

# MASTER OF MUSIC IN SACRED MUSIC: PRACTICAL PEDAGOGY TRACK ONLINE

## Program Overview

This online Sacred Music program offers an education of the highest quality and broadest scope to those musicians who aspire to be leaders of their time and place. An interdenominational program, it seeks to train church musicians to a high level of competency in the traditional ways of making sacred music while also striving to engage students in new ways of achieving liturgical excellence and spiritual depth in practices that respond to the various cultural forces that continue to transform the ways in which worship is accomplished in the 21st-century.

In order to meet the needs of those musicians who may not find it feasible or expeditious to matriculate in the on-campus program offered during the academic year, this pedagogy-based track is delivered entirely online with the exception of one 3-week period during the summer of the student's own choosing. While still broad and comprehensive in its curricular design, it offers students a chance to focus on the practical side of making music for those who wish to concentrate on either working with children and youth or adults.

## Degree Offered

- Master of Music: Sacred Music Practical Pedagogy Track

## Contact

**Margaret Cusack, M.M.T.**  
Professor and Chairperson  
Department of Performance Studies  
Westminster Choir College  
Omega House  
609-896-5000, ext. 8253  
mcusack@rider.edu

**Program Website:** Sacred Music (<http://www.rider.edu/wcc/graduate-programs/sacred-music/>)

**Associated Department:** Department of Performance Studies

## Related Programs

- Master of Music: Choral Conducting (<http://catalog.rider.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/programs-certificates/mm-choral-conducting/>)
- Master of Music: Sacred Music (<http://catalog.rider.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/programs-certificates/mm-sacred-music/>)

## Faculty

**Tom T. Shelton, Jr.** • Associate Professor and Chairperson, Sacred Music, 2012. B.M., M.M., University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

**Vinroy Brown** • Adjunct Instructor, Sacred Music, 2017. B.M., Westminster Choir College of Rider University; M.A., Regent University.

**Steve Pilkington** • Associate Professor, Sacred Music, and Director of Chapel, 1992. B.A., St. Olaf College; M.M., University of Illinois; Ph.D., Drew University.

**Kathleen Ebling Shaw** • Adjunct Instructor, Sacred Music, 1991. B.M., Westminster Choir College.

## M.M. in Sacred Music: Practical Pedagogy Track Program Requirements (Online)

(30-31 credits)

Learn more about General Graduate Policies (<http://catalog.rider.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/>).

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Major Area</b>		
SM 610	Foundations of Music Ministry	2
SM 631	Worship Planning/21st Cent.	3
SM 710	Panorama of Sacred Music	3
SM 722	Theology, Liturgy & Worship	3
<b>Core Courses</b>		
MH 731	Intro to Musicology	3
Theory or Music History elective		3
Core Elective <sup>1</sup>		3
Choral Festival		2
<b>Select one of the Tracks below:</b>		<b>8-9</b>
<b>Adult Choral Track</b>		
CR 524	Vocal Techniques for Choirs	
CR 621	Choral Conducting I (OR Conducting Intensive Workshop - one week OR Choral Institute at Oxford (student must be accepted to conduct, not audit))	
SM 523	Choral Music for Adults	
SM 630	Conducting Coaching <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Children's / Youth Pedagogy Track</b>		
CR 621	Choral Conducting I (OR Conducting Intensive Workshop - one week OR Choral Institute at Oxford (student must be accepted to conduct, not audit))	
SM 524	Choral Music for Children	
SM 635	Choir Training For Children/Youth (OR Kodaly I (offered during the summer on campus))	
SM 630	Conducting Coaching <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>30-31</b>

1

The core elective must be a single, 3-credit graduate-level course outside the student's major area of emphasis, and or area of applied study.

2

Recital or approved project will be with their Church or Community Choir. Conducting/Coaching will be via Skype.

## Courses and Descriptions

### **SM 509 Jubilee Singers 1 Credits**

This auditioned ensemble is devoted to the performance of sacred music from the African-American tradition.

### **SM 510 Conducting Adult Church Choirs: Pedagogy and Management 2 Credits**

A practical, skill-based course devoted to the building and maintenance of church music programs serving adults.

### **SM 511 Sacred Music Lab 0 Credits**

Series of classes that addresses a variety of experiences in Sacred Music while rotating principal themes and ideas. Student preparation of monthly worship settings will put studied concepts into practice.

### **SM 512 Conducting Children and Youth Church Choirs: Pedagogy and Management 2 Credits**

A practical, skill-based course devoted to the building and maintenance of church music programs serving children and youth.

### **SM 517 Concert Handbell Choir II 1 Credits**

Open to students who have had previous handbell experience. Intermediate to advanced repertoire, with opportunities for concert performance.

### **SM 519 Concert Handbell Choir I 1 Credits**

A choir selected by audition from the most experienced and capable bell ringers among the student body at large. This ensemble utilizes advanced repertoire and techniques, aiming primarily at presenting concerts both on and off campus, including a two-week annual tour.

### **SM 523 Choral Music for Adults 1 Credits**

This course is designed to acquaint the church choral director with repertoire suitable for use with adult choirs and adult ensembles. Representative repertoire from all periods of music will be discussed and analyzed. Rehearsal techniques will be incorporated regarding introducing the repertoire, skill-building development, and warm-ups. Focus will be on repertoire that can be used during special services throughout the liturgical church year.

### **SM 524 Choral Music for Children 1 Credits**

This course is designed to acquaint the church Choral director with repertoire suitable for use with children's and youth choirs. Representative repertoire from all periods of music will be discussed and analyzed. Rehearsal techniques will be incorporated regarding introducing the repertoire, skill-building development, and warm-ups. Focus will be on repertoire that can be used during special services throughout the liturgical church year.

### **SM 525 Conductors' Repertoire Ensemble 1 Credits**

An auditioned chamber ensemble, offered every semester, which provides conducting podium time and coaching to all interested members. It additionally serves the conducting needs of graduate Sacred Music majors.

**Prerequisite(s):** CR 215 or permission of instructor.

### **SM 531 Colloquium in Sacred Music 2 Credits**

A lecture series/colloquium intended to address a wide variety of concerns in the field of Sacred Music while rotating principal themes and ideas.

### **SM 541 Conducting Church Choirs: Pedagogy & Management 3 Credits**

A practical course devoted to the building and maintenance of church music programs serving persons of all ages.

### **SM 610 Foundations of Music Ministry 2 Credits**

This graduate level course surveys the vocational needs, professional relationships, administrative styles, and teaching roles of the practicing church musician. In addition to an overview of professional standards, emphasis will also be placed on music engraving skills (music notation software), budgeting, recruitment, endowments and fundraising.