

MUSIC COMPOSITION, BMUS

for the degree of Bachelor of Music Major in Music Composition

In this major, emphasis may be placed on music composition or on the theory of music. Necessary course adjustments require approval of the composition-theory division.

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Minimum required major and supporting course work: The fourth-year student must present a satisfactory senior recital of original compositions. This degree requires a minimum of 120 hours.

General Education and College Orientation

Code	Title	Hours
Orientation to Fine & Applied Arts and Music		
FAA 101	Arts at Illinois	1
MUS 100	First-year Seminar for Music Majors	0
General Education and Graduation Requirements		
Composition I		4
Advanced Composition		3
Humanities and the Arts - fulfilled by MUS 313 and MUS 314 ¹		6
Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Culture(s)		3
Cultural Studies: Non-Western Culture(s)		3
Cultural Studies: US Minority Culture(s)		3
Social and Behavioral Sciences		6
Quantitative Reasoning I and II		6
Natural Sciences and Technology		6
Foreign Language ²		0-12

¹ Six hours of general education requirements in the Humanities and the Arts are met by courses required in the BMUS degree (MUS 313 and MUS 314).

² The Language Requirement may be satisfied by successfully completing a third-semester college-level course in a language other than English; successful completion, in high school, of the third year of a language other than English; or demonstrating proficiency at the third-semester level in a language proficiency examination approved by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the appropriate department.

Music Core

Code	Title	Hours
Music Theory and Musicianship		
MUS 101	Music Theory and Practice I	2
MUS 102	Music Theory and Practice II	2
MUS 201	Music Theory and Practice III	2
MUS 202	Music Theory and Practice IV	2
MUS 107	Musicianship I	2
MUS 108	Musicianship II	2

MUS 207	Musicianship III	2
MUS 208	Musicianship IV	2
Musicology		
MUS 110	Intro Art Mus: Intl Perspect	3
MUS 313	The History of Music I ³	3
MUS 314	The History of Music II	3
Keyboard		
MUS 172	Grp Instr Pno for Mus Major I ⁴	2
MUS 173	Grp Instr Pno for Mus Maj II	2

³ Completion of both MUS 313 and MUS 314 meets the general education Humanities and the Arts requirement.

⁴ All students must demonstrate keyboard competency when they audition, by proficiency examination when they matriculate, or by enrolling in MUS 172 and/or MUS 173.

Music Composition Studies

Code	Title	Hours
Applied Music Lessons (MUSC 100-level courses) ⁵		8
Ensemble (MUSC 400-level courses) ⁶		8
MUS 106	Beginning Composition	4
MUS 206	Intermediate Composition	4
MUS 242	Elements of Conducting	2
MUS 406	Advanced Composition	12
MUS 408	Analysis of Musical Form (Section D or E)	3
MUS 426	Orchestration	3
Advanced Musicology (300- or 400-level)		6
Advanced Music Theory ⁷		6
MUSC 400 (Senior Recital)		0
Electives as needed to total 120 hours		

⁵ Music Composition majors register for two-credit applied lessons for a minimum of two years.

⁶ Music Composition majors must be in an ensemble each semester of residence; a maximum of 10 hours of ensemble may be applied to the BMUS degree. Refer to the Undergraduate Music Handbook for a list of approved ensembles.

⁷ The music theory electives for the third and fourth years are to be chosen from MUS 400, MUS 404, MUS 405, MUS 407, MUS 408 (B, C, D, or E, in addition to whichever course is taken for the other MUS 408 requirement), MUS 409, and MUS 499 (with advisor approval). Music theory courses may not be used for more than one requirement.

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Sample Sequence

This sample sequence is intended to be used only as a guide for degree completion. All students should work individually with their academic advisors to decide the actual course selection and sequence that works best for them based on their academic preparation and goals. Enrichment programming such as study abroad, minors, internships, and so on may impact the structure of this four-year plan. Course availability is not guaranteed during the semester indicated in the sample sequence.

Students must fulfill their Language Other Than English requirement by successfully completing a third level of a language other than English. This sample curriculum plan makes the assumption that the foreign language graduation requirement has been satisfied by completing three years of study of a single foreign language in high school. For more information, see the corresponding section on the Degree General and Education Requirements page (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/general-information/degree-general-education-requirements/>).

First Year

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
FAA 101		1 MUS 102	2
MUS 100		0 MUS 106	2
MUS 101		2 MUS 108	2
MUS 106		2 MUS 110	3
MUS 107		2 MUS 172	2
Applied Music Lessons (MUSC 100-level courses)		2 Applied Music Lessons (MUSC 100-level courses)	2
Ensemble (MUSC 400-level courses)		1 Ensemble (MUSC 400-level courses)	1
Comp. I or General Education course		4 General Education course or Comp. I	3
	14		17

Second Year

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
Applied Music Lessons (MUSC 100-level courses)		2 Applied Music Lessons (MUSC 100-level courses)	2
Ensemble (MUSC 400-level courses)		1 Ensemble (MUSC 400-level courses)	1
MUS 173		2 MUS 202	2
MUS 201		2 MUS 206	2
MUS 206		2 MUS 208	2
MUS 207		2 MUS 314	3
MUS 313		3 General Education course	3
	14		15

Third Year

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
Advanced Musicology (300- or 400-level)		3 Advanced Musicology (300- or 400-level)	3
Ensemble (MUSC 400-level courses)		1 Ensemble (MUSC 400-level courses)	1
MUS 242		2 MUS 406	3
MUS 406		3 MUS 408	3
MUS 426		3 General Education course	3

General Education course	3 General Education course	3
	15	16

Fourth Year

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
Ensemble (MUSC 400-level courses)		1 Ensemble (MUSC 400-level courses)	1
Advanced Music Theory		3 Advanced Music Theory	3
MUS 406		3 MUSC 400	0
General Education course		3 MUS 406	3
General Education course		3 General Education course	3
General Education course		3 General Education course	3
	16		13

Total Hours 120

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Bachelor of Music graduates will:

1. Understand, apply, and integrate foundational concepts of musical study in theory, aural skills, history, composition, improvisation, and keyboard competency, and do so independently and cooperatively.
2. Demonstrate the ability to learn independently, make inquiries, think critically, discover solutions, and integrate knowledge across both similar and varied areas of musical study.
3. Develop and demonstrate effective performance skills (technical and expressive) using critical thinking to inform historical and stylistic performance practices and artistic expression.
4. Develop and demonstrate effective communication skills, including artistic self-expression, with diverse audiences through multiple media.
5. Acquire a basic understanding of diverse musical systems and traditions across the world, and develop a sensitivity to and awareness of cultural and societal differences, and their contribution to an interdependent global consciousness.
6. Acquire an understanding of professional and ethical responsibility as musicians and citizens, and demonstrate the ability to work professionally and effectively as leaders and collaborators.
7. Acquire a basic understanding of technology and professional skills, along with knowledge of specific technological developments within area of specialization.
8. Appreciate how music interacts with communities to enhance and engage social and cultural identities and enrich lifelong learning.

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School of Music

School of Music Website (<https://music.illinois.edu>)

Music Faculty (<https://giesbusiness.illinois.edu/faculty-research/faculty-profiles/>)

College of Fine & Applied Arts

FAA College Website (<https://faa.illinois.edu/>)

Admissions

University of Illinois Undergrad Admissions (<https://admissions.illinois.edu/myillini-apply/>)