UNC music education area

Field experience hours requirements

Per regulations of the Colorado Department of Education, teacher candidates must acquire 800 hours of field experience in order to earn their Initial Teacher License. Six hundred forty (640) of these hours are earned through student teaching (i.e., 16 weeks × 40 hours per week). The remaining 160 hours are acquired through coursework prior to student teaching. These hours (plus five extra hours) are distributed over seven courses in our Bachelor of Music Education degree programs and our post-baccalaureate licensure programs.

BME Instrumental Music
MUS 210 Introduction to music education 20 hours
MUS 310 Teaching general music in the elementary schools 25 hours
MUS 312 Teaching instrumental music in the elementary schools 25 hours
MUS 317 Teaching instrumental music in the secondary schools 20 hours
MUS 331 String ped. and lit. for the instrumental music teacher 25 hours
MUS 325 Choral methods and lit. for elem. and sec. schools 25 hours
MUS 414 Contemporary issues in music education 25 hours

BME Vocal-Piano-General Music
MUS 210 Introduction to music education 20 hours
MUS 310 Teaching general music in the elementary schools 25 hours
MUS 311 Teaching general music in the secondary schools 25 hours
MUS 312 Teaching instrumental music in the elementary schools 20 hours
MUS 324 Choral conducting and ped. for elem. and sec. schools 25 hours
MUS 325 Choral methods and lit. for elem. and sec. schools 25 hours
MUS 414 Contemporary issues in music education 25 hours

Hours may NOT “double-count” for more than one class, even if multiple courses with field experience requirements are taken within a single semester. Students should plan accordingly when selecting courses for a given semester. Hours are documented by the student, per each course, using the field experience log form. Each course has differing expectations — per each respective instructor — regarding what assignments are done in conjunction with these hours.

For classes with required field experience hours:

• At least half (50%) of the given hours for a course must be completed during the course itself, as approved, as assigned, and/or as directed by the course instructor. (Exception: Hours for MUS 414 are completed as a practicum, in which at least 75% are completed as assigned.)

• The remaining 50% may be completed prior to the course through other approved instructional experiences (e.g., teaching private lessons, work at a summer music camp).

• Credit for up to a quarter (25%) of the hours may be earned through approved professional development activities (e.g., CMEA Clinic/Conference, workshops, research projects).