grade [each miss - 10%]

4. Mandating a number of performances outside the area is vital to meeting the NASM requirement for "An acquaintance with repertoires beyond the area of specialization. All students must be exposed to a large and varied body of music through study and attendance at recitals, concerts, opera and musical theatre productions, and other performances." One possible definition of whether a recital is "beyond the area of specialization" is any recital where the featured performer(s), or those featured on the majority of the program, belong to an area other than the student's own. The Wednesday Departmental Student Recitals will be managed to insure that each week's program is varied, and features performers from each area as well as student or faculty ensembles.

5. A mechanism will be developed for reporting student recital attendance to studio faculty to make both the reporting and the grade calculation as easy as possible.

6. This requirement will be for all students for every semester of private study for the principal instrument/voice during undergraduate study (since there are several students taking private lessons on more than one instrument). This policy will apply also to undergraduates taking 500-level lessons.

7. This policy will be reviewed in two years to make sure the objectives are being met.

4. Note (charts below) proposed changes (approved at the November 27, 2006 Music faculty meeting; approved by the College of Liberal Arts Curriculum and Policy Committee at the February 15, 2007 meeting; awaiting review and approval by Undergraduate Council and the

council of Academic Administrators) to the minor in Music. **Given that MUS 100 will no longer be offered, some existing minors may not meet the 18 hour minimum for a minor – given the elimination of 4 hours of MUS 100 from the old minor. It will be up to the student to make up the hour in music to bring their total hours to 18.** This is an advising issue, although it is complicated by the fact that minors are not formally declared until the graduation application. For the 2007-08 academic year, students can use the old or the new curriculum rules. Beginning in Fall 2008, entering students **must** use the new rules.

CHANGE: THE BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE — THE MINOR IN MUSIC
CURRICULUM FOR THE MINOR IN MUSIC

Courses	Semester Hours
Music Theory	
Music 105, 106	6
Music History and Literature	
Music 101	3
Music Performance	
Music 100	4
Major instrument	8

TO: THE BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE — THE MINOR IN MUSIC
CURRICULUM FOR THE MINOR IN MUSIC

Courses	Semester Hours
MUS 105	3
MUS 101	3
Ensembles	2
Studio Instruction	4 (2 semesters)*
Upper division music electives	2-3**
Music electives	<u>6</u>
Total:	20-21

*Must be taken at the 121 level or higher

** Must be chosen from the following list:

- MUS 301 – Music History (3)
- MUS 302 – Music History (3)
- MUS 303 – Vocal Literature (2)
- MUS 304 – Vocal Literature (2)
- MUS 312 – Keyboard Literature (3)
- MUS 313 – American Musical Theater (3)
- MUS 371 – Elementary School Music (3)
- MUS 517 – African-American Musical Traditions (3)
- MUS 518 – History of Jazz (3)