

Memorandum

To: Dr. Sharon Nelson, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts
From: Dr. Herbert E. Dregalla, Jr., Chair, Department of Music
Re: Requirement revision
Date: September 29, 2003

As requested, here is the materials for the requirement revision in Music Education:

1. requested revision:

"Students must earn a "C" or better in these Music Education courses".

2. Rationale

The Music Education Committee within the Department of Music passed this revision at the end of the 2000-2001 academic year. The faculty saw the need to raise academic requirements/standards for music education majors.

The existing policy states that an overall GPA of 3.0 is required for music education courses. The implication of "overall" is that some classes in the music education curriculum would therefore potentially count toward graduation with an earned grade of "D". This could happen if a student earned a sufficient number of grades of "B" and/or "A" to balance out the "D".

The music education curriculum at Wright State University is designed to present a variety of specific areas in content/pedagogy. This curricula enables our students to effectively teach at various grade levels and in various areas (vocal, choral, instrumental, general music, etc.). While a student may have every intention of teaching at one level and in one area, our licensure requires competency at multiple areas and levels. In addition students often cannot predict the exact areas/levels at which they may sometimes teach.

The music education faculty felt that a grade of "D" in a particular class does not demonstrate sufficient mastery of pedagogical material of that area to allow the student the privilege of teaching it at some point in their career in music education.