

Core Concepts

The Advanced Certificate in Piano Pedagogy (ACPP) provides a structured curriculum focusing on those elements of piano pedagogy that are foundational to strong teaching practices. The program focuses on teaching strategies that meet the needs of individual students while preparing teachers to work with a wide range of ages and abilities.

Courses and activities allow participants to:

- * Discover new performance skills
- * Develop comprehensive teaching strategies
- * Analyze and evaluate piano methods
- * Study and apply developmental theories
- * Network with other piano professionals

This program is registered with the New York State Education Department. Nazareth College is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music.

Why ACPP?

The program is intended to provide training in piano pedagogy for musicians who want credentials to teach piano both in private lessons and groups. Professionals currently teaching, along with those musicians already holding undergraduate or graduate degrees in music who wish to teach piano, will benefit from the curriculum that is offered, and the intensive instruction in the methodology and materials necessary for a successful piano studio.



Course Work

Course work is based upon an exploration of instructional materials, repertoire, musical styles and performance. Participants will examine current and historical pedagogical research, the foundations of a healthy and efficient piano technique, practice strategies and learning theories critical to the growth of students. Students will learn the business aspects of independent piano teaching and develop studio promotional materials. At the completion of the ACPP, they will have created materials to support the MTNA Certification application.

The 15-graduate credit curriculum includes:

- * Piano Pedagogy I and II
- * Piano Literature I and II
- * Group/Studio Piano Teaching I and II
- * Applied Piano I and II
- * Piano Pedagogy Practicum



Requirements

For admission into the ACPP program, a minimum of a baccalaureate degree in music, or in another discipline with courses equivalent to the requirements of a B.A. in Music, is required. Prospective students complete a program application, an interview with the program director and an audition. The plan of study must be completed within three years, though many students develop a program of study to complete the certificate program within one academic calendar year. Some courses may be offered online.





Faculty

Beverly Smoker, DMA – Coordinator of Keyboard Studies
James Douthit, DMA – Chair, Department of Music
Bonnie Choi, DMA
Gary Fisher, DMA
Joshua Massicot, MM
Kevin Nitsch, DMA
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Contact

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ADVANCED CERTIFICATE in **PIANO PEDAGOGY**

