Iowa State University Music Department
Student Teaching Process

*We are what we repeatedly do.*
*Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.*
*Aristotle*

Student teaching is the most important semester of student at Iowa State although you are not on campus. All that you do from the beginning of your freshman year will determine the student teaching placement you “earn” and your success as a student teacher (and “real” teacher in the years to come). Your success depends on what you do today to prepare for tomorrow. As Aristotle said, “Excellence…is…a habit.

Students must apply for/conduct:
- State of Iowa criminal background check prior to observing in the schools
- observing a minimum of 50 hours of music teaching (a state mandate)
- applying to and being accepted into the Music Education Program and the University Teacher Education Program
- applying for and successfully conducting the student teaching semester
- applying for and earning a teaching license (based on ISU requirements approved by the Department of Education), which includes a national background check

Scholarship evidence:
- taking standardized test and earning scores as specified levels (PRAXIS I: 170 for each individual test and a composite score of 522)
- earn/maintain a 2.5 grade point (including student teaching semester)
- minimum grade of C in pedagogy courses and C- for content courses

What can you do right now?
- Be the best musician you can be – music educators potentially teach 100% of the population (general music is required and reaches 100% of the population, secondary performance programs are elective and reach a smaller percentage)
- Maintain an excellent grade point – you will probably go to graduate school (should have a 3.0)
- Maintain your health – don’t miss classes
- Take advantage of opportunities to learn as a musician and as an educator:
  - Your own performance
  - Attending concerts
  - Attending conventions and other professional development workshops
  - Being a member of collegiate professional music organizations
  - Taking advantage of observing and teaching opportunities, which are diverse and which give you “the edge”
- Maintain a positive attitude about life and learning (remember, it’s 10% inspiration and 90% perspiration)
Overview of Sequence for Teacher Education

Freshman
Fall
2.5 grade point (+ C in pedagogy courses and C- in content courses)
instrumental majors begin taking techniques classes and observing lessons

Spring
2.5 grade point (+ C in pedagogy courses and C- in content courses)
conduct Iowa criminal background check (necessary for school observations in fall, $10)

Sophomore
Fall
2.5 grade point (+ C in pedagogy courses and C- in content courses)
Music 266 – Introduction to Teaching Music
Music 480K, Section 2 (.5 credit) – 10 hours of music teaching observing
take Praxis I (must earn 520 composite score/170 on each individual test)
apply/interview – Music Teacher Education Program
apply – University Teacher Education Program

Spring
2.5 grade point (+ C in pedagogy courses and C- in content courses)
Admission to Music Teacher Education Program and the University Teacher Education Program (UTEP) granted if:
2.5 grade point (+ C in pedagogy courses, C- in content courses)
successful PRAXIS I scores
10 hours of music teaching observation (documented)
successful portfolio and interview with music ed faculty
physical and mental health
character (ethics) and interpersonal relationship skills

Junior
Fall
2.5 grade point (+ C in pedagogy courses and C- in content courses)
Music 366 – Methods of Teaching Music (must be admitted into UTEP)
Music 480K, Section 1 (1 credit) – 20 hours in Practicum I placement

Spring
2.5 grade point (+ C in pedagogy courses and C- in content courses)
may do Practicum I here (instead of in the fall) with permission

Senior
Fall
2.5 grade point (+ C in pedagogy courses and C- in content courses)
Senior Recital
Music 466 – Program Development and Evaluation in Music Education
Music 480K, Section 1 (1 credit) – 20 hours in Practicum II placement
apply for student teaching by due date (must be admitted to UTEP, include unofficial copy of transcript from Access Plus)

Spring
2.5 grade point (+ C in pedagogy courses and C- in content courses)
student teach
apply for teaching license (includes national criminal background check)
apply for teaching positions