

Bachelor of Music in Music Therapy

Music Therapy

The program helps students develop competence for entry into the music therapy profession. The interdisciplinary curriculum emphasizes understanding of human behavior, musical and otherwise. It includes extensive work in music, behavioral science, biological science, and liberal arts, in addition to specific academic, clinical, and research studies in music therapy.

Music Therapy Program

The undergraduate music therapy program provides full preparation for entry into the profession. It culminates in the degree of Bachelor of Music with a major in music therapy. Graduates are prepared for general music therapy practice in a variety of settings, which may include, but are not limited to hospitals, schools, community health programs, wellness centers, and private and group settings across the age span. The KU music therapy program is approved by the American Music Therapy Association. Individuals who complete the program are eligible to take the national music therapy board certification examination. The music therapy major does not lead to licensure to teach music in public schools.

Advising

Students admitted to the music therapy program will be assigned an appropriate academic faculty advisor to work with the student throughout their academic career. Students are expected to consult with their advisor each semester to plan enrollment for the next semester. The advisor is available to help, to suggest ways to avoid course conflicts, to recommend courses particularly beneficial for various emphases, and to offer career guidance. The responsibility for taking appropriate courses and for meeting other requirements rests upon the student. Information regarding all requirements is in writing and available to students. Lack of knowledge of any requirement does not free the student from meeting that requirement. All students must sign up for a graduation check with the School of Music Student Services Office in 450 Murphy Hall one year prior to their graduation date.

Regardless of applied performance medium, each entering student should be able to sing independently, in tune, and with acceptable tone quality. Functional keyboard skills (accompanying, playing by ear, improvising, and transposing) are helpful. Experience working with others is also beneficial as well. Well-developed interpersonal skills are an asset.

Students are strongly encouraged to read the Music Therapy Undergraduate Program Handbook, which is available on the School of Music website (<https://music.ku.edu/undergraduate-music-therapy-bm-handbook/>) and from the Student Services Office, 450 Murphy Hall, and provides detailed procedures, suggestions, and specifications.

Admission

Students must meet or exceed the School of Music academic admission requirements and successfully complete a major performance medium audition to be admitted. Students should declare the B.M. in music therapy as the major on the KU application for admission. Music therapy majors are in plan MTP-BM in the School of Music.

Students pursuing the B.M. in music therapy degree should apply for admission to the professional sequence upon completion of the second semester of the sophomore year with 50 or more KU hours. Transfer students with more than 45 hours of transfer credit must complete this application the first semester of classes at KU. Students may not enroll in courses in the professional sequence before formal approval by the director of music therapy. Music therapy majors who have been admitted to the professional sequence are in plan MTPPS-BM in the School of Music.

Students must be admitted to the music therapy professional sequence to enroll in upper-division music therapy courses. See the Music Therapy Undergraduate Program Handbook (<https://music.ku.edu/undergraduate-music-therapy-bm-handbook/>) for details.

Candidates are reviewed for admission periodically. No student may be admitted to the professional sequence for a semester during which he or she will be on academic probation. The application form for music therapy professional sequence admission is distributed to students prior to their time to apply. Information about the application process may be found on the KU School of Music website (<https://music.ku.edu/music-therapy-professional-sequence/>).

Instrumental Ensemble Policy

In order to remain enrolled in studio instruction (lessons), all undergraduate (B.A., B.M., and B.M.E.) and M.M. students who enroll in any level of studio instruction (including nonmajor levels) in band and orchestral instruments must audition for and perform as assigned in a major instrumental ensemble¹ each semester in which they are enrolled. For music majors, 1 ensemble taken for credit each semester is required for graduation. Exceptions to this policy are allowed on a case-by-case basis and only by the ensemble conductor in consultation with the faculty member in the studio area or the faculty advisor in music therapy as appropriate.

¹ Symphony Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Marching Band, or Jazz Ensemble I. University Band or University Orchestra if placed by audition.

Undergraduate Admission to the School of Music

First-year students should enter the school directly. Students may transfer to the school from other institutions or from other KU schools if they have at least a 2.75 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) and are eligible to return to the college or university last attended in addition to completing a successful audition. Other students can be admitted only with the permission of the dean. Send applications to the Office of Admissions (<http://admissions.ku.edu/>). Visit the Office of International Admissions (<https://world.ku.edu/apply/>) for information about international admissions.

Students who wish to major in music must audition. All music students academically approved for admission to the School of Music are admitted contingent upon demonstration by audition of satisfactory level proficiency in their areas of applied music. Music audition and application information is available on the School of Music website (<http://music.ku.edu/admission/>). There is a limit of two times a prospective student may request an audition for entrance into one of the School's undergraduate degree programs. The second request must be within 12 months of the first and may be as early as 1 month following the first audition. The

limitation also applies to students within the School auditioning from one program into another.

Transfer Students

Students may transfer to the school from other institutions or from other KU schools if they have at least a 2.75 GPA (on a 4.0 scale), are eligible to return to the college or university last attended, and complete a successful audition. Only grades of C or higher are accepted in transfer credit toward degrees offered by the School of Music. Students who wish to transfer performance credit from another institution toward any music degree at KU must validate this credit by audition. Music audition and application information is available on the School of Music website (<http://music.ku.edu/admission/>). There is a limit of two times a prospective student may request an audition for entrance into one of the School's undergraduate degree programs. The second request must be within 12 months of the first and may be as early as 1 month following the first audition. The limitation also applies to students within the School auditioning from one program into another.

Keyboard Skills Placement Examination:

If a student has a background in piano playing, they may choose to take one or more Piano Quiz-Out tests. Successfully passing a Quiz-Out will exempt a student from having to take a particular class in the PIAN sequence (PIAN 144, PIAN 148, PIAN 284, PIAN 288, and PIAN 310). Students should check with their advisor about how this will impact their particular degree requirements.

Freshmen and transfer students with no previous piano study experience should enroll in PIAN 144. No examination or permission number is necessary. Students should check with their advisor about their particular degree requirements.

More information about the Keyboard Skills Placement Examination including deadlines is available on the School of Music website (<https://music.ku.edu/entrance-exams/>).

Requirements for the B.M. with a Major in Music Therapy

The degree requires a minimum of 120 semester hours of credit (including 45 at the Junior/Senior 300+ level) appropriately distributed among general studies, the major, and supporting music areas and behavioral sciences. With careful planning, the program can be completed in about 4½ years. Four academic years of study and clinical work on campus are followed by a full-time, 6-month internship in an approved clinical institution.

The degree requires at least a 3.00 cumulative grade-point average in all course work and a minimum of 3.00 in all MEMENT courses. All music therapy majors must demonstrate proficiency in the major applied performance medium and in other performance areas.

All students must demonstrate functional vocal skills and ability to perform accompaniments on a portable chordal instrument, such as accordion, autoharp, guitar, or electric piano. These skills are assessed periodically throughout the program.

General Education Requirements (31 hours)

Code	Title	Hours
Language Arts and Communication		
ENGL 101	Composition	3

ENGL 102	Critical Reading and Writing (or other approved options: ENGL 105, ENGL 203, ENGL 205, ENGL 209, ENGL 210, ENGL 211.)	3
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COMS 130	Speaker-Audience Communication	3
or THR 120	Public Speaking as Performance	

Behavioral Sciences

PSYC 104	General Psychology	3
PSYC 350	Psychological Disorders	3

Behavioral science electives (6 semester credit hours chosen with consent of advisor from fields such as psychology, sociology, anthropology, special education, human development, speech and audiology, motor/psychomotor development and behavior, educational psychology).	One of the two Behavioral Science electives must be a Social Awareness course to fulfill requirements for Service Learning Certification.	6
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Biological Sciences and Mathematics

MATH 101	College Algebra: _____ (or higher)	3
BIOL 100	Principles of Biology	3
BIOL 102	Principles of Biology Laboratory	1
BIOL 240	Fundamentals of Human Anatomy	3

Performance Requirements (28-31 hours)

Code	Title	Hours
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Major Instrument

121	Applied music lessons (2 semesters)	4
221	Applied music lessons (2 semesters)	4
321	Applied music lessons (2 semesters)	4
422	Applied music lessons (Senior Recital) (1 semester)	2

Ensemble: Band, Orchestra, Chorus, etc.

7 semesters of participation for 7 credits total, including experience in small ensembles. 5 should be large ensembles.	7
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Piano Skills

An audition is required. If skills are insufficient, remedial course work is necessary. Students with a major performance medium of piano or organ take only PIAN 310.	2-5
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PIAN 144	Elementary Keyboard Skills I	
PIAN 148	Elementary Keyboard Skills II	
PIAN 284	Intermediate Keyboard Skills I	
PIAN 288	Intermediate Keyboard Skills II	
PIAN 310	Advanced Keyboard Skills	

Performance Techniques

MEMT 115	Performance Media: Percussion	1
MEMT 119	Performance Media: Guitar	1
MEMT 117	Performance Media: Voice	1
or MEMT 120	Vocal Performance in English	

Conducting/Rehearsing Skills

MEMT 246	Fundamentals of Conducting	1
MEMT 338	Rehearsal/Conducting Clinic: Non-traditional Ensemble	1

Musicianship and Music Therapy Requirements (61 hours)

Code	Title	Hours
MEMT Professional Core		
MEMT 150	Introduction to Music Therapy	3
MEMT 196	Group Leadership Skills in Music Therapy	2
MEMT 250	Human Musical Learning and Development	2
MEMT 251	Clinical Techniques for Children	3
MEMT 296	Clinical Techniques for Adults	3
MEMT 455	Psychology of Music	3
MEMT 463	The Influence of Music on Behavior I	3
MEMT 464	Music in Therapy	3
MEMT 586	Seminar in Music Therapy Professional Development I	1
MEMT 587	Seminar in Music Therapy Professional Development II	1
MEMT Clinical Experience (8 hours minimum)		
MEMT 396	Clinical Practicum (1 hour/ 2 semesters and 2 hours/ 2 semesters)	6
MEMT 596	Clinical Internship	2
Music Theory and Composition		
MTHC 105	Theory I	3
MTHC 106	Aural Skills I	1
MTHC 115	Theory II	3
MTHC 116	Aural Skills II	1
MTHC 205	Theory III	4
MTHC 315	Theory IV	4
Recital Attendance		
REC 100	Laboratory in Music Performance (2 semesters)	0
Musicology and Music Literature		
MUSC 320	Music History I	3
MUSC 440	Music History III	3
MUSC 480	Music History IV	3
Music Electives (Level 300 and above needed to meet Jr/Sr graduation requirement.)		
Music electives		4

Music Therapy 4.5 Year Plan

Students with no prior piano experience should take the keyboard skills sequence (PIAN 144 - PIAN 288). Demonstration of skills is needed to pass/test out of PIAN 144 - PIAN 288. Students whose major performance medium is piano or organ should take PIAN 310 after completing two semesters of music theory (this course is only taken once in the fall term of the sophomore year).

- F = Fall only
- S = Spring only
- B = Both semesters

Freshman

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
MEMT 150 (F)	3 MEMT 196 (S)	2
MEMT 115 (B)	1 MEMT 250 (S)	2
MEMT 117 (F) or	1 MEMT 119 (B)	1

MEMT 120 (F)	MTHC 115 (S)	3
MTHC 105 (F)	3 MTHC 116 (S)	1
MTHC 106 (F)	1 121 Studio lessons	2
121 Studio lessons	2 Ensemble	1
Ensemble	1 REC 100	0
REC 100	0 PIAN 148 (S)	1
PIAN 144 (if needed) (F)	1 ENGL 102 (or other approved options: ENGL 105, ENGL 203, ENGL 205, ENGL 209, ENGL 210, ENGL 211. (B)	3
ENGL 101 (B)	3	
		16
		16

Total Hours 32

- Students must successfully complete Pre-Clinical Musicianship Assessment parts A and B before entering the Clinical Techniques Courses. These assessments are components of the Final Examinations for MEMT 150 and 196 respectively.

Sophomore

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
MEMT 251 (F)	3 MEMT 296 (S)	3
MEMT 246 (B)	1 MTHC 315 (S)	4
MTHC 205 (F)	4 PIAN 288 (S)	2
PIAN 284 or 310 (310 only for piano or organ applied students) (F)	2 221 Studio lessons	2
221 Studio lessons	2 Ensemble	1
Ensemble	1 MATH 101	3
PSYC 104	3	
		16
		15

Total Hours 31

- Students must successfully complete the Clinical Musicianship Assessment before entering Clinical Practicum. This assessment is addressed across MEMT 251 and 296.

Professional Sequence

Professional Sequence Admission Requirements

Students should apply for admission to the Professional Sequence as early as possible and must be admitted before beginning the first semester of the junior year. Admission requirements:

1. Cumulative grade-point average of 3.00 or higher.
2. Grade-point average of 3.00 or higher in MEMT courses.
3. A grade of C or higher in each of the following courses:

Code	Title	Hours
MEMT 150	Introduction to Music Therapy	3
MEMT 196	Group Leadership Skills in Music Therapy	2
MEMT 250	Human Musical Learning and Development	2
MEMT 251	Clinical Techniques for Children	3
MEMT 296	Clinical Techniques for Adults	3

4. At least 50 hours of college credit.
 5. A signed applied music recommendation form verifying successful completion of the first semester of sophomore-level lessons.
 6. Successful completion of the application form.
- Students must successfully complete Clinical Practicum Musicianship Assessment before entering their second MEMT 396 Clinical Practicum. This assessment is addressed across MEMT 251 and 296.

Junior

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
MEMT 396 (4 semesters total) ¹	1 MEMT 338 (S) ¹	1
MEMT 463 (F) ¹	3 MEMT 396 (4 semesters total) ¹	1
Ensemble	1 MEMT 464 (S) ¹	3
321 Studio lessons	2 Ensemble	1
MUSC 320 (F) ²	3 321 Studio lessons	2
BIOL 102	1 COMS 130 or THR 120	3
BIOL 100	3 Behavioral science elective (6 credits total as directed by advisor)	3
Music Elective (4 credits total)	2	
	16	14

Total Hours 30

- ¹ Students must achieve admission to the music therapy professional sequence prior to enrolling in these courses.
 - ² Music Theory I and II and Aural Skills I and II should be taken before Music History I or higher.
- Students must apply for their internship 1 year in advance of completion of academic work. Check the Music Therapy undergraduate handbook for information on this procedure. Students must complete the Internship Eligibility Application during MEMT 586.
 - Students must successfully complete the Internship Pre-Assessment as part of MEMT 586 and before entering their final MEMT 396 Clinical Practicum.

Senior

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
MEMT 396 (4 semesters total) ¹	2 MEMT 396 (4 semesters total) ¹	2
MEMT 455 (F) ¹	3 MEMT 587 (S) ¹	1
MEMT 586 (F) ¹	1 MUSC 480 (S)	3
MUSC 440 (F)	3 BIOL 240 (B)	3
Ensemble	1 Behavioral science elective (6 credits total as directed by advisor)	3
422 Studio lessons	2 Music elective (4 credits total)	2
PSYC 350	3	
	15	14

Total Hours 29

- ¹ Students must achieve admission to the music therapy professional sequence prior to enrolling in these courses.
- All MEMT professional courses as noted on the undergraduate music therapy degree requirement check sheet must be completed with a C or higher prior to beginning internship.
 - Students must pass all Clinical Musicianship and Internship Assessments and Musicianship Portfolio.
 - Students must request a graduation check from the School of Music Student Services Office approximately 1 year before the estimated internship date. Graduation checks before that time should occur with the student's MEMT advisor.
 - Upon acceptance to an internship site students must complete and turn in the Music Therapy Internship Information sheet to the Student Services office.
 - Students must do the following in the final semester before leaving for internship:
 - review degree requirement check sheet to see that they have met all graduation requirements
 - submit an application for graduation online through Enroll and Pay
 - successfully complete the major applied instrument (422 Lessons with Senior Recital) including the senior half-recital

Year 5

Year 5	Hours
MEMT 596 ¹	2
	2

Total Hours 2

- ¹ Students must achieve admission to the music therapy professional sequence prior to enrolling in these courses.