

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.