

# Music, B.A.

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## Degree Offered

- Bachelor of Arts

## Nature of the Program

The Bachelor of Arts in Music provides students with the opportunity to major in music while pursuing a broad liberal arts education. Depending upon the courses taken beyond those required for the major, students may prepare for a variety of careers, not just those associated with music. To enter this program, in addition to being admitted to WVU, students must meet audition requirements on one of the following: a band or orchestral instrument, guitar, piano, or voice. Unless otherwise specified, general College of Creative Arts and WVU regulations apply.

## Admissions for 2026-2027

Acceptance into an undergraduate music degree program is contingent upon both admission to WVU as an undergraduate student and a successful performance audition. Auditions are held from late fall through the early spring semester. For maximum scholarship consideration, students are encouraged to complete the application (including audition) before March 1. Audition information can be found on the College's website or by contacting the CCAM Office of Recruitment at (304) 293-4339. Special accommodations may be made by contacting the School of Music at (304) 293-4532 or Music@mail.wvu.edu.

For admission consideration, all students must submit separate applications to the University and to the School of Music. The audition is a preliminary assessment of a student's potential for success. For the Bachelor of Science in Music and Health, students must audition at a minimum performance level four. If a student is admitted, their standing is confirmed or revised after the first semester of study.

Students should own their own instrument under normal circumstances (except for piano).

1. Apply to West Virginia University (How to Apply (<https://admissions.wvu.edu/how-to-apply/>))
2. Audition for the School of Music (Apply Now (<https://wvucca.wufoo.com/forms/w1qjwnk21fcr23v/>))

Acceptance into an undergraduate music degree program requires admission to WVU as an undergraduate student and a successful audition and/or interview. The audition and/or interview is a preliminary assessment of a student's potential for success in their intended major.

- BA Music - audition required
- BA Music Business and Industry: Applied Music Emphasis - audition required
- BA Music Business and Industry: Multi-instrumental Emphasis - interview required (no audition)
- BM Composition - audition and portfolio review required
- BM Music Education - audition and interview required
- BM Music Therapy - audition and interview required
- BM Performance - audition required
- BS Music and Health - audition required

Students who cannot attend one of our regularly scheduled audition days should contact the School of Music at: (304) 293-4532 or Music@mail.wvu.edu.

Music majors can change from one music curriculum to another with faculty approval, particularly during the freshman or sophomore year, without significant loss of course credit. Students are encouraged to explore and follow the curriculum for which they are best qualified and in which they can achieve the greatest success. Evaluation of students' work by the School of Music faculty informs these decisions. If students wish a broader, liberal arts-oriented program, they may pursue a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Music.

Major Code: 3542

## General Education Foundations

Please use this link to view a list of courses that meet each GEF requirement. (<http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef/>)

NOTE: Some major requirements will fulfill specific GEF requirements. Please see the curriculum requirements listed below for details on which GEFs you will need to select.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>General Education Foundations</b>		
F1	Composition & Rhetoric	3-6

ENGL 101 & ENGL 102 or ENGL 103	Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research Accelerated Academic Writing	
F2A/F2B - Science & Technology		4-6
F3 - Math & Quantitative Reasoning		3-4
F4 - Society & Connections		3
F5 - Human Inquiry & the Past		3
F6 - The Arts & Creativity		3
F7 - Global Studies & Diversity		3
F8 - Focus (may be satisfied by completion of a minor, double major, or dual degree)		9
Total Hours		31-37

Please note that not all of the GEF courses are offered at all campuses. Students should consult with their advisor or academic department regarding the GEF course offerings available at their campus.

## Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
University Requirements		27
Music Program Requirements		28
Music Major Requirements		70
Total Hours		125

## University Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Foundations (GEF) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 (31-37 Credits)		
Outstanding GEF Requirements 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8		25
MUSC 191	First-Year Seminar	2
Total Hours		27

## Music Program Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in all courses		
<b>Music Core Courses</b>		
MUSC 161	Aural Theory 1	2
MUSC 162	Written Theory 1	3
MUSC 163	Aural Theory 2	2
MUSC 164	Written Theory 2	3
MUSC 189	Music Convocation (Two semesters)	0
Select one of the following (GEF 8):		3
MUSC 111	Introduction to Music	
MUSC 113	American Popular Music	
MUSC 114	Music and the Immigrant Experience	
MUSC 115	Introduction to History of Jazz	
MUSC 116	Music in World Cultures	
MUSC 118	Music in Appalachia	
MUSC 261	Aural Theory 3	2
MUSC 262	Written Theory 3	3
MUSC 263	Aural Theory 4	2
Select one of the following:		2-3
MUSC 362	Instrumentation and Orchestration	
MUSC 364	Popular Music Analysis Seminar	
MUSC 365	Songwriting: Composition and Analysis	

MUSC 461	Counterpoint, 16th Century	
MUSC 462	Counterpoint, 18th Century	
MUSC 463	Analysis of Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Music	
MUSC 464	Compositional Techniques in Contemporary Music	
MUSC 465S	Electronic Music Production	
MUSC 466	Techniques for Electronic Music Performance	
MUSC 468	Jazz and Commercial Music Harmony	
MUSC 469	Counterpoint, 20th Century	
MUSC 270	History of Western Musical Traditions 1 (GEF 6)	3
MUSC 271	History of Western Musical Traditions 2 (GEF 8)	3
Total Hours		28

## Music Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in all courses		
Electives *		40
Upper-Level Music Electives (in Music Theory or Music History)		4
8 semesters of Major Ensemble, selected from the following: **		8
MUSC 300	Band: Wind Symphony	
MUSC 300A	Band: Symphonic	
MUSC 300B	Band: Marching	
MUSC 302	University Community Choir	
MUSC 303	Symphony Orchestra	
MUSC 305	Chamber Singers	
MUSC 306	University Mountaineer Chorus	
MUSC 353	Jazz Ensemble 1	
MUSC 350	Jazz Ensemble 2	
Applied Music Study (MUSC 121-127, 221-227, 321-327, 421-427) *minimum proficiency level 7 required		16
MUSC 492	Directed Study (Capstone)	2
Proficiency Level		
Total Hours		70

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Electives must be courses that go beyond the GEF and foreign language requirements. Students may use up to 15 credits of MUSC courses as electives.

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Credits may vary. Refer to the School of Music Requirements (<https://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/collegeofcreativeartsandmedia/music/>) for policies related to fulfilling the Major Ensemble requirement.

## Performance Proficiency

Students must attain a proficiency in their major performance area suitable for public performance (at least level seven). Secondary piano proficiency is not required. Two solo upper-level appearances and two semesters of Music Convocation are required. If the student does not make satisfactory progress in achieving the expected performance proficiency, the student will be discontinued.

## Suggested Plan of Study

### First Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
MUSC Major Ensemble		1 MUSC Major Ensemble	1
MUSC 121-127D Applied Music		2 MUSC 121-127D Applied Music	2
MUSC 161		2 MUSC 163	2
MUSC 162		3 GEF	3
MUSC 191		2 Electives	3
ENGL 101 (GEF 1)		3 MUSC 164	3

GEF		3 MUSC 189	0
Electives		3 Select one of the following (GEF 8):	3
		MUSC 111	
		MUSC 113	
		MUSC 114	
		MUSC 115	
		MUSC 116	
		MUSC 118	
		19	17

**Second Year**

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
MUSC Major Ensemble		1 MUSC Major Ensemble	1
MUSC 221-227D Applied Music		2 MUSC 221-227D Applied Music	2
MUSC 261		2 MUSC 263	2
MUSC 262		3 MUSC 271 (GEF 6)	3
MUSC 270 (GEF 8)		3 Select one of the following:	2-3
MUSC 189		0 MUSC 362	
ENGL 102 (GEF 1)		3 MUSC 364	
Electives		3 MUSC 365	
		MUSC 461	
		MUSC 462	
		MUSC 463	
		MUSC 464	
		MUSC 465S	
		MUSC 466	
		MUSC 468	
		MUSC 469	
		GEF	3
		17	13

**Third Year**

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
MUSC Major Ensemble		1 MUSC Major Ensemble	1
MUSC 321-327D Applied Music		2 MUSC 321-327D Applied Music	2
MUSC History or Theory Electives		2 MUSC History or Theory Electives	2
GEF 2		4 Electives	6
Electives		6 GEF	3
GEF		3	
		18	14

**Fourth Year**

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
MUSC Major Ensemble		1 MUSC Major Ensemble	1
MUSC 421-427D Applied Music		2 MUSC 421-427D Applied Music	2
Electives		11 Electives	8
		MUSC 492	2
		14	13

Total credit hours: 125

**Major Learning Outcomes****MUSIC - BA**

Students graduating with the Bachelor of Arts degree in Music will develop:

1. the ability to think, speak, and write clearly and effectively, and to communicate with precision, cogency, and rhetorical force,
2. an informed acquaintance with the mathematical and experimental methods of the physical and biological sciences; with the main forms of analysis and the historical and quantitative techniques needed for investigating the workings and developments of modern society,
3. an ability to address culture and history from a variety of perspectives,
4. an understanding of, and experience in thinking about, moral and ethical problems,
5. the ability to respect, understand, and evaluate work in a variety of disciplines, and
6. the capacity to explain and defend views effectively and rationally.