

Bachelor of Music in Music Theory and Composition

A total of 120 credit hours is required and is designed to further the student's knowledge, practice, and experience in music theory or music composition. 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 be studying 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.

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 KU Symphony Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Marching Band, or Jazz Ensemble I.

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 Recruitment and Undergraduate Admissions (<http://admissions.ku.edu/international/welcome>) 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 information and application forms are available online (<http://music.ku.edu/applyaudition>). 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 information and application forms are available online (<http://music.ku.edu/applyaudition>). 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.

Music Theory Placement

The music theory placement examination is required of all undergraduate transfer students who have not completed a 4-semester theory sequence with an accredited NASM school. It is administered as announced on the School of Music website (<http://music.ku.edu/placement-exams>) each semester.

Music Theory and Composition

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.) or music composition (B.M.) must complete MTHC 105, MTHC 115, 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 and musical compositions for composers), 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. Students in composition are not allowed to enroll in MTHC 583 Composition and MTHC 498 Undergraduate Recital without a favorable recommendation from the faculty.

B.M. Degree Requirements for the Music Theory Major

A minimum of 120 hours is required for the degree in Music Theory, distributed as follows:

Code	Title	Hours
Music Theory		
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
MTHC 410	Form and Analysis	3
MTHC 541	Eighteenth-Century Counterpoint	3
MTHC 542	Sixteenth-Century Counterpoint	3
MTHC 432	Introduction to the Analysis Contemporary Music	3
MTHC 499	Senior Research Project	3-4
MTHC 674	Orchestration I	3
MTHC 676	Orchestration II	3
MTHC 678	Electro-Acoustic Composition I	3
Music Composition		
MTHC 253	Composition: 2 semesters each for 2 credits	4
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 (4 semesters)	0
MEMT 246	Fundamentals of Conducting	1
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
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
Ethics: any course that fulfills AE51 or AE52		3
Total Hours		120-121

B.M. Degree Requirements for the Composition Major

A total of 120 hours is required for the degree. Courses should be distributed as described for the major in music theory with the following exceptions:

- Students with a major in composition must offer in partial fulfillment of the degree requirements a recital of approximately 45 minutes duration consisting of original works in various media. This is MTHC 498, listed below.
- Pianists and organists take 16 credits of lessons and do not take the additional 8 credits of piano, organ and/or harpsichord lessons while all other instrumentalists or vocalists take only 8 credits of lessons

and the additional 8 credits of piano, organ and/or harpsichord lessons.

- MTHC 499 is not required.

Code	Title	Hours
Music Composition		
MTHC 433	Advanced Analysis of Contemporary Music (in place of MTHC 432)	3
MTHC 583	Composition: 3 semesters each for 2 credits	6
MTHC 498	Undergraduate Recital	1
MTHC 680	Electro-Acoustic Composition II	3
MTHC or MUSC elective		2

Freshman

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
ENGL 101	3 ENGL 102	3
MTHC 105	3 MTHC 115	3
MTHC 106	1 MTHC 116	1
PIAN 144 (Not required for pianists and organists in Comp)	1 MTHC 253 (Comp majors only)	2
REC 100	0 PIAN 148 (Not required for pianists and organists in Comp)	1
121 Studio lessons (2 credits if piano or organ)	1 REC 100	0
Ensemble	1 121 Studio lessons (2 credits if piano or organ)	1
FREN, GERM or ITAL (2 semesters same language)	5 Ensemble	1
MTHC 252 (Comp majors only)	2 FREN, GERM or ITAL (continue the same language)	5
	17	17

Sophomore

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
COMS 130	3 MTHC 542	3
MTHC 205	4 MUSC 340	3
MUSC 320	3 MTHC 253 (Can be used as MTHC elective)	2
MTHC 253	2 PIAN 288 (Not required for pianists and organists in Comp)	2
PIAN 284 (Not required for pianists and organists in Comp)	2 REC 100	0
REC 100	0 221 Studio lessons (2 credits if piano or organ)	1
221 Studio lessons (2 credits if piano or organ)	1 Ensemble	1
Ensemble	1 MATH 101	3
	16	15

Junior

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
MTHC 410	3 MTHC 433 (Comp majors only)	3

MTHC 432 (theory majors only)	3 MUSC 480	3
MUSC 440	3 MTHC 583 (Comp majors only)	2
MTHC 583 (Comp majors only)	2 321 Studio lessons (2 credits if piano or organ)	1
321 Studio lessons (2 credits if piano or organ)	1 Ensemble	1
Ensemble	1 PIAN/ORGN/HPCD lessons (only if not a pianist or organist)	2
MEMT 246	1 Natural Science: any course that fulfills GE3N	3

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Senior

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
MTHC 541	3 MTHC 676	3
MTHC 674	3 MTHC 680 (Comp majors only)	3
MTHC 678	3 MTHC 583 (Optional for comp majors only)	2
MTHC 583 (Optional for comp majors only)	2 MTHC 498 (Comp majors only)	1
MTHC 499 (Theory majors only)	2 MTHC 499 (Theory majors only)	2
422 Studio lessons (2 credits if piano or organ)	1 422 Studio lessons/senior recital (2 credits if piano or organ)	1
Ensemble	1 Ensemble	1
Social Science: any course that fulfills GE3S	3 Ethics: any course that fulfills AE51 or AE52	3

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Total Hours 128