Music BA

Degree Requirements

Admission to all Music degree programs is by audition to demonstrate musical aptitude and potential, technical proficiency, and seriousness in selecting music as a four-year course of study. In addition to the applied music audition, placement examinations in music theory and music history may be required to confirm students' prior experience in these areas. Auditions are scheduled from January to May for the fall semester; a limited number are held in December for the spring/summer semester. Students in applied music (private lessons) must pass a junior-standing examination to confirm their level of performance skills for enrollment in AP MUS 3440 – AP MUS 3459 or AP MUS 4440 – AP MUS 4459. This examination is usually taken at the same time as the applied music jury for the fourth semester of enrollment in AP MUS 1440 - AP MUS 1459.

Evidence of sound musicianship, a close acquaintance with an appropriate portion of musical literature, and the ability to bring it to actual performance are required for graduation in all Music degree programs. Students in the B.M., Performance Emphasis fulfill this requirement with junior and senior recitals. Students in all other degree programs fulfill this requirement with a senior recital. In some cases, upon the recommendation of the student’s applied teacher, the senior recital (for non-performance majors only) may be replaced by participating in three regularly scheduled student recitals during the last two semesters of applied music study, or by performing for a special panel of faculty members.

General Education Requirements

UMSL’s General education requirements apply to all majors. Courses required for degree programs may not be taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis. Students must receive at least a C in each music course and maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 (music education 2.7) in all music courses to meet degree requirements.

Non-Music majors are encouraged to take music courses (EN PER and MHLT) at the 1000- or 2000-level toward UMSL’s Humanities and Fine Arts general education requirement. Non-Music majors wishing to perform with ensembles (EN PER 1410, University Singers; EN PER 1500, University Orchestra; EN PER 1530, University Wind Ensemble; EN PER 1550, Jazz Orchestra) should contact the ensemble’s director for information about auditions. M H L T 1150, Drumming Cultures of the World; M H L T 1160, Musical Journey through Latin America; M H L T 1170, Musical Journey through the Far East; or M H L T 1180, Musical Journey through Africa will meet the University’s Cultural Diversity study requirement.

Other Requirements

Music majors are required to enroll in an approved ensemble [University Wind Ensemble, University Singers, University Orchestra, or Jazz Orchestra (for Jazz Studies majors)] each semester and to study one applied area progressively each semester of the degree program. Music Education majors are exempt from these requirements during the student teaching semester. For all music majors, the applied lesson requirement consists of a weekly, individual lesson with your instructor, as well as a weekly enrichment activity in pedagogy and literature, which may take the form of a studio class, master class, performances by and for our students, or other experience identified by the department. The following specific ensemble enrollments, depending upon the applied music area, are required:

- Wind and Percussion students—University Wind Ensemble;
- String students—University Orchestra;
- Voice students—University Singers;
- Keyboard and Guitar students—any approved ensemble, but those in the bachelor of music in music education program must successfully audition for and enroll in an ensemble compatible with the teaching certification they are pursuing;
- Instrumental students may be required to participate in additional ensembles to enhance their musical development;
- Jazz Studies majors (any instrument)—Jazz Orchestra.

Majors are required to appear in performance at the department's discretion and to attend a prescribed number of departmental recitals. All music majors whose primary applied area is not piano or organ are required to pass an exam in piano proficiency before graduation. Music education majors must pass this piano proficiency exam prior to student teaching.

The music department may require students to pass a placement test to enroll in the next level course, provided this or an equivalent test is administered to all students seeking to enroll in that course.

Core Curriculum

The following core courses are required for all Music majors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Music Theory</th>
<th>Piano Proficiency</th>
<th>Conducting</th>
<th>Music History and Literature</th>
<th>Recital</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THRY COM 1300 Introduction to Music Theory</td>
<td>PRACTM 1140 Piano Proficiency I</td>
<td>PRACTM 2510 Conducting I</td>
<td>M H L T 2010 History of Western Music I (MOTR MUSC 103)</td>
<td>M H L T 1150 Drummng Cultures of the World (MOTR MUSC 102)</td>
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<tr>
<td>THRY COM 1301 Theory of Music I</td>
<td>PRACTM 1150 Piano Proficiency II</td>
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<td>M H L T 2020 History of Western Music II (MOTR MUSC 104)</td>
<td>M H L T 1160 Musical Journey through Latin America</td>
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<tr>
<td>THRY COM 1302 Aural Training I</td>
<td>PRACTM 2160 Piano Proficiency III</td>
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<td>Choose one of the following courses:</td>
<td>M H L T 1170 Musical Journey through the Far East</td>
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<tr>
<td>THRY COM 1311 Theory of Music II</td>
<td>PRACTM 2180 Piano Proficiency IV</td>
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<td></td>
<td>M H L T 1180 Musical Journey Through Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>THRY COM 1312 Aural Training II</td>
<td>THRY COM 2301 Theory of Music III</td>
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Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, graduates will:

- Have the technical skills requisite for artistic self-expression (Performance)
- Understand the common elements and organizational patterns of music and their interaction (Musicianship Skills and Analysis)
- Have a Rudimentary capacity to create original or derivative music (Composition/Improvisation)
- Have a basic knowledge of music history and repertories through the present time (History and Repertory)
- Have the ability to work on musical problems by combining their capabilities in performance, aural, verbal and visual analysis; composition/improvisation; history and repertory (Synthesis)
in the place of regular academic advising appointments. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisor each semester. All requirements are subject to change.