

Academic and Advising Information for Conservatory of Music and Double-Degree Students

Questions:
440-775-8293 or
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Oberlin College
Conservatory of Music
Office of the Associate Deans
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Oberlin, OH 44074

www.oberlin.edu/condean

Performance majors in the Conservatory are advised by their principal private study teachers. Students majoring in other disciplines (music education, music history, electronic and computer music, composition, and jazz studies) are assigned faculty advisors in their major department. Conservatory students are notified of their teacher assignments by August 1.

Double-degree students have two advisors. One is a member of the arts and sciences faculty, initially in or near the field of expressed academic interest, and ultimately in the major field. The second is a conservatory faculty member in the appropriate conservatory major. Double-degree students must meet with both advisors before registering for courses.

Bachelor of Music Degree Requirements

Candidates for the Bachelor of Music (BMus) degree must complete the course and non-course requirements for one or more majors within the Conservatory.

Students must also complete at least 124 credit hours. Of these, 62 must be earned at Oberlin or in Oberlin College programs, 76 must be earned in conservatory courses or in music courses completed elsewhere for which transfer credit has been awarded, and 24 must be in courses in the College of Arts and Sciences.

In addition, BMus students are required to complete three winter-term credits and reside on campus for at least four semesters. To review the individual requirements for each conservatory major, consult the *Course Catalog* (catalog.oberlin.edu).

Performance and Artist Diploma Requirements

Candidates for the Performance Diploma must complete specified course and non-course requirements and 48 course credits. They must reside on campus for four semesters.

Candidates for the Artist Diploma must complete specified course and non-course requirements and 24 course credits. They must reside on campus for four semesters.

Master's Degree Requirements

Candidates for the Master of Music Teaching and the Master of Music in conducting and opera theater degrees must complete the requirements for a specified undergraduate major, as well as the course and non-course requirements for the graduate major.

Candidates for the Master of Music in performance on historical instruments must complete the course and non-course requirements for the graduate degree. An undergraduate degree from Oberlin is not required. Candidates must also complete the required number of credit hours for the degree and must reside on campus for four semesters.

Registration Procedures

Most first-year conservatory students complete a core curriculum of courses, some of which require the consent of the instructor or, in the case of private lessons, the consent of the associate dean. Before you arrive on campus, please read carefully the section of the *Course Catalog* that details requirements for specific majors.

Music Theory Placement Tests

All incoming BMus students must take the music theory placement test before arriving on campus in August. The test may be taken online and can be found on the Conservatory Associate Deans' web site, www.oberlin.edu/condean, or at www.oberlin.edu/octet/PlacementExam/MusicTheory. To students seeking to prepare for the test, the deans' office recommends *Scales, Intervals, Keys, Triads, Rhythm, and Meter*, a workbook by John Clough (Norton, ISBN 0-393-97369-7).

Students who earn high scores on the online placement test may be invited to take an exemption test for music theory I and or music theory II. The exemption test covers harmony and voice leading (diatonic and chromatic), analysis, and form. The test will be sent to eligible students during the summer. The completed test must be mailed to the Conservatory Associate Deans' office by June 15, 2009. Students will be informed of their results by e-mail in mid-August.

Students who receive a high score on the exemption test will be invited to meet with faculty during Orientation to determine music theory placement or exemption.

An aural skills placement test is administered to all incoming students during Orientation.

For more information, please see the Conservatory Associate Deans' web site, www.oberlin.edu/condean.

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Additional Information Online

The Office of the Dean of the Conservatory maintains an advising web site (www.oberlin.edu/condean) that includes information for incoming students on academic requirements, large ensemble auditions, chamber music, jazz ensembles, and secondary private study. Information pertinent to your degree program is available on this site under the heading *Information for New Students*.

If you do not have access to the Internet, please call the Associate Deans' Office (440-775-8293) to request a copy of this information.

Conservatory of Music Student Biography and Photograph Request

The Conservatory of Music Student Biography and Photograph Request asks each student to write a brief biography, as well as to provide his/her Oberlin e-mail address and a passport-style photo. **This form must be completed and returned to the Office of the Associate Deans by June 15, 2009.**

Students' biographical information will be kept on file in the Office of the Associate Deans. This information is maintained for use in Conservatory concert programs and will be updated as needed according to information provided by the student.

Sample Student Biography

Use the following example as a guide when completing your biography.

Mezzo-soprano **Olivia Devereaux** studies with Katherine Higgins at the Interlochen Arts Academy, where she is a senior pursuing a degree in vocal performance. Most recently, Ms. Devereaux has performed with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, singing the roles of Mater Gloriosa, Maria Aegyptiaca, and Schuld in Schumann's *Scenes from Faust*. On the Interlochen stage, she has sung the roles of Madame de Croissy (*Dialogues des Carmelites*), Florence Pike (*Albert Herring*), and Apollo/Mystery/Juno (*The Fairy Queen*). Additional performances include Second Witch (*Dido and Aeneas*) at the Teatro Colon, Buenos Aires, and Mother Goose (*The Rake's Progress*) with the Chautauqua Opera. She has been a finalist in the Opera Columbus and Dayton competitions, and she recently received an Encouragement Award at the Cleveland District Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions. Her upcoming performances include Mozart's *Coronation Mass* (alto soloist), with the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra and Chorus, the role of Frau Reich in *Die Lustigen Weiber von Windsor* with the Oberlin Opera Theater, and a summer apprenticeship with the Opera Theatre of St. Louis, where she will cover the role of the Sandman (*Hansel and Gretel*).