

# Information on Entrance Examinations

## Master of Arts in Early Music

Department of Early Music

### StudiesCenter

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## Important Dates

Exam dates are listed at the department's online presence:

<https://mdw.ac.at/altemusik/zulassung/>

## Entrance Examination

The entrance examination serves to assess the artistic aptitude of applicants. It takes the form of an examination before a committee and consists of four parts:

1. Written test on practical performance issues
2. Performance of several works from different styles:  
Selection from a representative program lasting at least 45 minutes on the historical instrument or in singing. This must include at least three styles relevant to the historical instrument/singing from before around 1820, such as French High Baroque, Italian Early Baroque, Early Classical, or Viennese Classical.
3. Assessment of additional practical music skills:
  - Sight reading: Playing/singing a short piece from the repertoire of the respective instrument or vocal range at first sight
  - Cadences: Playing simple and extended cadences on the harpsichord  
(For requirements and examples, see the appendix on page 4)
4. Orientation meeting with the examination board

The prerequisite for admission to the entrance examination is proof of completion of relevant preliminary studies or that these are likely to be completed prior to admission.

### Avoided for MA Early Music:

- ✓ Vocals
- ✓ Violin
- ✓ Cello
- ✓ Viola da Gamba
- ✓ Baroque guitar
- ✓ Transverse flute
- ✓ Recorder
- ✓ Oboe
- ✓ Historical clarinet instruments
- ✓ Fortepiano

Other instruments on request (e.g., salterio, sackbut, etc.)

## *Relevant preliminary studies*

Admission to the Master's program in Early Music requires completion of a relevant Bachelor's degree or equivalent degree from a recognized domestic or foreign post-secondary educational institution. Relevant prior studies are, in any case, a bachelor's or master's degree in the corresponding (historical) instrument/voice or a completed diploma degree with a focus on Early Music at the mdw.

Equivalent studies completed on the corresponding (modern) instrument may also be relevant, provided that additional study of the historical instrument/voice can be demonstrated.

## *application documents*

When registering for the entrance examination in the mdw's online registration system, applicants must enclose:

1. Curriculum vitae detailing relevant artistic activities and previous training in the field of early music.
2. Proof of a relevant bachelor's degree or other equivalent degree, which must have been completed before the start of the master's program. If this degree is planned after the admission examination, proof from the institution (at which this degree is planned) must be provided regarding the type of study and the expected date of graduation.
3. List of works prepared for the entrance examination, including information on whether an accompanist is required.

## *Registration takes place via the online portal*

[online.mdw.ac.at/mdw\\_online/webnav.ini](https://online.mdw.ac.at/mdw_online/webnav.ini)

Please direct any questions to: [zulassungspruefung@mdw.ac.at](mailto:zulassungspruefung@mdw.ac.at)

## *Proof of knowledge of the German language*

Applicants whose first language is not German must demonstrate proficiency in German at level B2 before beginning their studies.

Please refer to the current Language Competence Regulation for further important information and requirements at: <https://www.mdw.ac.at/sre/studienrecht/sprachkompetenzverordnung/>

