

GRADUATION WITH DISTINCTION (OUTSIDE THE MAJOR) MUSIC REQUIREMENTS

APPLICATION: Please submit following to the Director of Undergraduate Studies in Music by **APRIL 1** of your JUNIOR year. Once approved by the music department you will submit your application to **DEAN RACHAEL MURPHEY:** rachael.murphey@duke.edu

Your application must include:

- 1) **The completed form (see page 3-4)**
- 2) **Links to recent live recordings for evaluation and acceptance into the Graduation with Distinction** (evaluated by the Director of Performance and Director of Undergraduate Studies in Music)
- 3) **Proposal of your Distinction Project (see page 4).**

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DISTINCTION:

We offer students outside the Music major the opportunity to earn **Graduation with Distinction in Music Performance**. We have made this offering an option because so many fine musicians attend Duke but do not choose to major in music, and yet performance remains a primary focus for them as they aim at a career in another field. For these highly motivated students, balancing a drive toward musical excellence with intellectual growth in other disciplines can be what defines their Duke experience. This award is not intended to supplant Graduation with Distinction in the major, and therefore will not be considered for double honors, (i.e., honors awarded in two units for a single thesis.)

Candidates for distinction in music performance outside the Music major apply to the Director of Undergraduate Studies by April 1 of their junior year and are admitted to the program by a faculty committee (one member must be a regular rank Music Department faculty member) on the basis of recent live recordings. During the senior year the student will enroll in Music 401 (Advanced Study in Performance) both semesters. A distinction in musical performance project consists of (a) a full recital supported by a high-quality audio or video recording as documentation of the event; and (b) a written component, either in the form of an analytical paper or other organized commentary on the recital. To be awarded distinction a student must maintain a GPA of 3.5 in the core Music Department courses, and a 3.3 GPA overall.

Levels of distinction

One level: Distinction. The award will be designated 'Graduation with Distinction' on your transcript.

How to Apply

You must apply through the Director of Undergraduate Studies by **April 1** of your junior year. At least some of the required courses need to be completed before admission to candidacy for Graduation with Distinction. Your application includes a completed form and recent live recordings of musical performances.

Eligibility

- To be awarded Distinction a student must maintain a GPA of 3.5 in the core courses, and a 3.3 GPA overall.
- Admittance is based on recent live recordings evaluated by the Director of Performance and Director of Undergraduate Studies. If no recent live recording is available the student may schedule an audition with the Director of Performance and Director of Undergraduate Studies, between April 1 and the last day of classes of the Spring semester (junior year).

Evaluating Committee and Deadline

Your faculty committee (3 members) will be determined in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies. At least two members of the distinction committee must hold an appointment in an Arts & Sciences Department or Program. One member will be the student's primary ("thesis") advisor; this will normally be the applied music instructor. Once assembled it will approve, modify, or deny your proposal. The committee will evaluate the student's project to determine whether it merits Distinction. All components of the project must be completed by **March 31** of the senior year for final evaluation by the committee.

Project Requirements

A Distinction in Musical Performance project consists of:

- A full recital supported by a high-quality audio or video recording as documentation of the event.
- A written component, either in the form of an analytical paper or other organized commentary on the recital.

The performance and paper together should demonstrate artistic and intellectual maturity worthy of distinction at Duke.

Required Courses

- One year (two semesters minimum) of individual full hour lessons must be completed before senior year.
- In addition, the student must complete one course from each category below, totaling a minimum of 3 courses. One of the courses must be completed before senior year. Two of the courses can be completed during senior year.

One course in **Music Theory**, chosen from:

- [MUS 261 Theory and Practice of Tonal Music I](#)
- [MUS 361 Theory and Practice of Tonal Music II](#)
- [MUS 461 Theory and Practice of Tonal Music III](#)

ONE course in **Music History**, chosen from:

- [MUS 255S Music History I: Antiquity through Renaissance](#)
- [MUS 256S Music History II: 1600 through Mozart](#)
- [MUS 257 Music History III: Beethoven through WWI](#)
- [MUS 258 Music History IV: Post-WWI through the Present](#)

One course chosen from the following **Electives**:

- [MUS 130 World Music: Aesthetic and Anthropological Approaches](#)
- [MUS 137 Music, Social Life and Scenes](#)
- [MUS 140 Introduction to Jazz](#)
- [MUS 143 History of Rock](#)
- [MUS 144: Meet the Beatles and the 1960s](#)
- and courses numbered above MUS 213
- Departmental ensemble (excluding Music 210-3)

GRADUATION WITH DISTINCTION (OUTSIDE THE MAJOR)
APPLICATION FORM

FIRST NAME: _____ LAST NAME: _____

SEMESTER/YEAR OF GRADUATION: _____

CUMULATIVE GPA: _____ GPA IN 5 CORE MUSIC COURSES TAKEN AT DUKE: _____
(3.3 minimum required) (3.5 minimum required)

REQUIRED COURSES:

- One year (two semesters minimum) of individual full hour lessons must be completed before senior year.
- In addition, the student must complete one course from each category below, totaling a minimum of 3 courses. One of the courses must be completed before senior year. Two of the courses can be completed during senior year.

Please list all relevant completed courses in music:

PROPOSED COURSES COMPLETED DURING THE SENIOR YEAR TO SUPPORT THE DISTINCTION PROJECT:

TITLE OF THE DISTINCTION PROJECT:

FACULTY COMMITTEE (Must include at least 2 members with appointments in Arts & Sciences department, including the advisor, who must be a regular-rank faculty member)

THESIS ADVISOR: _____ DEPARTMENT: _____

THESIS ADVISOR SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

SECOND MEMBER _____ DEPARTMENT: _____

THIS PORTION OF THE FORM MUST BE COMPLETED ONCE APPROVED BY MUSIC

(DUE OCT. 15 OF YOUR SENIOR YEAR)

SIGNATURE OF THE DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES IN MUSIC WILL INDICATE THAT THE PROJECT HAS BEEN EVALUATED AND APPROVED BY MUSIC:

DUS NAME: _____ **DEPARTMENT:** _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

The DUS signature above indicates your approval into Graduation with Distinction by the Music Department. Your next steps:

Submit your application to

DEAN RACHAEL MURPHEY: rachael.murphey@duke.edu

Your application must include:

- 1) The completed form** and
- 2) Links to recent live recordings for evaluation and acceptance into the Graduation with**

SIGNATURE OF DEAN:

(indicates admission to candidacy in the Graduation with Distinction program)

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____