

Achievement Goals
for the Bachelor's and Master's Programs in
"Catholic and Protestant Church Music"
Emphasis on Organ-Choral Conducting, Organ-Gregorian Chant, Organ-
Church Composition, Choral Conducting-Gregorian Chant, and Choral
Conducting-Church Composition

The study of church music serves to train students by instructing them in scholarship and the arts. The program provides the basic scholarly-artistic knowledge and methodology that graduates will require in their professional careers.

The study provides training for church musicians who will work as organists, choir leaders and cantors, and who will be qualified to direct church music in all of its many forms.

The study deals with the whole range of church music, including its contemporary forms (new religious songs) in light of the current liturgical situation and the integration of all forms of spiritual music into the life of the church and society. In addition, the study develops the ability of students to communicate and deal with social change, and takes into consideration the extraordinary cultural function of church music in connection with musical life and its traditional ties to music education.

This training should qualify students to make use of their newly-acquired expertise in suitable professional areas, as well as in other, newer career fields. Besides, it is an established fact that church music in Austria is highly regarded everywhere, and on this account, the study program is both international and attractive.

The most important sections of this study program are: choral and choral conducting (also children's and youth choirs), vocal training (singing), organ and organ improvisation, hymnology, liturgical and theological education, Gregorian chant, harmony and sacred composition, theory and history of music, piano.

The structure of the study plan allows the students:

- in the Master's program to choose 5 courses concentrating on vocal or instrumental training
- to complete part of their studies at other internationally recognized universities (for example, in the European Union or in the USA)

The graduates of the program "Catholic and Protestant Church Music" will be active mainly:

- in sacred music services following the liturgy of Catholic and Protestant churches as organists, choir conductors, cantors, leaders of vocal and instrumental ensembles or orchestras, including children's and youth groups
- in also cultivating sacred music outside of the liturgy, for example, in (church) concerts
- in composing, arranging and setting music for the liturgy and for non-liturgical occasions
- in music educational duties in the parish community, both regional and in the diocese
- in the special support of community singing, whose cultivation today takes place mainly in church services
- in the training and further education of (non-professional) organists, choral and ensemble conductors, cantors, both locally, regionally (parish or suburb), and in the diocese
- in pedagogical activities connected with the duties of church musicians

- as advisors concerning questions about organs (new construction, restoration, cleaning)
- as professional advisors in the organization of church services and (church) concerts, in the choice of choral and organ literature, in the setting up and operation of music archives
- in carrying out organizational duties connected with the profession
- in taking part in cultural life, for example, in institutions, clubs
- scholarly and/or artistic activities in universities and non-university settings
- in ecumenical activities, which are necessary and fruitful in a special way in the area of church music between Catholic and Protestant churches, and all other Christian churches
- in setting up vocal and instrumental ensembles (at all age levels), which are essential both for the forming of congregations and communal sense, and for social integration
- Therefore, after completion of their studies, graduates will be involved mainly in the following areas:
- in Cathedral churches, in parishes and in churches with special liturgical and cultural functions
- in regional and diocese church jobs
- in conservatories of church music and in music schools
- in universities
- in cultural management
- in the area of tourism (cultural tourism)
- in music archives
- in publication ventures and in the media
- in self-employed activities

In combination with theological and/or pedagogical training (further education):

- as pastoral assistants
- as instructors in different types of schools, houses of education, community colleges, educational centers and other learning institutions
- in libraries
- in liturgical institutes and pastoral offices