

THE ADVANCED CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT IN THE ART OF IMPROVISATION

The Advanced Certificate of Achievement in the Art of Improvisation offers a course of study for Eastman students interested in exploring and advancing their skills in improvisation in a wide array of musical styles and ensemble settings. It is open to all ESM graduate students (MM, MA, DMA, and PhD). Many of the requirements can be met under the electives category that exist as part of the students' major curricula and courses that the students are required to take in order to graduate.

A live audition is required for all applicants to the Advanced Certificate of Achievement in the Art of Improvisation. Applicants must demonstrate skills in two different styles of improvisation (Renaissance, Baroque, Classical/Romantic, Jazz, Contemporary, Aleatoric, Non-Western [examples might include Zimbabwean, Indian or Aboriginal musics], Folk, or Cinema) and submit a brief, original composition (with an improvised section). In addition, the applicant must submit a 3-page (750 words) statement describing his/her experiences with improvisation and his/her motivation to pursue the Advanced Certificate in the Art of Improvisation. All materials are to be submitted to **Professor Dariusz Terefenko**.

No more than five students will be accepted to the certificate program each year. Students who are interested in applying are urged to contact Professor Dariusz Terefenko and to submit the above materials by October 14. In consultation with Eastman faculty, Professor Terefenko will identify applicants who will be invited for an audition. Final applicants will be asked to improvise spontaneously, and will be assessed in the following areas: keyboard skills, aural skills, score reading, rhythm reading, and musical interaction. A jazz rhythm section (piano/bass/drums), a continuo player, or any other accompanying units (within means) can be arranged upon request.

For certificate requirements, please visit: <https://www.esm.rochester.edu/certificates/art-of-improvisation/>

To apply, please submit this form and cover letter to Professor Dariusz Terefenko.