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## Graduate Audition Guide

**NOTE:** Only selected applicants will be invited for an official audition (in person or video). Invitations to audition will go out mid-December.

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## MMus Applied Auditions

Where relevant, applicants must provide their own accompanists or use a pre-recorded accompanying part.

### **Percussion (MMus)**

This is a 30 minute audition during which the applicant will perform a solo, etude or excerpt on BOTH snare drum and timpani, and should also perform a solo or etude on marimba or xylophone (preferably 4 mallets, with accompaniment as required.) A multiple percussion piece may take the place of a solo snare drum work. Applicants will be asked to sight-read.

### **Piano (MMus)**

Applicants should prepare at least 30 minutes from a program of the applicant's choice consisting of at least three works of contrasting styles and periods. Select repertoire that displays your strengths

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as a musician and your technical abilities. The auditioning committee may choose to hear complete works or excerpts.

Applicants who qualify for recorded auditions should submit unedited recordings uploaded to YouTube. An index of the contents should be listed at the beginning of the recorded performance. An Application for Audition must accompany the recorded performance.

The audition will also include a short interview about your educational background and your goals. The audition will be conducted in person, or for those who qualify for recorded auditions, online.

### **Strings (MMus)**

The 30-minute audition will consist of two movements of a Bach solo partita, sonata or suite (or equivalent for double-bass, harp and guitar); a movement of a standard romantic or classical concerto (with accompaniment); a movement of a twentieth- or twenty-first century composition (with accompaniment as required). The committee will inform, at the audition, which parts of the above chosen works are to be performed.

### **Voice (MMus)**

A comprehensive list of studied repertoire is required. Prepare 20-30 minutes of music from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Modern periods in the original language, representing a variety of styles and genres. The audition may include a sight-singing test. Auditions must be performed by memory. All applicants are required to send a written list of their audition pieces including title and composer.

### **Wind (MMus)**

A list of studied repertoire is requested. The audition will last for 30 minutes, during which applicants may perform either a major concerto (with piano accompaniment), a selection of solo works (with accompaniment as required), or a 30-minute combination of solo works, concerti, and orchestral excerpts. Applicants will be asked to sight-read.

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### MMus Conducting Auditions:

#### **Choral Conducting (MMus)**

In-person auditions include an opportunity to conduct a choir in rehearsal. There will also be testing in sight-singing, score-reading, and basic knowledge of choral repertoire. An interview exploring goals and research interests concludes the audition. For more information, contact Dr. Timothy Shantz at [tshantz@ualberta.ca](mailto:tshantz@ualberta.ca).

Applicants are required to submit a high-quality audio/visual recording: Total length of 15-25 minutes.

The video must include 10-15 minutes of rehearsal footage. The video must also contain 5-10 minutes of continuous performance of one or two works. The videos can be taken from any period prior to application. Please provide a verbal introduction to your video with a brief background of your conducting training and experience (5 minutes maximum). Outline what will occur on the video including the approximate timing of both the rehearsal and performance portion as well as the titles and composers of the works to be heard in the video. Ideally, the video should include at least two contrasting works. The performance repertoire can be different from that rehearsed. Be sure that the video samples provide a head-on view of the conducting. The video must be submitted by the application deadline of December 1.

**If the applicant is invited, there are two portions: a live audition and an interview with the committee.**

Repertoire for the audition will be sent by email in December, following the initial application.

As a separate attachment, please identify the repertoire included in the video. In addition, please include a representative list of repertoire conducted in rehearsal or performance over the past four to five years. A Graduate Audition Application must accompany the recorded material.

**Wind Band Conducting (MMus)**

Applicants will submit a good quality recording digitally (Youtube link or other) or on DVD that includes: a verbal introduction that provides a brief background concerning your conducting training and experience, and an outline of what will occur on the tape/DVD (approximate timing of the rehearsal portion and performance portion, the titles and composers of the works to be heard in each portion of the tape/DVD); a 15-20 minute rehearsal of two contrasting works; a 5-10 minute performance (which can be different repertoire from that rehearsed). Total length of the recording should be 25-30 minutes. An index of the contents should be included with submission.

**If the applicant is invited, the live audition will take place in January with the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, and a live interview with the committee will follow.** Applicants will be notified upon receipt of their application the repertoire and procedure to prepare for this audition. A brief assessment of aural skills and conducting technique will be included in the audition, as well as a brief interview with the audition committee.

Applicants may contact Dr. Angela Schroeder ([angela.schroeder@ualberta.ca](mailto:angela.schroeder@ualberta.ca)) with any questions about these auditions.

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## DMus Auditions

### Audition

Where relevant, applicants must provide their own accompanists or use a pre-recorded accompanying part.

### Piano (DMus)

Applicants should prepare a full-length recital program (60-70 minutes long) consisting of at least 3 works of contrasting styles and periods (ie. pre-baroque, baroque, classical, romantic, impressionistic, 20th century or avant-garde). The panel may choose to hear complete works or excerpts. Make sure to include repertoire from the area on which you want to focus your DMus research.

Applicants who qualify for recorded auditions should submit unedited recordings uploaded to YouTube that include the following: a verbal introduction providing a brief background concerning your piano training and experience, and a presentation of the works performed on the YouTube link. The works for the recorded audition should be representative of at least 3 contrasting musical eras. The length of music should be about 60 to 70 minutes, and include repertoire from the area on which you want to focus your DMus research. An index of the contents should be listed at the beginning of the recorded performance. An Application for Audition must accompany the recorded performance.

The audition will also include a short interview about your educational background and your goals. The audition will be conducted in person, or for those who qualify for recorded auditions, online.

Please also include a list of repertoire performed and learned over the past four to five years.

**Wind (DMus)**

Applicants will be asked to prepare 30 minutes of music. They may perform a major concerto (with accompaniment), a selection of solo works (with accompaniment as required), or a 30-minute combination of solo works, concerti, and/or orchestral excerpts. Applicants will be asked to sight-read.

**Violin Performance (DMus)**

Applicants for the DMus in violin performance must have an MMus or equivalent degree and demonstrate outstanding ability and accomplishment in their area. A candidate auditioning for this program shall present a c. 45-minute recital featuring representative solo works (including a movement of a concerto) from at least four (4) contrasting stylistic periods. Applicants must supply their own accompanists. A short interview will also follow the audition (by phone, if the candidate auditions by DVD).

**Voice Performance (DMus)**

Applicants will perform 10 pieces of music, no less than 45 minutes of music in total. Repertoire will include the following: Arias: 3 contrasting arias, one of which must be in English and one of which must have a recitative. Art Song: 2 groups of three songs each, 1 contemporary song post-1960, 1 Standalone recitative, minimum one page in length in addition to the one listed above. For example: "Frondi tenere e belle....austro rapace" (Xerxes Händel) \*Selections must include German, French, Italian and English. \*The audition program must include contrasting styles and periods. Candidates must be experienced solo performers and the audition repertoire list must be comprised of advanced musical selections. The audition must demonstrate advanced abilities in lyric diction, technical skills, as well as musical and dramatic interpretation.

All voice applicants are required to send a written list of their audition pieces including title and composer.

DMus Conducting Auditions:

**Choral Conducting (DMus)** - see requirements above for Choral Conducting (MMus)

**Wind Band Conducting (DMus)** - see requirements above for Wind Band Conducting (MMus)