

VANDERCOOK COLLEGE OF MUSIC

Chicago, Illinois 2003-2004 Title II Report

Mission:

The mission of VanderCook College of Music is to enrich the lives of present and future generations through the preparation of teachers in the instrumental, choral and general music disciplines. Through a broad-based curriculum, we strive to prepare excellent teachers with strong character, skill in the process of teaching, and respect for the essential role of music in our culture.

Teacher Preparation Programs:

VanderCook College of Music is the only college in the nation exclusively devoted to music teacher education. We offer the Bachelor of Music Education degree program leading to state certification with concentrations in band, choral and orchestral music. We also offer a master's degree and certification program to individuals who possess a bachelor's degree in music who would like to pursue music teaching. The College also offers a master's degree in music education to teachers already holding certification, and extensive opportunities for post-graduate study in music education.

Student Characteristics:

Of students enrolled in the bachelor's & master's and certification programs for the fall 2004 semester: 30% were non-white, 32% were from out of state, and 94% were full-time students.

Admission Requirements:

Admission to Teacher Education: Although all students entering VanderCook College of Music begin study in their first year towards music education, they are formally recommended for admission to teacher education based upon a faculty review of each student's success on a test of basic musicianship; performance on the sophomore jury examination; and the student's cumulative grade point average. Students must also pass the Illinois Certification Testing System Basic Skills Test.

Admission to Student Teaching: Students must (1) pass a comprehensive music playing examination that assesses the student's competence on all instruments, piano, voice and conducting. Instrumental students must satisfy proficiencies on voice, piano, and all woodwinds, brass, string and percussion instruments. Vocal majors must complete piano competencies, perform the instrumental comprehensive test on one instrument from woodwinds, brass, and percussion, and string areas. All students must demonstrate proficiency in conducting and rehearsal techniques. (2) Students must pass both the junior and senior playing recitals. (3) Students are required to demonstrate that they have completed a minimum of 100 hours of pre-student teaching. (4) The cumulative GPA in Applied Music Performance, Fundamentals and Theory, and Music Education must be at least 2.75. (5) All academic requirements in professional education and music education must be completed.

Accreditation:

The College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and the National Association of Schools of Music. The music education programs are approved by the Illinois State Board of Education.

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Teacher Education Vision:

- Curriculum: Prepare music educators to teach 21st century learners.
- Enrollment: Increase the college enrollment by attracting a diverse population of high quality candidates.
- Facility: Create a physical environment to meet the 21st century instructional and performance needs of the band, choral, string, and general music education programs.
- Finances: Provide for the college's future through enhanced financial resources.
- Faculty: Continue to develop a diverse faculty and staff committed to the mission of the college.
- Technology: Advance the use of technology in music education.
- Instructional Resources: Continue to build 21st century instructional resources.
- Partnerships: Advance the quality of candidate preparation through partnerships with diverse K-12 schools.
- Student Life: Support collegial relationships among diverse students, and promote public service values.
- Communication: Use 21st century communication techniques to provide information about and among the VanderCook community.
- Advocacy: Inspire children and adults to achieve excellence through music education.

Best Practices:

- We strive to provide authentic learning experiences both on and off-campus through a myriad of outreach programs involving school music programs in and around the Chicago metropolitan and suburban areas.
- Since the College is exclusively dedicated to music teacher education, students begin their teacher preparation as freshmen.
- All classes are conducted in small settings built on the music studio model, emphasizing hands-on, performance-based instruction and assessment.
- All students receive "podium time" with the major ensembles so that they may develop their conducting and rehearsal skills with a full ensemble of students.
- The College's Chamber Ensemble program involves every student in the school throughout their college career.
- All students receive instruction in the use of technology in music settings.

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- The College's Concert Band annually performs at the Midwest Clinic, an annual gathering of around 10,000 music teachers from around the country.
- The College's curriculum is noted for its focus on practical, in-depth study of all the instruments of the band and orchestra.
- Located within the City of Chicago, the College provides students with easy and frequent access to world-class music and music education programs.
- The College's summer program is the largest summer graduate school for music teachers in the nation.

**Program Information for VanderCook College of Music
2003-2004**

S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2003-2004	25
S.2 Number of students in supervised student teaching in academic year 2003-2004	20
S.3 Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	
➤ S.3A Full-time faculty in professional education	0
➤ S.3B Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	4
➤ S.3C Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	1
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	5
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	4.4:1
S.6A The average number of student teaching hours per week	40
S.6B The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	10
S.7 Average total number of hours required	400