

# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## Mead Witter School of Music

### Statement of Purpose Guidelines

This document is a good starting point for your Statement of Purpose. We do not expect you to mirror this format, but feel free to. At the very least, be sure to **clearly state your name and the degree you are applying for at the top of your statement**, including your instrument and voice type, if applicable.

**Your name**  
**Degree sought**

Important questions to consider:

- ⇒ What is your personal / educational background? (i.e. Where are you coming from?)
- ⇒ What are your personal / academic / professional goals? (i.e. Where are you headed?)
- ⇒ Why do you want to study at UW-Madison? What attracts you to our program?
- ⇒ What talents and qualifications do you have that set you apart from other candidates?
- ⇒ What qualifications do you have to serve as a Teaching Assistant in the School of Music?
- ⇒ Is there anything you would like to explain about difficulties in your background (e.g. bad grades, injuries, etc.) that we should take into account when reviewing your application?

#### ***Important!***

If you are interested in being considered for a Teaching Assistantship in **Music History** or **Music Theory** courses, please add a separate, clearly marked section at the end of your statement describing your specific qualifications in theory and/or music history. This will allow us to easily pull your file if any positions in these areas open up.

**Note:** *Candidates for the Musicology, Theory, and Composition degrees are naturally given priority consideration for these positions, but we are usually able to offer 2-3 positions to performance candidates, as needed.*



#### **Help us save paper and ink!**

- Please limit your Statement of Purpose to 2 pages, if possible.
- Please use a standard font size and do **NOT** double space your statement.
- Please adjust your margins as needed so we don't have to print a whole extra page just to read your last sentence.