



MEMORANDUM

To: Julio Frenk, President

From: Linda L. Neider
Chair, Faculty Senate

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. Neider'.

Date: January 29, 2021

Subject: Faculty Senate Legislation #2020-47(B) – Program Name Change and Changes to Admissions Guidelines for the Master of Music (MM) in Media Writing and Production TO Master of Music in Media Scoring and Production, Frost School of Music, Department of Music, Media and Industry


The Faculty Senate, at its January 27, 2021 meeting, had no objections to the approval of the name change and changes to the admission guidelines for the Master of Music (MM) in Media Writing and Production TO Master of Music in Media Scoring and Production in the Frost School of Music, Department of Music, Media and Industry. This change is in line with current practices which allows for more opportunity to display adequate preparation to work in the music production field.

This legislation is now forwarded to you for your action.

LLN/va/rh

cc: Jeffrey Duerk, Executive Vice President and Provost
Shelton Berg, Dean, Frost School of Music
Shannon de l'Etoile, Associate Dean, Graduate Studies
Steven Moore, Professor of Professional Practice, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies
Carlos Rivera, Program Director, Media Writing and Production

CAPSULE: Faculty Senate Legislation #2020-47(B) – Program Name Change and Changes to Admissions Guidelines for the Master of Music (MM) in Media Writing and Production TO Master of Music in Media Scoring and Production, Frost School of Music, Department of Music, Media and Industry

APPROVED:  DATE: 2/17/21
(President's Signature)

OFFICE OR INDIVIDUAL TO IMPLEMENT: Shelton Berg, Dean, Frost School of Music

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LEGISLATION: IMMEDIATELY
(Pending any further Board of Trustees approval)

NOT APPROVED AND REFERRED TO: _____

REMARKS (IF NOT APPROVED): _____

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 11/09/20 2:31 pm

Viewing: **M.M. in Media Scoring** ~~Writing and~~
Production : MWPD_MM

Last approved: 05/05/20 12:27 pm

Last edit: 11/09/20 2:31 pm

Changes proposed by: Manuel Santana (m.santana4)

Catalog Pages Using
this Program

[M.M. in Media Writing and Production](#)

In Workflow

1. PG University Accreditation
2. PG MU Dean
3. PG GR School
4. PG Graduate Council
5. PG GR Dean
6. PG FS Office for GWC
7. PG FS GWC
8. PG Faculty Senate
9. PG FS Office for President
10. PG Registrar

Approval Path

1. 11/09/20 4:56 pm
Patty Murphy
(pxm491): Approved
for PG University
Accreditation
2. 11/09/20 5:01 pm
Shelton Berg
(s.berg): Approved
for PG MU Dean
3. 11/10/20 12:31 pm
Tiffany Plantan
(tplantan):
Approved for PG GR
School
4. 11/20/20 11:38 am
Tiffany Plantan
(tplantan):
Approved for PG
Graduate Council

5. 11/20/20 11:53 am

Guillermo Prado
(gprado): Approved
for PG GR Dean

History

1. May 5, 2020 by
Manuel Santana
(m.santana4)

Please list the authors of this proposal including name, rank/title, program/department, and school.

Proposer(s) Name

Carlos Rivera,
Program Director for Media Writing and Production

Change Type All Other Changes

Provide a brief
summary of the
change

Revisions to:

- Name of Program
- Admission Guidelines

Career Graduate

Academic Structure

School/ College	Department
Frost School of Music	Music,Media & Industry

Plan Type Major and/or Degree

Degree Type Master's

Degree Name Master of Music

Proposed Plan Code MSPD_MM

Plan Name M.M. in Media **Scoring Writing** and Production

Will there be any subcomponents within the program such as concentrations, specializations, thesis/non-thesis options, or tracks?

No

Effective Term Fall 2021

First Term Valid Fall 2021

Program Instruction Mode In Person

Where is the
program offered?

Location	Please provide the % of instruction at each location.
Coral Gables Campus	100

Program Length (Years) 2

Total Credits 30

To Be Published in the Academic Bulletin

Program Overview

Overview

In the Media **Scoring Writing** and Production program, we are dedicated to not only providing the foundational skills necessary for the student to pursue a career in the media industry, but also to stimulate and encourage student awareness of their unique gifts as a creative musician. We accomplish this by promoting critical analysis and creative problem-solving skills throughout the program. Courses are designed to provide students with a cohesive program of study that incorporates both current and foreseeable trends – from the manipulation of sound through a digital audio workstation (DAW), the hybrid use of acoustic and electronic instruments, to the implementation and use of sound libraries and synthesizers that will best prepare students for competition in today's industry. For more information, please visit the website for the [Media Scoring Writing and Production Program](#).

Program Mission Statement

Mission

The mission of the Media **Scoring Writing** and Production Masters of Music degree program is to provide the student with the skills necessary to pursue a career as a creator and producer of commercial music. The purpose of the Media **Scoring Writing** and Production program is to provide advanced competency as a composer, arranger and producer of commercial **music**.

~~music. In contrast with other departments, the Media Writing and Production department culminates with the writing and defense of a thesis conforming to graduate school guidelines.~~

Program Goals

Goals

The program emphasizes the following objectives:

- Students will graduate in a timely manner from the program
- Students will be highly satisfied with their understanding of craft of creating music for media.
- Students will be prepared to find success in the media industry.

Student Learning Outcomes

Student Learning Outcomes

The student will develop and defend a portfolio of musical works, and compose a detailed narrative of his/her process, demonstrating advanced competencies as a composer, arranger and producer of music commensurate with current contemporary/commercial music professionals. (Thesis project.)

The student will develop the ability to analyze and identify sonic problems encountered during the production of contemporary/commercial music. The student will demonstrate the skills necessary to execute viable solutions through advanced competencies in Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) techniques, including editing, signal processing and mixing. He/she will create acceptable final mixes of their works and generate deliverable in prescribed audio and/or video format. Student performance is measured using a standard grading system. Criteria include the sonic and aesthetic qualities of the finished product, deliverables, meeting deadlines, and musical score/DAW layout.

The student will demonstrate the ability to compose, arrange and produce of music for visual media in both virtual and acoustic formats, and prepare all deliverables including digital assets (audio files, DAW sessions, midi files and track assignments), music preparation including score layout and final mixes (stereo mix, sub mixes and stems) conforming to delivery requirements commonly required in the contemporary/commercial music industry.

Curriculum Requirements

Curriculum Requirements

Major Area

MMI 630	Entrepreneurship for Musicians - COURSE PROPOSAL IN PROGRESS	3
MMI 805	Master's Media Writing and Production Project	3
Choose 15 credits from either or both Emphases		15
Media Scoring Emphasis		
MMI 760	Virtual Orchestration	
MMI 761	Media Writing 1: Film Scoring Foundations	
MMI 762	Media Writing 2: Film Scoring Extensions	
MMI 763	Media Writing 3: Video Game Scoring	
MSJ 714	Advanced Orchestration	
Production Emphasis		
MMI 770	Synthestration	
MMI 771	Production 1: Recording and Production Techniques	
MMI 772	Production 2: Audio FX Processing and Multitrack Mixing	
MMI 773	Production 3: Advanced Production Seminar	
MMI 759	Digital Audio and MIDI Production	
Advisor Approved Electives		9
Suggestions include but are not limited to:		
CCA 740	Sound Design	
MCY 624	Classical Music of the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries	
MMI 610	Computational Psychoacoustics	
MTC 767	Advanced Graduate Composition and Technologies	
Total Credit Hours		30

Plan of Study

Sample Plan of Study

Media Emphasis

Plan of Study Grid

Year One

Fall	Credit Hours
MMI 761 Media Writing 1: Film Scoring Foundations	3
Advisor Approved Elective	3
MMI 760 or MSJ 714 Virtual Orchestration	3
or Advanced Orchestration	
Credit Hours	9
Spring	
MMI 762 Media Writing 2: Film Scoring Extensions	3
MMI 630 Entrepreneurship for Musicians	3
Advisor Approved Elective	3

Credit Hours	9
Year Two	
Fall	
MMI 763 Media Writing 3: Video Game Scoring	3
Advisor Approved Elective	3
MMI 760 or MSJ 714 Virtual Orchestration	3
or Advanced Orchestration	
Credit Hours	9
Spring	
MMI 805 Master's Media Writing and Production Project	3
Credit Hours	3
Total Credit Hours	30

* This is a suggested Plan of Study. Your actual course sequence may vary depending on your previous academic experience as well as current course offerings. Students should meet with their academic advisor each semester to determine the appropriate course selection.

Sample Plan of Study

Production Emphasis

Plan of Study Grid

Year One	
Fall	Credit Hours
MMI 771 Production 1: Recording and Production Techniques	3
MMI 759 Digital Audio and MIDI Production	3
Advisor Approved Elective	3
Credit Hours	9
Spring	
MMI 772 Production 2: Audio FX Processing and Multitrack Mixing	3
MMI 770 Synthestration	3
MMI 630 Entrepreneurship for Musicians	3
Credit Hours	9
Year Two	
Fall	
MMI 773 Production 3: Advanced Production Seminar	3
Advisor Approved Elective	3
Advisor Approved Elective	3
Credit Hours	9
Spring	
MMI 805 Master's Media Writing and Production Project	3
Credit Hours	3

Total Credit Hours

30

*This is a suggested Plan of Study. Your actual course sequence may vary depending on your previous academic experience as well as current course offerings. Students should meet with their academic advisor each semester to determine the appropriate course selection.

Admission Requirements

Admission Requirements

Applicants must be in-progress toward completing or have earned the appropriate prior music degree(s) from a regionally accredited institution in order to apply for a graduate level music program. If you are accepted and decide to attend the Frost School, you will be required to provide a final transcript showing a conferred degree. For the MM in Media Scoring and Production, A Bachelor of Music is preferred. Other degrees and majors will also be considered, based on faculty evaluation of the required portfolio and prior relevant experience, as well as college transcripts, and interview discussion of their musical background and proficiency. **Admission Requirements**

On-Campus Programs

The application priority deadline is December 1st.

The supplemental materials deadline is January 1st.

[Please click here](#) for special deadlines related to our Arts Presenting, Media **Scoring**, **Writing**, Music Business, and Music Engineering programs

[APPLY NOW](#)

Step 1 - Apply

Apply online through [CollegeNET](#)

Upload a prescreening (if applicable) through [SlideRoom](#) – check the [Audition/Portfolio Requirements](#) page for specific information

Step 2 - Submit Supplemental Materials

All supplemental materials must be submitted either via email to fsom.graddocs@miami.edu or via US Mail to PO Box 248165, Coral Gables, FL 33124.

Required for all applicants:

Transcripts – an official transcript from ALL post-secondary schools attended, regardless of if a degree was granted or not, must be sent directly to the Frost School of Music from the issuing institution in order to be considered official

Applicants with international transcripts, please [click here](#) for specific instructions about approved evaluation services

An official transcript is required for every school attended, even if it was only a single class

Current University of Miami students applying to a new degree program must provide an official University of Miami transcript

Three letters of recommendation - sent through CollegeNet as part of application submission. These do not need to be sent separately

Resume - attached to the application at the time of submission. This does not need to be sent separately

The following supplemental materials may be required for some applicants:

GRE Score - Please contact your [program faculty](#) for specific GRE information

[TOEFL/IELTS Score](#) - Please click here for more specific TOEFL/IELTS information

Teaching/Conducting Sample

Writing Sample

Prescreening/Audition/Interview

Portfolio

Not all supplemental materials are required for all degree programs. Please see the [Degree Program Requirements](#) for specific requirements.

For information regarding specific program requirements, please see [Application & Program Requirements](#).

Applicants are responsible for tracking the status of their application materials and should do so on [CaneLink](#).

Please allow at least two weeks for documents to be processed and marked as complete. If you are unable to access your CaneLink account, please check the [CaneLink FAQ](#).

Step 3 - Audition/Interview/Upload Portfolio

Audition - If your program requires an audition, you will be contacted after the December 1st deadline to schedule a date. All performance programs require a prescreening and invitations to audition will be extended to those applicants approved by faculty review. Check the [Audition/Portfolio Requirements](#) page for specific requirements. Do not make travel plans until you receive a confirmation email from Frost Admissions.

Interview - If your program requires an interview, you will be contacted by department faculty to schedule a date.

Portfolio - If your program requires a portfolio, please upload it through [SlideRoom](#). Check the [Audition/Portfolio Requirements](#) page for specific requirements.

Music, Media, & Industry Application Deadlines

If you are applying to Music Business & Entertainment Industries, Arts Presenting & Live Entertainment Management, JD/MM, or JD/MA programs, the following deadlines apply:

December 1 - International applicants and priority domestic applicants

April 1 - All JD/MM and JD/MA applicants

June 1 - Final application and supplemental materials deadline for domestic applicants

If you are applying to Music Engineering Technology or Media **Scoring Writing** and Production, the following deadlines apply:

December 1 - International applicants and priority domestic applicants

February 1 - Priority portfolio deadline

April 1 - Final application and portfolio deadline - all applications/supplemental materials/portfolios are due by this date

International Applicants

TOEFL/IELTS - Test scores are required for international applicants whose native language is not English and who have not received a degree from an accredited English-speaking institution. Additional information can be found under [International Applicants](#).

Applicants must submit a copy of their passport before a decision can be made. The name on your passport must match the name with which you apply.

If accepted, you will be contacted by the Office of Admission to submit documentation of financial responsibility.

Documents Required

Submit the following educational documents to an approved international credentialing evaluation service:

- a) Official original diplomas and certificates in the original language, and
- b) Official original transcripts in the original language (names of courses, grades, and hours of instruction) for every year of study.

Documents in a language other than English must be accompanied by professional, certified English translations. Translations supplement but do not replace, the official documents.

Type of Evaluation Required

The Frost School of Music is requiring international applicants to their programs to complete a course-by-course evaluation with GPA.

Where to Submit Documents for Evaluation

Josef Silny & Associates (JS&A), Inc. International Education Consultants, is the preferred evaluation service for international applicants to the University of Miami due to their competitive prices and high-quality service. [Click here](#) for more information, including the [Application for Evaluation of Foreign Educational Credentials](#).

World Education Services (WES) is the second preferred evaluation service for international applicants to the University of Miami. [Click here](#) for more information, including the [Application for Evaluation of Foreign Educational Credentials](#).

Please note that international applicants are not required to use the services of JS&A or WES exclusively, but the University of Miami requires that an international credential evaluation must be done by one of the approved evaluation vendors found on [this list](#).

Evaluation Fee

Applicants are responsible for the evaluation fee.

Submission of Evaluation

The evaluation vendor is required to send all official copies of related documents to:

Frost School of Music
PO Box 248165
Coral Gables, FL 33124-7610

or electronically to:

fsom.graddocs@miami.edu

Please click [here](#) for additional details

Applicants who are applying with a current degree in progress will be required to have their final transcripts and diploma evaluated upon arrival at the Frost School. If applicants use Josef Silny for the initial evaluation, the Frost School will cover the evaluation. If applicants choose a different vendor, they will be responsible for the cost of the re-evaluation.

Decisions

Students are recommended for admission to the Frost School of Music by the faculty and admission committees. Final acceptance to the Graduate program is made after all materials requested by the Frost School of Music have been received and evaluated. Scholarships and/or Assistantships are awarded based on faculty recommendation. Admission decisions are sent out starting in late March.

Application Guidelines

Applications are accepted for the fall term only

Applications are accepted for only one degree program

Graduate applicants must have a minimum of a 3.0 cumulative GPA for consideration

Applicants must be in-progress toward completing or have earned the appropriate prior music degree(s) from a regionally accredited institution in order to apply for a graduate level music program. **If you are accepted and decide to attend the Frost School, you will be required to provide a final transcript showing a conferred degree.**

~~If you are accepted and decide to attend the Frost School, you will be required to provide a final transcript showing a conferred degree.~~ The MM in Music Business & Entertainment Industries and the MA in Arts Presenting & Live Entertainment Management do not require prior music degrees. The MS in Music Engineering Technology is open to students who have completed an undergraduate degree in an appropriate engineering/science field.

Current University of Miami students applying to a new degree program must provide an official University of Miami transcript

Materials submitted in support of an application cannot be released for other purposes nor returned to the applicant

For information on where to submit supplemental materials, please see our [Contact Information](#)

Rationale

Rationale

MEDIA WRITING AND PRODUCTION would change its name to MEDIA SCORING AND PRODUCTION - Effective Fall of 2021

The term “Media Writing” may be interpreted by some to imply non-music fields (such as journalism, communications, or marketing), while the term “Media Scoring” is unequivocal, and prevalent in use among the professional music community. This name change is the result of the Visitor’s Report from the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), where they suggested the Title/Content consistency should be addressed to reflect the aforementioned.

The Bachelor of Music (BM) is geared for students who seek careers as music instrumentalists and singers. Accordingly, the curriculum for that degree foregrounds performance-based courses, such as ensembles and private lessons. Although a performance background may benefit some composers and producers, it is by no means necessary for success as a musician in either field of emphasis. Indeed, over the past 10 years, the academic fields of media scoring and music production have become increasingly interdisciplinary, as makers of music within those fields now draw their inspiration from and make most of their work using a computer station or laptop. Removing the Bachelor of Music (BM) requirement for entrance into the Frost School’s MM program in Media Scoring and Production would thus better reflect those ongoing shifts within the discipline.

The proposed change is in line with current practices. The National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), which establishes institutional guidelines for music programs in this county, outlines no specific degree requirements to enter MM programs. The same holds true for programs at peer institutions, including the University of Southern California’s Thornton School of Music, NYU’s Steinhardt School, and Columbia College Chicago, none of which designate the Bachelor of Music—or any other specific undergraduate degree—as a prerequisite for entrance into their MM programs. In fact, current MSP faculty could not locate any MM program from our aspirational peers, other than Frost, that specifically requires the Bachelor of Music degree. With this context in mind, the Department of Music Media and Industry faculty believe that the Frost School’s current entrance requirements are unnecessarily narrow, potentially resulting in a smaller number of otherwise qualified applicants.

Current trends reflect many Media Producers are developing their skillset outside of the traditional music education model. Requiring a music degree from an accredited institution may omit a large pool of applicants who could display more than adequate preparation to work in the music production field.

Market Demand

Relationship to Other Programs

Relationship to Undergraduate and Professional Programs

Library Resources Available and Needed to Support the Program

Laboratory Facilities, Equipment, and Space Available and Needed to Support the Program

Other Resources Available or Needed to Support the Program

Curriculum

Program Curriculum

Upload Syllabi for Any New Courses

Proposed Schedule of Course Offerings for the First Three Years

CIP Code

Proposed CIP Code

Faculty

Program Directors

Upload CV(s)

Program Faculty

Upload CV(s) Grad

Students

Applicant Pool

Enrollment Projections

Teaching or Research Assistants

Administration

Program Administration

Comparison

Peer Comparisons

Documents

Attach Supporting Documentation

[MWP NAME CHANGE and ADMISSIONS PROPOSAL F 20.pdf](#)

Reviewer

Comments

Patty Murphy (pxm491) (11/09/20 4:55 pm): This name change does not require notification to or approval from SACSCOC.

Shelton Berg (s.berg) (11/09/20 5:01 pm): I support this change. It more clearly reflects the terminology in the industry, and it was requested by the NASM (our music accreditation organization).

Tiffany Plantan (tplantan) (11/20/20 11:38 am): MOTION to change the name of the M.M. in Media Writing and Production to M.M. in Media Scoring and Production; seconded and passed (13 approved, 0 opposed, 0 abstained) at the November 17, 2020 meeting of the Graduate Council. Admissions Requirement change was a notification item only. No concerns were expressed by Council members. Council members did suggest that it be clear to students who are admitted without a Bachelor's in Music that they may be expected to take deficiency courses. Perhaps this could be stated on the Frost Website, in the Academic Bulletin, and/or in offer letters to the students.

Robyn Hardeman (rhardeman) (12/08/20 2:52 pm): The School Council has approved the name change and the admissions guidelines. To be added to the 1/20/21 GWC agenda.

Key: 491