

VanderCook College of Music Graduate School

Registration Advice for 2010

REMEMBER, NO MORE THAN 12 CREDITS MAY BE TAKEN DURING THE SUMMER SEMESTER!

These suggestions are offered for the new graduate student who is registering for the first time. They are intended to help you complete your degree program in a timely fashion, and will guide you through the initial registration task.

NEW COURSES AND OTHER CHANGES!!!

- The string major requirement of choosing brass, percussion, or woodwind methods has been replaced with course #548 *Integrating Brass, Percussion and Woodwinds into Orchestra*. This course will be offered for the first time this summer and will rotate from summer to summer (see description on website).
- Survey of String Repertoire is required for all string majors and will be offered every summer.
- Beginning this summer, all graduate students will be given the choice of sitting for the written comprehensive examination or completing a professional teaching portfolio.

Applied Music: Since you are required to study *Applied Music* for two residency sessions, you should include this course in your registration. Our philosophy on *Applied Music* may be different from other institutions. You do not have to study your major instrument unless you plan to perform a lecture recital for your Master's Project. Studying a secondary instrument (including voice) provides you with the opportunity to strengthen your skills so you are better able to help your students.

Major Ensembles: All students are required to take two semesters of *Chorus*. Vocal majors must also take two summers of *Chamber Singers*, band majors must take two summers of *Symphonic Band* and string majors must take two summers of *String Ensemble*.

Jazz Band: If you are interested in registering for jazz band, please contact Dean Rhodes by email at rrhodes@vandercook.edu.

Band & Choral Track Required Courses: It is recommended that you register for *Introduction to Graduate Study* your first summer. Choral majors must register for either *Secondary General Music Methods 6-12* or *Secondary Choral Methods 6-12* the first summer since these classes meet at the same time. The same is true for *Band Conducting* and *Percussion Methods*. Since every required course for band and choral majors is offered every summer, you can pick and choose as you wish, but you also need to be aware that this schedule remains fairly static.

String Track Required and Elective Courses: Please be aware that *Orchestral Conducting* and *String Arranging* rotate with each other from summer to summer. *String Methods I – A New Millennium for String Music Education* and *String Methods II – Bridging the Gap to Artistry in String Music Education* will also rotate with each other from summer to summer, as will *Integrating Brass, Percussion and Woodwinds Into Orchestra* and the elective *Music Instruction Through Multiple Intelligences and Cross-curricular Activities*.

Course Scheduling Conflicts: If you have two required courses that meet at the same time this summer, the same will probably be true next summer. Therefore, it would be wise to take one of those courses this summer. For example, *Curriculum and Administration*, *Instructional Design* and *Music History II* all meet during the same period. So, if you want to take *Music History II* next summer, you should register for one of the other courses this summer.

If you see an elective course on the schedule that you would like to take, register for it this summer. We will probably not offer that course next summer. If this explanation confuses more than enlightens, call Ruth Rhodes. She will be glad to help you through your dilemma.

Course of Study Suggestions: There are several track options for band, choral, and string majors located on our website that will help you select a balanced course load each summer. These options are simply provided to help and are not mandated choices. Please contact Dean Rhodes to discuss other options.

Computer Literacy: We strongly recommend that graduate students become familiar with the Macintosh computer. Our Electronic Music Center is equipped with Macintosh machines and printers that are fairly easy to operate, but it does take some time to become familiar with our programs. We are offering the course *Introduction to MIDI* and encourage students not familiar with Finale or Sibelius to enroll. This class will introduce students to the world of MIDI interfacing with Macintosh computers, and enable those students to function independently in our lab. This is not a requirement, however. You can graduate without touching a computer - we just do not recommend it.

Curriculum and Administration: Content & Process and Instructional Design: Enrollment in *Instructional Design* is limited to 15 students and will involve the development of a multi-media computer project. Only students with understanding of basic Macintosh operating skills should enroll in this class. Students who have completed one summer session are given priority in this class.

If *Instructional Design* is filled when your registration is received, Dean Rhodes will automatically place you in *Curriculum & Administration: Content & Process*.

Master's Project: The Master's Project Handbook is located on the VanderCook website and contains complete information about the project requirements, a timeline, and the poster session. All students planning to graduate this summer should read this information carefully. Please contact Dr. Rosenthal **immediately** if you have any questions about the Master's Project.

Please register for the master's project during the summer you will be presenting at the poster session.

Written Comprehensive Examination and Professional Teaching Portfolio: All graduate students must complete an exit evaluation in addition to the master's project. The exit evaluation is used to determine how candidates have benefited from the graduate curriculum at VanderCook College of Music. MMed candidates have the option of completing a professional teaching portfolio (begun at the start of the degree program and presented in the final summer) or sitting for the written comprehensive exam during their commencement summer.

Please register for the comp exam or portfolio during the final summer of attendance.