

Instrumental Studies Program Goals

The Department of Instrumental Studies provides the potential professional performer and/or teacher with the finest instrumental training within the context of a comprehensive curriculum. Individual study with excellent art-teachers enables each student to achieve a high level of proficiency on the major instrument (strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, classical guitar), and a high level of participation in ensembles provides performance experience and a broad knowledge of the literature. Specialized coursework develops the expertise in reading, writing, analysis, musical styles, and performance practices that mark the professional performer. In addition, those students in the Bachelor of Music program acquire an understanding of history and culture through non-music academic coursework in a wide range of disciplines.

The experience of performing is core to the musical experience, whether one is a performer, educator, or researcher. As the college is committed to nurturing students in all these areas, the opportunities our program offer through lessons and ensembles provide future educators and scholars the experiences and knowledge necessary to become well rounded, informed members of the professional musical community.

The Instrumental Major program centers on intensive coaching and private study with a renowned faculty of teachers including a distinguished roster of affiliate faculty members, many of whom are principals and section members of the Philadelphia Orchestra and other professional performing organizations.

Degrees Offered

- Bachelor of Music in Performance
- Master of Music in Performance
- Master of Music in String Pedagogy
- Doctor of Musical Arts in Performance

I. Goals: Bachelor of Music in Instrumental Performance

Students who successfully complete the Bachelor of Music in Instrumental Performance program will have:

- A. Worked toward developing technique and skill on the major instrument, including rhythm, intonation, tone quality and instrumental technique to the level of a professional performer.
- B. Developed musicality and interpretive skills as demonstrated through phrasing, dynamics, style, interpretation, presentation and stage presence.
- C. Developed critical listening skills

D. Developed a theoretical and historical knowledge and understanding of the literature.

II. Goals: Master of Music in Instrumental Performance

Students who successfully complete the Master of Music in Instrumental Performance program will have:

A. Developed advanced technique and skill on the major instrument, including rhythm, intonation, tone quality and instrumental technique, to the level of a professional performer

B. Developed advanced musicality and interpretive skill as demonstrated through phrasing, dynamics, style, interpretation, presentation and stage presence.

C. Developed advanced critical listening skills

D. Developed an awareness and ability to lead one's section

E. Developed a more advanced theoretical and historical knowledge and understanding of the literature.

III. Goals: Master of Music in String Pedagogy

Students who successfully complete the Master of Music in String Pedagogy program will have:

A. Developed the skills necessary to become successful studio teachers.

B. Developed an awareness and knowledge of varying teaching styles, methodologies and histories for their instruments

C. Developed advanced technique and skill on the major instrument, including rhythm, intonation, tone quality and instrumental technique, to the level of a professional performer

D. Developed advanced musicality and interpretive skill as demonstrated through phrasing, dynamics, style, interpretation, presentation and stage presence.

E. Developed advanced critical listening skills

F. Developed a more advanced theoretical and historical knowledge and understanding of the literature.

IV. Goals: Doctor of Musical Arts in Instrumental Performance

Students who successfully complete the Doctor of Musical Arts in Instrumental Performance program will have:

A. Developed consummate technique and skill on the major instrument, including rhythm, intonation, tone quality and instrumental technique, to the level of a master teacher/performer

B. Developed consummate musicality and interpretive skill as demonstrated through phrasing, dynamics, style, interpretation, presentation and stage presence.

C. Developed further advanced critical listening skills

D. Developed a further advanced theoretical and historical knowledge and understanding of the literature, particularly in the area of their monograph/final project

E. Developed the skills necessary to become successful studio teachers at the college level

V. Goals: Undergraduate Instrumental Concentrations (music education, history, theory, therapy) Students who successfully complete a course of lessons as a concentration student will have:

A. Developed technique and skill on the major instrument, including rhythm, intonation, tone quality and instrumental technique, to the level of a successful ensemble musician

B. Developed musicality and interpretive skill as demonstrated through phrasing, dynamics, style, interpretation, presentation and stage presence

C. Developed further advanced critical listening skills

D. Developed a theoretical and historical knowledge and understanding of the literature

VI. Goals: Ensembles

Students in the Department of Instrumental Studies have the opportunity to perform in the following ensembles: Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, Opera Orchestra, Wind Symphony, Wind Ensemble, Collegiate Band, Diamond

Marching Band, Percussion Ensemble, New School Institute Woodwind and Brass Quintets, String, woodwind and brass chamber ensembles.

Students who successfully participate in Boyer instrumental ensembles will have

- A. Developed knowledge and skill in large ensemble and chamber repertoire and performance techniques.
- B. Developed the skills necessary to successfully perform representative literature from the complete oeuvre of music in both large and small ensemble settings, both conducted and not conducted.
- C. Performed in prestigious venues such as Kimmel Center for Performing Arts, Lincoln Center, and at renowned regional, national, and international conferences and events.