

Graduate Institute of Ethnomusicology

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Introduction

Founded in August 2002, the Graduate Institute of Ethnomusicology (GIEM) at the National Taiwan Normal University (NTNU) is a major academic institution for the education, research, and preservation of musical traditions and cultures in Taiwan and other regions of the globe. Formerly named the Graduate Institute of Musicology, GIEM's research and teaching activities date back to the 1980s when professor Hsu Tsang-Houei (1929-2001), a pioneer ethnomusicologist in Taiwan, led students to research Taiwan's traditional music across the country. Today, GIEM keeps the mission of academic research. Also, it is committed to cultivating students' performance artistry of traditional music and their abilities to put theory into practice. The Institute comprises of two study programs; the Study Division of Research and Preservation, which trains skilled researchers and musicians, and the Study Division of Multimedia Applications, which trains music professionals specializing in using media technology to facilitate knowledge production and

dissemination. Our faculty, including members who joined the program recently, has diversified research interests, including music cultures in East and Southeast Asia, Europe, and regions of Austronesian languages. In addition, we have also collaborated with international colleagues in developing the best practice for digital archiving.

Instructional Objectives

1. To train students to become researchers in the realm of musical traditions and sound cultures.
2. To train students to become artists of traditional music with cross-cultural perspectives.
3. To train students to become skilled professionals and startup entrepreneurs in the music industry.

Degree Requirements

Interdisciplinary studies are a hallmark of the Graduate Institute of Ethnomusicology. Students in each area of concentration are required to take a minimum of 15 credits for required courses and 20 elective credits.

Required Courses: Introduction of Ethnomusicology, Theory and Practice in Musical Communication, Introduction to Philosophy of Music, Fieldwork, Music Archives and Research Methods.

Required Area-specific Courses: Comparative Studies of Eastern and Western Musics, Modes of Traditional Music, History of Sound Recording, Theory and Practice in Musical Multimedia 3
Domains of Elective Courses: Research on Music Cultures, Performance Practice, Multimedia Applications.

Feature of the Curriculum

The Subdivision of Research trains students to conduct original research based on field or archival data. Interdisciplinary inquiries and methods are a crucial part of the program training, expanding students' thinking limits and enriching their professional vision.

The Subdivision of Preservation trains students to preserve music traditions and culture through performance practices. It leads students to explore the possibilities of traditional instruments in terms of performing techniques and aesthetics, and it encourages students to renew old styles and repertoires, promoting music traditions and cultures through creativity.

Students of the Study Division of Multimedia Applications are required to put theory into practice, using music and media technology to engage in various kinds of projects and activities in relation to the production and dissemination of information that benefits the sustainability of music traditions and cultural diversity.



Career Prospects

Academic interactions with various agencies, including NTNU Musicology and others, guest speakers from Taiwan and from universities and music-related institutions worldwide are offered. Research foci range from Taiwan's traditional music to the music and culture in East Asia, Southeast Asia, Europe and Austronesian languages. In addition, students are offered opportunities to participate in projects in relation to the digital archiving, audiovisual recordings, and multimedia production of various kinds of music. The high-standard audiovisual equipment and facilities that the Institute owns make the Institute one of the most resourceful educational institutes to learn music technology and media production in Taiwan. In recent years, the Institute has constantly engaged in various kinds of industry-university cooperation, and the professionalism of our graduates has been highly recognized by organizations, companies, and agencies in the music and cultural industry.

