

MUSIC EDUCATION

AT ST. OLAF COLLEGE

St. Olaf College welcomes strong musicians who want to earn teaching credentials to consider a music education program. Once a teacher is licensed in Minnesota, it is fairly easy to become licensed in other states as well.

The St. Olaf music education programs have received commendation for their breadth and depth, and because they give students early and frequent opportunities to work with real students in school settings. Field experiences take place both locally and in urban settings in the nearby twin cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul.

The requirements for K-12 music teaching credentials in the state of Minnesota can be completed through either a Bachelor of Arts or the Bachelor of Music degree program at St. Olaf College. Minnesota licenses teachers of music either K-12 instrumental/general or K-12 vocal/general, upon completion of performance-based Board of Teaching requirements.

Students pursuing teaching licensure through a Bachelor of Arts degree get a general music degree with a Minnesota teaching license, either K-12 instrumental/general or K-12 vocal/general. Students pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree with a major in Music Education complete licensure requirements within the parameters of the BM degree in Music Education. The block of courses leading to teacher licensure is the same in either degree program. The difference between the two degree programs is one of emphasis. There are more required liberal arts courses in the B.A. degree, and more required music courses, including a greater emphasis on performance, in the B.M. degree program.

The following course titles (representing full or partial courses) are required of students in either degree program pursuing a K-12 instrumental music teaching credential:

- Music Theory, Aural Skills, Improvisation & Keyboard Classes
- History and Literature of Music
- Performance Studies (strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, keyboard)
- Performance Studies (voice, the child & adolescent voice, conducting, world music, instrumentation)
- Teaching Music in the Elementary School
- Teaching Instrumental Music
- Standards & Technology
- Teaching music in Middle and High School
- Educational Psychology
- Principles of Education
- Counseling and Communication in Schools
- Reading in the Content Area
- Differentiated Instruction for Exceptional Learners
- Issues in Education
- Human Relations
- Senior Seminar
- Student Teaching

The following course titles (representing full or partial courses) are required of students in either degree program pursuing a K-12 vocal music license:

- Music Theory and Aural Skills, Improvisation & Keyboard
- History and Literature of Music
- Performance Studies (voice, keyboard, secondary performing medium)
- Performance Studies (conducting, world music, instrumentation, vocal pedagogy and the child & adolescent voice)
- Choral Literature
- Teaching Music in the Elementary School
- Standards & Technology
- Vocal Music in the Secondary School
- Teaching Music in Middle and High School
- Educational Psychology
- Principles of Education
- Counseling and Communication in Schools
- Reading in the Content Area
- Differentiated Instruction for Exceptional Learners
- Issues in Education
- Senior Seminar
- Student Teaching
- Human Relations

In addition to the courses listed above, requirements in the following areas must be completed by all seeking teacher licensure:

- Drugs and Alcohol 231
- Ensemble participation
- Solo/Ensemble Recital performances
- Recital attendance
- Keyboard/guitar proficiencies
- Diversity awareness, including urban experience
- Off-campus teaching & learning field experiences
- Arts course outside of music
- Assessment of teacher dispositions

St. Olaf College has aligned its music education program to ensure that candidates recommended for licensure have met the Board of Teaching Standards of Effective Practice and licensure rules in the discipline of music and the professional dispositional criteria as outlined by the St. Olaf Education department. Our program emphasizes guided reflective practice, hands-on experiences, and prepares teachers for a diverse society.

Some of the community-related experiences that support and enhance the music education experience at St. Olaf College include:

- Urban and community school involvement is possible for education students through the Urban Education Practicum and Seminar January Interim and other Professional Department January offerings, and through programs that allow students to assist educators in Northfield Schools. Parts of the elementary music methods courses are delivered in real school settings.
- Pedagogy Saturday events each semester bring master teachers to campus where they involve music education students in hands-on experiences and information sharing on current topics. Saturday workshop topics have included the following:
Kodaly pedagogy workshop, Secondary General Music Active Music-Making Sessions, Technology in the General Music Classroom, Body Mapping, Instrument Repair, Curriculum Mapping in general music, and Meeting the Challenges of Music Education in the 21st Century

Dr. Berger meets individually with each music education student approximately one year before student teaching to suggest potential student teaching placements that meet an individual student's particular goals. The student teacher is encouraged to visit schools, meet with prospective host teachers, and may be interviewed by the potential student teaching site. Formal paperwork is sent to schools by the Professional Education Department to confirm student teaching arrangements.

St. Olaf College uses well-qualified faculty with recent teaching experience to teach methods courses. Many of these same faculty members supervise student teachers, and assist each in setting and reaching their goals. Students are visited by college student teaching supervisors approximately once every two weeks during student teaching and music students usually student teach at two or more age levels (elementary, middle, high school).

Graduates of St. Olaf are very successful in finding teaching jobs. Recent graduates, as well as cooperating public school teachers are consulted regularly to assure that the music education program strives for continuous improvement. If you have other questions about music education at St. Olaf, please contact Dr. Linda Berger at berger@stolaf.edu, 507-786-3190 (campus) or 612-242-1471 (cell).

FACULTY

LINDA BERGER, *Professor of Music: and Program Chair, Music Education*. B.A., Phi Beta Kappa, St. Olaf College; M.A.-and Ph.D, University of Minnesota. Dr. Berger is especially interested in contemporary music methods, mentoring new teachers, Cognitive Coaching, and the child voice. She studied Dalcroze eurhythmics under Robert Abramson of the Juilliard School of Music in New York City. Berger was named Minnesota Classroom Music Educator of the Year in 1990, and taught in public schools for more than twenty years before joining the St. Olaf College faculty. She is an active keyboard performer and music education presenter.

IN ADDITION to Dr. Berger, courses required for the music education majors are taught by Education department faculty and the following Music department faculty: Steven Amundson (*advanced instrumental conducting*), Anton Armstrong (*advanced choral conducting; child & adolescent voice*), Christopher Aspaas (*choral literature and conducting*), David Carter (*string methods*), Tracey Gorman (*vocal pedagogy*), David Hagedorn (*Percussion methods*), Andrew Hisey (*keyboard proficiency skills*), Dana Maeda (*woodwind methods*), Timothy Mahr (*instrumental conducting and an instrumental issues/methods class*), Justin Merritt (*instrumentation*), Paul Niemisto (*brass methods*), Nancy Lee (*choral issues/methods class*) and John Bower (*World Music*).