

NVU Undergraduate Music Education Pk-12 Substantive Change Report
3/29/21

Description of the Changes

Currently, the Undergraduate Music Education (BME) program at NVU operates as a stand alone major for candidates seeking music licensure. The courses within the major consist of three types of courses (not including general education courses).

- 1) Music Performance courses (39-41 credits)
- 2) Music Education courses (33 credits)
- 3) Education Courses (33 Courses)

We are requesting approval for a new pathway toward music licensure that is not a stand alone major, but instead has candidates matriculate into our new interdisciplinary [Performance, Arts, and Technology program with a Music Concentration](#) (PAT).

Students interested in educator licensure within this program would be able to apply anytime before their third semester to add Music Licensure to their program of study.

Substantive changes to the current program include:

- A major in Performance, Arts, & Technology: Music Concentration (PAT) instead of Music Education.
- The conversion of some music methods courses (i.e. Band Methods and Choral Methods) into individual or group lessons. This allows for flexibility and personalization in addressing the needs of individual candidates.
- The integration of the Vermont PK-12 Music Education Endorsement Standards into general EDU methods courses. This aligns with our art, theater, and dance licensure programs.
- While candidates will take the same sequence of EDU courses as previously required, two minor changes will occur; 1) candidates will now take EDU 2360 Perspectives on Learning, a course required for all other licensure candidates that there is no room for in the current music education program and 2) The names/numbers of two courses will change, although the content will remain the same (EDU 4310 Art of Experience will become EDU 4130 Implementing Content Specific Methods and EDU 3112 Instructional Dynamics III will become EDU 3140 Partnering with the Adolescent Learner).
- Students will be assigned both a PAT advisor and an EDU advisor to help them successfully navigate both sets of requirements. Like other elements of this proposed program, this aligns with the art, theater, and dance programs.

We have created a course sequence aligned with the Vermont PK-12 Music Education Endorsement Standards. Here is the [Curriculum Map](#). The pink outlines the old program and the proposed program is in yellow.

We have also outlined the [full set of course requirements](#) for a student matriculating through the proposed PAT program with music licensure.

Effects on Students

We believe these changes will benefit students and the program in the following ways:

- 1) This new pathway values an interdisciplinary approach to the arts, which aligns with the liberal arts mission of Northern Vermont University, and the direction that our performing arts department has taken in recent years.
- 2) Due to decreased enrollment in music education, this new pathway allows us to maintain an avenue for aspiring music teachers in the northern tier of Vermont without having to run numerous low-enrolled courses. In fact, we believe this innovative, interdisciplinary program will attract people to the field of music education.
- 3) When this new program was rolled out a year ago, many of our current music education majors asked if they could change to this program because they were excited about this new course of study. As such, it makes sense to make this the program for music education at NVU.
- 4) This pathway mirrors NVU's current pathways for art, theater, and dance licensure. Music has been the only stand alone arts-related licensure major for a decade. This change aligns music with our other endorsement areas and allows for music students to participate in both their performing arts cohort, and in a cohort of aspiring arts educators.

Pending VSBPE approval, all Fall 2021 incoming students interested in music education will matriculate into the PAT program and will be enrolled in EDU TEW1 Teacher Education Workshop 1 to learn how to apply for the music education program.

The 4 current music education students will be switched to the PAT major for Fall 2021. All students are aware of this and will work with their PAT & Education advisors to ensure a smooth transition. The [curriculum map shared above](#) will be used to make sure candidates meet all of the licensure requirements during this transition.

Measures of Effectiveness

We will measure the effectiveness of these changes in a few ways:

- 1) We will monitor enrollment numbers in our music education program as a goal of this new program is to increase overall enrollment in music education.
- 2) We will monitor Praxis II scores and passing rates for our music education candidates to ensure that the changes to the curriculum are preparing them for success on this exam. Curriculum changes will be made as needed to address any knowledge gaps.
- 3) We will monitor the feedback that cooperating teachers and college supervisors provide on practicum and student teaching rubrics to identify any knowledge or skill gaps, and will adjust the curriculum accordingly.
- 4) We will monitor music education candidates' revision and pass rates on the various sections of the VLP, noting any concerning patterns. We will adjust the curriculum as needed.
- 5) We will begin reviewing survey data from employers and program completers after the first cohort graduates from this new program to review its effectiveness.
- 6) We will track time from entry to the music education program to licensure between now and our next full ROPA review. Historically our music education students take longer than 4 years to finish their coursework and meet all requirements for initial licensure.