

Master of Music in Performance – Vocal Arts 2026 Catalogue Year

Requirements

Progress Record (☑ when completed)

MUEN or MPVA - Music Ensembles and/or USC Opera – 3 units				
Choose from MUEN 514, 544, 550 or MPVA 405	3 units	___	___	___
MUHL - Music History - 4 units				
570 Research Materials and Techniques	2 units	___		
500-level Music History Elective	2 units	___		
MPVA - Vocal Performance – 20 units				
403 Acting for Singers II	2 units (Fall)	___		
530 Western Opera Literature [†]	2 units (Spring)	___		
541 Advanced Vocology	2 units (Fall)	___		
553 Individual Instruction	8 units	___ (2)	___ (2)	___ (2)
501 Vocal Coaching	2 units (Fa/Sp)	___	___	
560 Graduate Italian Diction	2 units (Fall)	___		
Select 2 units from the following:	2 units (Spring)	___		
561 Graduate French Diction [†] OR				
562 Graduate German Diction ^{††}				
Electives – 3 units				
General Electives (400 or 500 level in music or other fields)	3 units	___	___	___
Non-course Requirements				
Graduate Recital*	0 units	___		
Comprehensive Review	0 units	___		
Total:		30 units***		

[†] This course is offered every other year in even spring years, e.g. Spring 2028.

^{††} This course is offered every other year in odd spring years, e.g. Spring 2027.

* Your required recital may not be performed until the semester after all entrance exam requirements have been met, whether that involves passing all exams, successfully completing review courses, or any combination thereof. In order to receive degree credit for recitals, you must make sure that Music Student Affairs receives a signed recital report card along with a copy of a recital program for each recital. Check with your Department Coordinator for more specifics on this process.

** Entrance exams and their corresponding review courses for this major are as follows:

Aural Skills (MUCO 333-1 unit)	___
Theory/Analysis (MUCO 300-1 unit)	___
Choral Conducting I (MUCD 340, 2 units)	___

If a student does not pass the entrance exams in these areas, they must take the appropriate review courses during the first two semesters of the program. As these courses are at the 300 level (e.g., MUCO 333), they are not considered graduate courses and cannot be used to fulfill elective credit toward the M.M. Therefore, they will add units to the total number of units you will need to take to complete your degree. Students who hold a Bachelor of Music or a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Thornton School of Music are exempt from any examinations in fields in which they have taken comparable coursework.

Time to Degree

The degree is set up so that a student may earn the M.M. in 4 semesters at 8 units each semester, for a total of 32 units. Because the degree only requires 30 units, this allows for 2 units of review courses to be taken with these 4 full-time semesters. If a student passes all of the required entrance exams, s/he may obtain the degree with only 30 units, and will not be required to be at 8 units all four semesters. If, however, a student has to take more than 2 units of review courses, s/he will need to register for more than 8 units during one or more of the four semesters.

Your Academic Advisor is:

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