


*The USC
Master of Arts in Teaching
(MAT) Music Program:
A New Approach to
Music Teacher Education*

(An Alternative Approach...)

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What is the USC MAT Music program?

- Replaces undergrad MUED program - Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in Music from a NASM accredited institution
 - Students earn both a Master's degree and teaching credential in 13 months, June to June
 - Students chose between two emphases: instrumental or choral/general, and traverse the program as a cohort
 - Graduates enter the pay scale at a higher rate in most districts with both a Bachelor's and Master's degree
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Why MAT Music program?

- “**Truth in advertising**” (especially for parents) 4-year undergrad MUED program not possible
 - Adding a 5th year at USC - \$35,000.00+
 - MUED degree + credential taking 5 - 6 years
 - Could not “fix” or truncate timetable or curriculum
 - “Throw out the old system, try a new approach”
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Why MAT Music program?

- Acknowledges specialized nature of MUED pedagogy beyond core undergrad music curriculum
 - Allows admission to MUED field by performance majors historically excluded because of their major or musical style, e.g., guitar, piano, jazz, studio musicians.
 - Banishes the notion of MUED majors as “second class musicians”
 - A move towards a “trained specialist” in the field, as opposed to a music generalist vis-à-vis emphasis & field experiences
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Designing the MAT Music program

- **One - year immersive, intensive program**
 - Modeled after USC film scoring program
 - “live the life of a music teacher” while becoming one

- **Traverse the program as a cohort**
 - All EDUC classes and most Music classes taken together
 - Student teaching observations and field work in small groups

- **Collaborative effort with the Rossier School of Education**
 - Curriculum developed jointly with School of EDUC
 - Two Deans (Music and Education) worked closely together

Program NOT possible without the EDUC Dean cooperation



Admission to the MAT Music program

- ❑ Bachelor degree in Music from NASM-accredited school
 - ❑ GRE score of 1000 or better (quantitative + verbal)
 - ❑ Interview/audition with MAT/MUED faculty
 - ❑ 3 letters of recommendation / School of Education essays
 - ❑ To complete and/or remain in the program:
 - Pass the CBEST exam
 - Pass the CSET in Music exam (subject matter competency)
 - Successful student teaching evaluations
 - Maintain a 3.0 GPA
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MAT Music student profile

- Older, more mature, with a broader knowledge base
 - Historic age range 22 - 32 yrs.
 - Professional job experience is common

 - “Gung Ho!” and certain about becoming a music teacher
 - Usually has studio or other teaching experience
 - Ready for the immersive/intensive nature of the program
 - Focused on becoming a music teacher

 - More musically mature and experienced
 - Typically a performance major
 - Often play multiple secondary instruments
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Program Implementation

- **MAT Music Faculty**
 - All music courses taught by classroom teachers currently active in the field

 - **Most courses taught on-site at a public school**
 - Special partnership with BUSD
 - Allows for early field observations and teaching experiences
 - Music Education field laboratory - professional development school concept

 - **Emphasis on practical, real-life work experiences**
 - Students are in a public school setting every semester
 - Students begin teaching and conducting by the second semester
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USC MAT Music Curriculum *(music classes only)*

□ First Summer

- **MUED 510** Leading a Music Program in a Public School Setting
- **MUED 515** Using technology in the Music Classroom

□ Fall

■ INSTRUMENTAL emphasis

- **MUED 522** Methods & Materials for Teaching Group Instr. Lessons
- **MUED 524** Teaching & Conducting Instrumental Ensembles

■ CHORAL/GENERAL emphasis

- **MUED 532** Teaching General Music, K - 12
 - **MUED 534** Teaching & Conducting Choral Ensembles
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USC MAT Music Curriculum (music classes only)

□ Spring

- **MUED 540** Motivation & Discipline in the Music Classroom
- **MUED 549a** Directed Teaching: Public School Music (March - May)
 - INSTRUMENTAL emphasis
 - **MUED 526** Teaching Choral / General Music for Instrumentalists
 - CHORAL emphasis
 - **MUED 536** Teaching Instrumental Music for Vocalists

□ Second Summer

- **MUED 549b** Directed Teaching: Public School Music (May - June)
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Ongoing Challenges in the MAT Music program

- ❑ School of Education - School of Music program coordination
 - ❑ Refining the Music curriculum
 - ❑ Meaningful Field Experiences every semester
 - ❑ Public school teacher / faculty development
 - ❑ Ongoing mentoring of graduates
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Thank you for attending today!
