

**NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
PERFORMER'S CERTIFICATE**

A. DESCRIPTION OF THE PERFORMER'S CERTIFICATE

The Performer's Certificate is a 24-semester hour program which includes private instruction, research related to performance, and performance experience. The purpose of the program is to develop fully independent professional musicians. To that end, a series of at least four performances and presentations is required, consisting of at least two full-length recitals and such other presentations as chamber music recitals, master classes, lecture recitals, concerto performances, etc., as determined by the adviser and program committee. Normally, only one full-length recital may be presented in a single semester. Because the program is highly specialized and concentrated, students are expected to enroll in a full course load, as defined in the Graduate Catalog, during each term they attend.

Applicants for the Performer's Certificate program should consult with the School of Music Director or Coordinator of Graduate Studies. To be eligible for admission, students must normally have completed work equivalent to that required for the Master of Music degree at Northern Illinois University. Applicants will be required to perform an audition or submit a cassette recording representative of their performance ability.

The Performer's Certificate is normally for students who have completed a Master of Music degree. In some cases, students who have demonstrated exceptional performing abilities, equivalent to a Master of Music level or beyond, may be recommended by the faculty of the School of Music for admission directly into the Performer's Certificate program. However, persons admitted to the Performer's Certificate program in this manner must reapply to the Graduate School if they seek entry into a graduate degree program.

B. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CANDIDATE

The candidate is responsible for adhering to all guidelines and requirements stipulated in this document, and all appropriate guidelines and requirements in the *Graduate Catalog*. In general, the earlier the candidate attends to such considerations, the more successful will be his/her progress toward completion of the program.

At the start of each term, the candidate must promptly determine repertoire in consultation with his/her applied instructor and determine the specific dates of required performances, in consultation with the Graduate Coordinator and program committee, in order to avoid conflicts with the university calendar, accommodate committee members' schedules, and make progress toward completion of the program without otherwise unavoidable delays.

The candidate is also responsible for publicizing the events which are required in conjunction with the program, and will receive assistance for the purpose from the School of Music office staff. Programs for all events must be submitted to the office staff at least two weeks prior to each event, and should bear the following indication: "This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Performer's Certificate."

C. THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The candidate must prepare his/her program of study in consultation with a three-member program committee which will monitor and evaluate his/her progress throughout the program. As early as possible in the first term of attendance, the candidate must meet with the applied instructor and the Coordinator of Graduate Studies to determine the composition of the program committee. The program committee chair will be the candidate's applied teacher. A majority of the committee must be members of the graduate faculty. Responsibilities of the program committee members are described in subsequent sections and will be detailed in writing to the individual faculty members upon their agreement to serve on a candidate's committee.

D. REQUIREMENTS

1. Private Applied Study (8)
2. Ensembles (2)
During each term, excluding summers, the candidate is required to participate in the School of Music's ensemble program.
3. Electives in Music Performance (6)
Selection of Music Performance electives must be made in consultation with the applied teacher and approved by the program committee.
3. MUSC 799, Performer's Certificate Research and Performance (8)
The candidate must prepare and present a series of performances, with accompanying research, prepared in consultation with the applied teacher and approved by the program committee. Four performances are required for successful completion of MUSC 799, and must include at least two full-length recitals and such other presentations as chamber music recitals, master classes, lecture recitals, concerto performances, etc.

Research related to each performance must be undertaken under the direction of the applied teacher or another member of the committee, who will determine the nature of the research and the method of evaluation. Such research may include, but not be limited to, (1) an annotated bibliography related to the works on the recital or other aspects of the student's musical studies, (2) an analytical or historical paper on a work or group of works on the recital, (3) a formal oral presentation concerning works on the recital. The supervising teacher will provide the Coordinator of Graduate Studies with a written description of the research and must document that the work was completed satisfactorily.

All members of the program committee must attend every performance or, in extenuating circumstances, review an audio or video tape recording thereof. At least two members of the committee must provide written substantiation to the Coordinator of Graduate Studies that the work was completed satisfactorily.

Once a student has begun activity under MUSC 799 it is expected that such work progress each academic term. Enrollment must be continuously maintained, including summers, until a final grade is received and the required documentation of the activity is formally approved by the graduate school

E. PROGRAM OUTLINE

Students in the program are expected to enroll in a full course load, as defined in the Graduate Catalog, during each term they attend. If those students take more than two semesters to complete the program, they may have to take more than the required 24 hours in pursuit of the Performer's Certificate.

Semester 1

Private Applied Study (4)
Ensemble (1)
Electives in Music Performance (see Graduate Catalog) (3)
MUSC 799, Performer's Certificate Research and Performance (4)

Semester 2

Private Applied Study (4)
Ensemble (1)
Electives in Music Performance (see Graduate Catalog) (3)
MUSC 799, Performer's Certificate Research and Performance (4)