Music, B.A.

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in music is intended for undergraduates who have a strong background in music, and who wish to major in music as part of a broad liberal arts education irrespective of specific career aspirations. The curriculum includes musicianship, performance, and electives.

The program is designed for students who have solid abilities and interest in music but are not necessarily planning on careers as musicians, or for those who wish to pursue a double major or earn more than one bachelor’s degree. Students must audition and be accepted into a performance area. They develop musicianship, performance skills, and select from a wide variety of music electives.

Students in many areas, from engineering and physics to history, art, and English, find that a B.A. in music is a good addition to their studies. Other students pursue the degree to complement coursework in business (especially the minor in business administration), a world language and literature, or interdisciplinary fields such as American studies. Some students combine their B.A. with undergraduate preparation to study law or medicine.

Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the B.A. program in music will be able to:

- demonstrate the ability to hear, identify, and work conceptually with the rhythmic, melodic, harmonic, and structural elements of music;
- identify compositional processes, aesthetic properties of style, and artistic and cultural forces in music;
- demonstrate a broad acquaintance with music literature, musical genres, and cultural sources;
- demonstrate the ability to read and write critically about music; and
- demonstrate the ability to sight read, prepare for performance, interpret, and perform both solo and ensemble music in a variety of musical styles.

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in music requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including at least 44 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a g.p.a. of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. B.A. students majoring in music may count a maximum of 56 s.h. earned in music courses toward their degree and they must earn at least 64 s.h. in coursework outside of the School of Music in order to graduate. They also must complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core. Students must satisfy all requirements for graduation; contact the School of Music and the Academic Advising Center to learn more.

All undergraduate enrollments require School of Music approval. Entering first-year and transfer students who plan to major in music must be accepted into a performance area through audition either in person or by recording before they register. All entering students must complete the online theory diagnostic examination for MUS:1201 Musicianship and Theory I and a piano proficiency exam to determine appropriate placement in related courses.

Transfer students admitted to the School of Music must complete a minimum of one year of applied music (lower or upper level) and one year of major ensemble at the University of Iowa in order to earn a degree in music. Transfer students who have not completed the equivalent of the four-semester sequence of Musicianship and Theory I-IV (MUS:1201, MUS:1202, MUS:2203, and MUS:2204) must complete a theory diagnostic exam to determine appropriate placement in the musicianship and theory sequence. Transfer students who have not completed the equivalent of two semesters of class piano or a piano proficiency exam must meet piano proficiency requirements at the University of Iowa.

All music majors with scholarships must participate in a major ensemble and studio lessons each semester.

Students who take a music course in one area cannot use it to satisfy a music requirement in another area.

The B.A. with a major in music requires the following coursework.

Musicianship Courses

Students take a piano placement exam and may be exempt from one or both of these courses: MUS:1211 or MUS:1212.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUS:1200</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Music for Majors (or successful completion of MUS:1201 online theory diagnostic examination)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUS:1201</td>
<td>Musicianship and Theory I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUS:1202</td>
<td>Musicianship and Theory II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUS:1210</td>
<td>Recital Attendance (taken for two semesters for 1 s.h. each)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUS:1211</td>
<td>Group Instruction in Piano I</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUS:1212</td>
<td>Group Instruction in Piano II</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Two of these (also can be used to satisfy certain GE CLAS Core requirements):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUS:1720</td>
<td>History of Jazz</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUS:2301</td>
<td>History of Western Music I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUS:2302</td>
<td>History of Western Music II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To register for MUS:1201 Musicianship and Theory I, students also must register for MUS:1211 Group Instruction in Piano I or already have completed that course or have been exempted from it by proficiency exam. To register for MUS:1202 Musicianship and Theory II, students also must register for MUS:1212 Group Instruction in Piano II or already have completed that course or have been exempted from it by proficiency exam. Transfer students should complete the group piano requirement during their first year in residence unless they are exempted by proficiency exam.

Musicianship Electives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUS:1310</td>
<td>World Music</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6 s.h. from these:
in music.

Students may complete one or more honors projects, such as solo or ensemble recitals; compositions, transcriptions, orchestrations, or arrangements; and essays, research papers, editions, or translations. Honors projects must be in addition to the projects normally required for graduation with a major in music.

For complete details about requirements for graduation with honors in the music major, visit Honors in Music on the School of Music website and consult the school’s honors advisor.

National Honor Society

The School of Music sponsors a chapter of Pi Kappa Lambda, the national music honor society. Students of exceptional ability are recommended for membership by faculty members. For more information, consult the School of Music honors advisor.

University of Iowa Honors Program

In addition to honors in the major, students have opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the University of Iowa Honors Program. Visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the University's honors program.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the music major.

Financial Support

A number of music performance-based merit scholarships are available to qualified undergraduate music majors. All music majors with scholarships must enroll in a major ensemble each semester. For information, contact the School of Music.

Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the University’s Four-Year Graduation Plan.

In addition to the requirements listed under the checkpoints, all students must complete 2 s.h. in applied music and 1 s.h. in a major ensemble each semester.

The Bachelor of Arts in music requires at least 44 s.h. in School of Music courses.

Before the third semester begins: 15-18 s.h. of coursework in the major, including MUS:1201 Musicianship and Theory I, MUS:1202 Musicianship and Theory II, MUS:1211 Group Instruction in Piano I, and MUS:1212 Group Instruction in Piano II

Before the fifth semester begins: at least 23-32 s.h. of coursework in the major

Before the seventh semester begins: at least 33-41 s.h. of coursework in the major and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree

Before the eighth semester begins: at least 40-46 s.h. of coursework in the major

During the eighth semester: enrollment in all remaining coursework in the major, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate.

Performance (Applied Music/Ensembles)

Major ensembles include MUS:1176 Women’s Chorale, MUS:3160 Symphony Band/Concert Band, MUS:3170 Kantorei, MUS:3172 Camerata Singers, MUS:3174 University Choir, and MUS:3180 Orchestra. With approval, students may use MUS:3730 Jazz Band to satisfy the major ensemble requirement. Any student who wishes to request adjustment of the major ensemble requirement must submit a request in writing to a review committee consisting of the ensemble director(s) involved, the studio instructor, and the associate director for undergraduate studies.

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<td>Major</td>
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Honors

Honors in the Major

Students have the opportunity to graduate with honors in the major. They must have a g.p.a. of at least 3.80 in music coursework and a cumulative University of Iowa g.p.a. of at least 3.33.

To graduate with honors, students must complete at least 6 s.h. of honors work in music, normally in their junior and senior years. They must earn a minimum of 3 s.h. of the required honors work in MUS:4995 Honors in Music by completing one or more honors projects, such as solo or ensemble recitals; compositions, transcriptions, orchestrations, or arrangements; and essays, research papers, editions, or translations. Honors projects must be in addition to the projects normally required for graduation with a major in music.

Students also may earn honors credit in other honors courses (normally upper-level undergraduate courses) or in approved graduate courses (music history and music theory are particularly recommended).

For complete details about requirements for graduation with honors in the music major, visit Honors in Music on the School of Music website and consult the school’s honors advisor.

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Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional study, actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

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Course Title Hours

First Year

Fall
Audition: Entering students who plan to major in music must be accepted into a performance area through audition before they register.
MUS:1201 Musicianship and Theory I 4
MUS:1200 Fundamentals of Music for Majors 0
MUS:1210 Recital Attendance 1
MUS:1211 Group Instruction in Piano I 1
RHEH:1030 or ENGL:1200 Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature 3 - 4
Major: lower-level applied lessons 2
Major: major ensemble 1
Elective course 1
CSI:1600 Success at Iowa 2

Spring
MUS:1202 Musicianship and Theory II 4
MUS:1210 Recital Attendance 1
MUS:1211 Group Instruction in Piano II 1
RHEH:1030 or ENGL:1200 Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature 3 - 4
Major: lower-level applied lessons 2
Major: major ensemble 1
GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion 3
Elective course 1

Second Year

Fall
MUS:2301 History of Western Music I 3
Major: lower-level applied lessons 2
Major: major ensemble 1
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level 4 - 5
Proficiency or elective course 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3

Spring
MUS:2302 History of Western Music II or Advanced Jazz History 3
Major: lower-level applied lessons 2
Major: major ensemble 1
GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level 4 - 5
Proficiency or elective course 3
Elective course 3

Third Year

Fall
Major: musicianship elective course 2 - 4
Major: major ensemble 1
Major: performance elective 1 - 2
GE CLAS Core: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level 4 - 5
Proficiency or elective course 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 1

Hours 15-19

Spring
Major: musicianship elective course 2 - 4
Major: major ensemble 1
Major: performance elective 1 - 2
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab 3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences with Lab 4 - 5
Proficiency or elective course 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 1

Hours 15-19

Fourth Year

Fall
Major: music elective course 3
Major: major ensemble 1
Major: performance elective 1 - 2
GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences 3
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 1

Hours 15-16

Spring
Major: performance elective 1 - 2
Major: music elective course 3
Major: major ensemble 1
GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 1

Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall)

Hours 15-16

Total Hours 123-137

a This course is required for students enrolled in MUS:1201 who do not pass Placement Examination A.
b Students must complete two semesters of MUS:1210.
c Students must complete at least 4 s.h. in lower-level applied lessons.
d Students must complete a minimum of four s.h. in lower-level applied lessons.
e Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.
f GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.
g Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.
h Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.
i If not completed with a MUS course, MUS:1009, MUS:1720, MUS:2311 fulfill the GE CLAS Core Values and Culture requirement.

j Students must complete at least 6 s.h. in performance electives.

k Please see Academic Calendar, Office of the Registrar website for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor. For more information visit http://commencement.uiowa.edu/. If applicable search for 'Early and Late Participation' to find this page (e.g. participate in graduation ceremony in May, degree conferral in August).

Career Advancement

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs.