

Graduate Council Minutes

<https://unt.curriculog.com/agenda:853/form>

August 20, 2026

<https://unt.zoom.us/j/89359333174>

Zoom mtg. ID: 893 5933 3174

Note: Course changes and additions will not take effect until they are listed in the graduate catalog. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board must be notified of any item marked with a double asterisk () and must approve any item marked with a single asterisk (*) before listing in the graduate catalog. Items marked with a plus (+) must be approved by the Department of Education before being listed in the graduate catalog.**

Graduate Council Voting Members: *Rose Baker, Ana Cleveland, Jessica Craig, Mariya Gavrilova Aguilar, Jaymee Haefner, Jennifer Lane, Maurizio Manzo (absent), Divesh Ojha, Olav Richter, Dalena Taylor (absent), Anto Verghese*

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brenda Barrio:

- Welcomed all Graduate Council members & attendees
- Thanked everyone for their great Summer Service to all things Graduate Council & thanked departing members for their service & wished them a great upcoming school year
 - Departing members: Maurizio Manzo, Olav Richter, and Mariya Gavrilova Aguilar
- Informed members that there will be new voting members present for next month's September mtg. and that September will be the start of 2026-27 GC's academic year
- Passed to Rose Baker, to lead the meeting

Rose Baker:

- Welcomed all Graduate Council members and attendees
- Welcomed Jennifer Lane's return from her sabbatical
- Reminded/illustrated to voting members on how to submit their vote
- Called the meeting to order

II. MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE ON ITEM II-1. - APPROVED
ITEM II-1. PASSES - APPROVED BY MAJORITY

APPROVAL OF ITEM II-1

II-1. Approval of July 2026, minutes

III. CHAIR / TGS DISCUSSION ITEMS / ACTION ITEMS / INFORMATION ITEMS

IV. REQUEST FOR NEW COURSES

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEMS IV-1. THROUGH IV-6. AS A BLOCK - APPROVED
ITEMS IV-1. THROUGH IV-6. PASSES - APPROVED BY MAJORITY

APPROVAL OF ITEMS IV-1. THROUGH IV-6.

College of Music

IV-1. [MUEN 5613 - Indian Raga-Jazz Ensemble](#)

Description: This ensemble aims to bring diverse music cultures into dialogue through the shared art of improvisation. Rooted in Indian raga-based idioms, the ensemble is conceived of as a musical laboratory in which competent student performers from different backgrounds may mutually expand their artistic and cultural knowledge bases. Students adept in jazz performance may learn how to think in and improvise through the Indian frameworks of raga and tala; students adept in Hindustani or Karnatak performance may learn to perform in non-traditional ensemble settings. Students from all backgrounds will improve their listening skills to engage in group improvisation. The ensemble formed through this class, tentatively titled the “UNT Raga-time Ensemble” will foster greater artistic dialogue between Divisions of the College of Music. It will represent the College’s diverse strengths and engage with deep historical dialogues between Indian music and jazz. These range from India’s “golden era” of jazz in Mumbai and Kolkata clubs (1930s-1950s), to the Indian musical and spiritual influence on pioneering jazz figures like John and Alice Coltrane, to experimental collaborative projects like John McLaughlin and Zakir Hussain’s Shakti (1970-2000s), to India’s vibrant contemporary “fusion” music scene.

IV-2. MUEN 5631 - French Horn Ensemble

Description: French Horn Ensemble. May be repeated for credit.

IV-3. MUEN 5632 - Trumpet ensemble

Description: Trumpet ensemble

IV-4. MUEN 5633 - Trombone ensemble

Description: Trombone ensemble

IV-5. MUEN 5634 - Tuba-Euphonium ensemble

Description: Tuba-Euphonium ensemble

IV-6. MUMH 5050 - History of Western Musical Styles

Description: Comprehensive coverage of stylistic developments and genres in Western art music from 1180 to 1980.

V. REQUEST FOR ADD NEW OR DELETE EXISTING MAJOR/PROFESSIONAL FIELD, CONCENTRATION, OPTION, MINOR, CERTIFICATE (excluding GACs), OR SPECIALIZATION

College of Education

Department of Counseling & Higher Education

**MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM V-1. - APPROVED
ITEM V-1. PASSES - APPROVED BY MAJORITY**

APPROVAL OF ITEM V-1.

V-1. Counseling, MEd (*) (delete)

Justification: The program has experienced persistently low enrollment and has not demonstrated signs of sustainability or growth over time. Despite significant efforts to revitalize interest, including the award of a substantial external training grant from the U.S. Department of Education intended to support recruitment and program development, these investments did not translate into increased student enrollment or improved program viability.

Currently, there are only three students enrolled in the program, all of whom are expected to graduate in August 2026. Following their completion, there will be no remaining active students, effectively rendering the program inactive. The program has historically been offered exclusively at the Frisco location and was never extended to the Denton campus, further limiting its reach and potential enrollment pipeline.

Given the absence of incoming students, the lack of enrollment growth even after targeted external funding, and the completion of the final cohort, the program is not thriving and does not appear to have a sustainable future. No faculty or students will be negatively impacted by the closure, as all currently enrolled students are on track to complete their studies prior to the program's discontinuation.

College of Music

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM V-2. - APPROVED ITEM V-2. PASSES - APPROVED BY MAJORITY

APPROVAL OF ITEM V-2.

V-2. [Music, MA](#) (add concentration)

Justification: The College of Music and division of Music Education have elected to move the MMed degree under the umbrella of our other MA offerings. No changes have been made to the degree structure, other than updating the previous EPSY statistics course to our own MUED 6000 intro to statistics course.

VI. REQUEST FOR ALL GRADUATE ACADEMIC CERTIFICATES

College of Music

~~Division of Instrumental Studies~~ Friendly amendment to note removal of "Division of Instrumental Studies" designation

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM VI-1. - APPROVED ITEM VI-1. PASSES - APPROVED BY MAJORITY AS AMENDED

APPROVAL OF ITEM VI-1.

VI-1. [Graduate Artist Certificate in Music Performance](#) (add certificate)

Justification: GAC students are full-time graduate students who are eligible for financial aid and scholarships. This GAC (graduate artist certificate) is not a new offering in the College of Music-- but it was never added when it was developed more than 20 years ago. This proposal is being submitted so it can be reflected in the catalog.

VII. REQUEST FOR NEW GRADUATE TRACK PATHWAYS

VIII. REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN PROGRAM, MAJOR, MINOR, DEGREE, OPTION, CONCENTRATION OR REQUIREMENTS

College of Information

Department of Information Science

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM VIII-1. - APPROVED ITEM VIII-1. PASSES - APPROVED BY MAJORITY

APPROVAL OF ITEM VIII-1.

VIII-1. [School Librarian Certification](#) (change in overall hours (decrease), add/remove department-owned course options) (requested exception yr.: 2026-27; rationale: I just learned this week that the school librarian certification could not be added as a concentration for the Master's degree programs in Information Science or Library Science. However, updates are needed for the school librarian certification page because requirements have changed since the page was last updated. This proposal includes all the changes to the school librarian certification program and changes for the MLS or MIS degrees with school librarian certification.) (Program will change by: The school librarian certification which requires 27 credits will stay the same. The Master's degree in IS or LS will decrease by 3 credit hours.)

Justification: This page provides an overall glimpse of the school librarian certification program. There was a proposal submitted earlier that was flagged by the degree audit because the proposal included making the school librarian certification program a concentration in the information science department. That cannot be done. Part of the proposal was to decrease the number of elective courses required. This proposal included all the necessary changes needed to the school librarian certification program and the school librarian certification program with the master's degree options.

College of Music

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEMS VIII-1. THROUGH VIII-5. AS A BLOCK - APPROVED ITEMS VIII-1. THROUGH VIII-5. PASSES - APPROVED BY MAJORITY

APPROVAL OF ITEMS VIII-1. THROUGH VIII-5.

VIII-2. Jazz Studies, MM (add/remove department-owned course options)

Justification: This proposal allows jazz performance (voice) students to use 2 credits of MUJS 5800 in place of 2 out of the 4 credits of MUCM 5550 (chamber).

VIII-3. Music, PhD (change in requested items below)

Justifications:

Change in college-level requirements: The Division of Composition has agreed to make the Related Field (12 credits) an optional element within the PhD, Music with a concentration in composition. The preface to the degrees and the degree requirements have been updated. The total credits for this concentration are 48 without the related field, or 60 with the related field. Note that this is not a decrease in the number of minimum credit hours, as the concentration in Music Education was already reduced to 48 credit hours.

Minimum language requirement: Students in the PhD, Music with a concentration in musicology will now only be required to show proficiency in one language in addition to English.

Remove department-owned course options: MUMH 5610 has been deleted as a course, so this update removes it from the Early Music Related Field under the PhD, Music.

Remove department-owned course options: MUMH 6010 was deleted as a course, so it was removed from the PhD, musicology concentration as an option.

Remove concentration: The concentration in Performing Arts Health has not accepted applications in several semesters. The concentration has been discontinued, so the PhD, Music has been updated to reflect this change.

VIII-4. Performance, DMA (change in college-level requirements) (requested exception yr.: 2026; rationale: this will help our students' time to degree completion)

Justification: Previously, extra MUEN, MULB, MUCM, and MUAM credits did not apply to the electives in degree performance requirements. This restriction has been removed to improve our students' time to degree completion, allowing them to use any excess credits in these courses to count toward their degree requirements (applies to concentrations which have electives).

VIII-5. Performance, DMA (remove department-owned course options)

Justification: MUMH 5610 has been removed as a course, so this change removes the course from the DMA, related field in Early Music.

A. In Grad Track

IX. REQUEST FOR DUAL OR JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS

X. CONSENT CALENDAR

**MOTION TO APPROVE ALL ITEMS X-1. THROUGH X-27. UNDER CONSENT CALENDAR - APPROVED
ITEMS X-1. THROUGH X-27. PASSES - APPROVED BY MAJORITY**

APPROVAL OF ITEMS X-1. THROUGH X-27.

A. Course Changes

College of Music

X-1. [MUAG 5850 - Advanced Instrumental Conducting](#) (requested exception yr.: 2026; rationale: to allow students to reduce total degree credits.

Semester Credit Hours: 1-3 hours

X-2. [MUEN 5040 - Graduate Opera Theater](#)

Restrictions: No restrictions

X-3. [MUGC 5920 – Songwriting](#)

Prefix: MUJS to MUGC

Repeatability Status: Repeatable

Semester Credit Hours: 2 hours

X-4. [MUJS 5504 - Jazz Strings](#)

Description: Applied study of harp, violin, viola, or cello in the jazz idiom; jazz improvisation.

X-5. [MUJS 5800 - Vocal Pedagogy for Non-classical Styles](#)

Semester Credit Hours: 2 hours

X-6. [MUJS 6504 - Jazz Strings](#)

Description: Applied study of harp, violin, viola, or cello in the jazz idiom; jazz improvisation.

X-7. [MUMH 5020 - Introduction to Musicology](#)

Recommended: GPE approved, MUMH 5050, or instructor consent.

X-8. [MUMH 5110 - History of Opera](#)

Prerequisite(s): none

Note(s): Recommended: GPE approved, MUMH 5050, or instructor consent

Items X-9. through X-20. share the same request of adding the recommended:

X-9. [MUMH 5331 - Western Music History, 750–1400](#)

X-10. [MUMH 5332 - Western Music History, 1400–1600](#)

X-11. [MUMH 5333 - Western Music History, 1600–1700](#)

X-12. [MUMH 5341 - Western Music History, 1700–1800](#)

X-13. [MUMH 5342 - Western Music History, 1800–1900](#)

X-14. [MUMH 5343 - Western Music History, 1900 to the Present](#)

X-15. [MUMH 5430 - Music in Latin America](#)

X-16. [MUMH 5440 - Music in the United States](#)

X-17. [MUMH 5450 - Topics in Popular Music](#)

X-18. [MUMH 5500 - Music History and Literature to 1750](#)

X-19. [MUMH 5510 - Music History and Literature Since 1750](#)

X-20. [MUMH 5711 - Proseminar in Musicology](#)

Recommended: GPE approved, MUMH 5050, or instructor consent

X-21. [MUMH 5900 - Special Problems](#)

Description: Supervised individual or small group study of special problems or topics not otherwise covered by regular course offerings.

Recommended: GPE approved, MUMH 5050, or instructor consent.

X-22. [MUMH 5910 - Special Problems](#)

Description: Supervised individual or small group study of special problems or topics not otherwise covered by regular course offerings.

Recommended: GPE approved, MUMH 5050, or instructor consent.

B. Course Deletions

College of Music

X-23. [MUMH 5600 - Music Before 1800](#)

Justification: This course has not been taught in many years and does not appear on any degree plans.

X-24. [MUMH 5610 - Ornamentation and Improvisation 1500–1800](#)

Justification: MUMH 5610 was taught by a faculty member who left the university, and the course will not be taught in the future. It will be removed from the PhD, music and the DMA degrees as well.

X-25. [MUMH 6010 - Seminar in Historical Performance Practices](#)

Justification: This course hasn't been offered in several years. It exists on the PhD, Music with concentration in musicology and will be removed from that concentration as well.

C. Information Item - THECB Delete

D. Information Item - Documenting Changes

College of Information

The Anuradha & Vikas Sinha Department of Data Science

X-26. [Data Science, MS - requirements clarification](#) (catalog effective year 2026-27)

Description: The Data Science, MS program had a proposal approved at the November 2025 meeting:
<https://unt.curriculog.com/proposal:17324/form>

The following information should be included after the two introductory paragraphs.

“The Master of Science with a major in Data Science requires 36 total hours. Students must take 12 hours of core courses and may either take 18 hours of electives and 6 hours of practicum/research courses or 21 hours of electives and 3 hours of practicum/research courses.”

Department of Learning Technologies

X-27. Learning Technologies, PhD - change in other (inclusion of qualifying examination and admission to candidacy information) (catalog effective year 2027-28)

Description: The change in program for Learning Technologies, PhD was approved by the college on 7/9/2026, but an error cause it to not proceed to the Graduate Council. This information item serves in its place for the Learning Technologies, PhD.

NO NEW BUSINESS

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING - ADJOURNED