

Bachelor of Music in Music Theory

A total of 120 credit hours (45 at the Jr/Sr level 300+) is required and is designed to further the student's knowledge, practice, and experience in music theory. To graduate, a student must earn a minimum grade-point average of 3.0 in all major courses and a minimum average of 2.0 in all course work.

Students will study with faculty members who are nationally and internationally recognized. Courses in music theory and musicology are part of the exploration of music as are private instruction, ensemble and chamber music opportunities. All students pursuing the B.M. degree will perform a senior recital on their primary instrument/voice.

With this degree, students can go on to pursue graduate studies in music, or create their own paths in music or music-related endeavors.

Instrumental Ensemble Policy

In order to remain enrolled in studio instruction (lessons), all undergraduate (B.A. & B.M.) 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/>).

Music Theory

To graduate, the student must maintain a minimum grade-point average of 3.0 in music theory and composition courses on both the first- and second-year and the junior/senior levels.

Students majoring in music theory (B.A. or B.M.) must complete MTHC 105, MTHC 106, MTHC 115, MTHC 116, and MTHC 205 before preparing a portfolio of their work for application to the professional sequence. The earliest a student may submit a portfolio is the fourth semester. Transfer students must be in residence for at least 1 semester before they can submit a portfolio.

This portfolio must include recent work (scholarly papers for music theory), 2 letters of recommendation (1 from the student's major instrument instructor and 1 from a MTHC professor who has had the student in a class), and a minimum grade-point average of 3.0 in MTHC courses. The student may be asked to provide a demonstration of musicality on his or her major instrument.

Portfolios are accepted once each semester for admission to the professional sequence the following semester. The portfolio is assessed by the MTHC faculty with one of 3 recommendations: admit, revise and resubmit next semester, or denied. Students in music theory are not allowed to enroll in MTHC 499 Senior Research Project without a favorable recommendation from the faculty.

B.M. Degree Requirements for the Music Theory Major

Students with a major in theory must offer in partial fulfillment of the degree requirements a senior project culminating in a scholarly paper on an approved topic (MTHC 499). MTHC 498 is not required for the B.M. in Music Theory.

The piano requirement may include the piano proficiency course sequence (PIAN 144, PIAN 148, PIAN 284, PIAN 288) and piano, organ, and/or harpsichord lessons.

A minimum of 120 hours (45 at the Jr/Sr level 300+) is required for the degree in Music Theory, distributed as follows:

| Code | Title | Hours |
|---|---|-------|
| Music Theory | | |
| MTHC 105 | Theory I (concurrent with MTHC 106) | 3 |
| MTHC 106 | Aural Skills I | 1 |
| MTHC 115 | Theory II (concurrent with MTHC 116) | 3 |
| MTHC 116 | Aural Skills II | 1 |
| MTHC 205 | Theory III | 4 |
| MTHC 315 | Theory IV | 4 |
| MTHC 410 | Form and Analysis | 3 |
| MTHC 432 | Introduction to the Analysis Contemporary Music | 3 |
| MTHC 442 | Modal Counterpoint | 3 |
| MTHC 471 | Tonal Counterpoint | 3 |
| MTHC 474 | Orchestration I | 3 |
| MTHC 476 | Orchestration II | 3 |
| MTHC 477 | Electro-Acoustic Composition I | 3 |
| MTHC 499 | Senior Research Project | 3-4 |
| Music Composition | | |
| MTHC 252 | Introduction to Composition | 2 |
| MTHC 253 | Composition | 2 |
| Musicology | | |
| MUSC 320 | Music History I | 3 |
| MUSC 340 | Music History II | 3 |
| MUSC 440 | Music History III | 3 |
| MUSC 480 | Music History IV | 3 |
| Music Courses | | |
| Applied music lessons: 8 semesters for 2 credits each semester, plus senior recital | | 16 |
| Piano, organ, and/or harpsichord (proficiency level of PIAN 288 and lessons) | | 8 |
| REC 100 | Laboratory in Music Performance (2 semesters required satisfactorily completed) | 0 |
| COND 245 | Conducting I | 1-2 |
| or MEMT 246 | Fundamentals of Conducting | |
| Ensemble: 8 semesters for credit each semester | | 8 |
| Basic Courses | | |
| ENGL 101 | Composition (or any course that fulfills GE21) | 3 |
| ENGL 102 | Critical Reading and Writing (or any course that fulfills GE21) | 3 |
| COMS 130 | Speaker-Audience Communication (or any course that fulfills GE22) | 3 |

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|--|---|----------------|
| MATH 101 | College Algebra: _____ (or any course that fulfills GE12) | 3 |
| FREN, GERM or ITAL: 2 semesters of same language | | 10 |
| Natural Science: any course that fulfills GE3N | | 3 |
| Social Science: any course that fulfills GE3S | | 3 |
| PHIL 160 | Introduction to Ethics (or any course that fulfills AE51 or AE52) | 3 |
| Total Hours | | 120-122 |

Freshman

| Fall | Hours | Spring | Hours |
|--|-------|---|-------|
| MTHC 105 | 3 | MTHC 115 | 3 |
| MTHC 106 | 1 | MTHC 116 | 1 |
| 121 Studio lessons | 2 | 121 Studio lessons | 2 |
| Ensemble | 1 | Ensemble | 1 |
| PIAN 144 (if placed, or PIAN lessons) | 1 | PIAN 148 (if placed, or PIAN lessons) | 1 |
| REC 100 | 0 | REC 100 | 0 |
| ENGL 101 (or any course that fulfills GE21) | 3 | ENGL 102 (or any course that fulfills GE21) | 3 |
| FREN, GERM or ITAL (2 semesters same language) | 5 | FREN, GERM or ITAL (continue the same language) | 5 |
| 16 | | 16 | |

Sophomore

| Fall | Hours | Spring | Hours |
|---|-------|-----------------------|-------|
| MTHC 205 | 4 | MTHC 253 | 2 |
| MTHC 252 | 2 | MTHC 315 | 4 |
| MUSC 320 | 3 | MTHC 442 | 3 |
| 221 Studio lessons | 2 | MUSC 340 | 3 |
| Ensemble | 1 | 221 Studio lessons | 2 |
| PIAN 284 (or lessons) | 2 | Ensemble | 1 |
| MATH 101 (or any course that fulfills GE12) | 3 | PIAN 288 (or lessons) | 2 |
| 17 | | 17 | |

Junior

| Fall | Hours | Spring | Hours |
|----------------------|-------|--|-------|
| MTHC 410 | 3 | MUSC 480 | 3 |
| MTHC 432 | 3 | 321 Studio lessons | 2 |
| MUSC 440 | 3 | Ensemble | 1 |
| 321 Studio lessons | 2 | PIAN/ORGN/HPCD lessons (only if not a pianist or organist) | 2 |
| Ensemble | 1 | COMS 130 (or any course that fulfills GE22) | 3 |
| COND 245 or MEMT 246 | 1-2 | Natural Science: any course that fulfills GE3N | 3 |
| 13-14 | | 14 | |

Senior

| Fall | Hours | Spring | Hours |
|----------|-------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| MTHC 471 | 3 | MTHC 476 | 3 |
| MTHC 474 | 3 | MTHC 499 | 2 |
| MTHC 477 | 3 | 422 Studio lessons/senior recital | 2 |

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| MTHC 499 | 1-2 Ensemble | 1 |
| 421 Studio lessons | 2 Social Science: any course that fulfills GE3S | 3 |
| Ensemble | 1 Ethics: any course that fulfills AE51 or AE52 | 3 |
| 13-14 | | 14 |

Total Hours 120-122