



Pitt

Kenneth P. Dietrich  
School of Arts and Sciences

# Music Major and Minor

[www.Music.Pitt.edu](http://www.Music.Pitt.edu)

Revised: 05/2019

The Department of Music offers an innovative undergraduate program that confers a bachelor's degree and a minor in music. The Department's dynamic faculty offer strong support for undergraduate research and creative expression. Undergraduates also engage with the Department's renowned graduate programs and are encouraged to actively participate in all aspects of the Department's research and performance culture.

Undergraduates choose a course of study from among five tracks: Composition, Music & Cultural History, Jazz, Global & Popular Music, and Performance. The tracks offer students a broad foundation in music scholarship while tailoring specific elements of music study to the student's individual talents and interests.

Students are taught by a well-respected faculty of internationally recognized scholars, performers and composers. Students receive individualized attention and are mentored in ways that maximize student potential and growth.

Students contemplating a music major or minor should meet with Roger Zahab, Director of Undergraduate Studies, or Susan Rice, Associate Director of Undergraduate Studies, to discuss a course of study that best suits the student's level of preparedness and career goals.

## Required courses for the Music major

The music major requires the completion of 42 credits distributed as follows. Students must choose one of the five major tracks detailed on the next page.

### Prerequisite course; student must earn a letter grade of B- or better to declare this major.

MUSIC 0100 Fundamentals of Western Music

### Students must choose one of the following tracks:

#### Composition

The Composition track is intended for students interested primarily in creating music—of any genre, acoustic or electroacoustic.

#### Jazz

The Jazz track provides opportunities for each student to develop their individual interests and strengths in jazz performance, composition, and scholarship.

#### Global and Popular Music

The Global and Popular Music track offers students an interdisciplinary grounding in the study of diverse musical expressions in contemporary and historical perspective.

#### Music and Cultural History

The Music and Cultural History track provides students with a background in the history, culture, and practice of music in the Western imagination.

#### Performance

The Performance track is intended for students who want to explore and improve their skills as performers in a wide range of genres.

## Grade requirements

Students may test out of MUSIC 0100 by passing the Music Theory placement exam, which is administered in the Dietrich School Advising Center, 201 Thackeray Hall. A minimum GPA of 2.0 in departmental courses is required for graduation.

## Satisfactory/No Credit option

No course that counts toward the major can be taken on an S/NC basis.

## Writing (W) requirement

Students must complete at least one W-course in the major.

## Private lessons

All students interested in taking private lessons must complete a Request for Private Lessons form, available in 110 Music Building. Music majors have first priority in scheduling private lessons, which cost an additional \$395.00 per term.

## Departmental honors

To graduate with departmental honors, a student must earn a minimum 3.25 GPA overall, a minimum 3.50 GPA in the music courses with no grade lower than a B-.

## Advising coordinators

Roger Zahab  
Director of Undergraduate Studies  
206 Music Building

Susan Rice  
128 Music Building  
Associate Director of Undergraduate Studies

[MusicADV@Pitt.edu](mailto:MusicADV@Pitt.edu)

## Composition Track

### Core courses

- MUSIC 0222 History of Western Music to 1750
- MUSIC 0411 Theory 1
- MUSIC 0412 Musicianship 1
- MUSIC 0416 Musicianship 2
- MUSIC 0711 History of Jazz or MUSIC 1326 Afro-American Music in the US
- MUSIC 1310 Introduction to Global & Popular Music
- MUSIC 1903 Senior Project
- MUSIC 1904 Senior Seminar
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_ (performance)
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_ (performance)
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_ (performance)

### Required courses

- MUSIC 0224 History of Western Music Since 1750
- MUSIC 0415 Theory 2
- MUSIC 0417 Theory 3
- MUSIC 0419 Theory 4

### Two composition courses

- MUSIC 1421 Composition 1
- MUSIC 1422 Composition 2
- MUSIC 1431 Instrumentation & Orchestration
- MUSIC 1441 Electronic & Comp. Music 1
- MUSIC 1442 Electronic & Computer Music 2
- One elective from the 1200- to 1400-level

## Jazz Track

### Core courses

- MUSIC 0222 History of Western Music to 1750 or MUSIC 0224 Music History 2
- MUSIC 0411 Theory 1
- MUSIC 0412 Musicianship 1
- MUSIC 0416 Musicianship 2
- MUSIC 0711 History of Jazz or MUSIC 1326 Afro-American Music in the US
- MUSIC 1310 Introduction to Global & Popular Music
- MUSIC 1903 Senior Project
- MUSIC 1904 Senior Seminar
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_ (performance)
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_ (performance)
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_ (performance)

### Required courses

- MUSIC 0711 History of Jazz or MUSIC 1326 Afro-American Music in the US; whichever was not taken as a core course
- MUSIC 1450 Music Production Techniques and Methods
- MUSIC 1731 Jazz Composition and Arranging 1 or MUSIC 1732 Jazz Composition and Arranging 2
- MUSIC 1741 Jazz Improvisation 1
- MUSIC 1742 Jazz Improvisation 2

### Six performance courses

- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_

Includes private lessons and/or ensembles. Performance must include at least one term of participation in the Jazz Ensemble.

## Global and Popular Music Track

### Core courses

- MUSIC 0222 History of Western Music to 1750 or MUSIC 0224 History of Western Music Since 1750
- MUSIC 0411 Theory 1
- MUSIC 0412 Musicianship 1
- MUSIC 0416 Musicianship 2
- MUSIC 0711 History of Jazz or MUSIC 1326 Afro-American Music in the US
- MUSIC 1310 Introduction to Global & Popular Music
- MUSIC 1903 Senior Project
- MUSIC 1904 Senior Seminar
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_ (performance)
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_ (performance)
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_ (performance)

### Required courses

- MUSIC 0415 Theory 2
- ANTH 0780 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- Upper-level popular music course

- Upper-level ethno music course
- Upper-level ethno music course
- Upper-level ethno music course

## Music and Cultural History Track

### Core courses

- MUSIC 0222 History of Western Music to 1750
- MUSIC 0411 Theory 1
- MUSIC 0412 Musicianship 1
- MUSIC 0416 Musicianship 2
- MUSIC 0711 History of Jazz or MUSIC 1326 Afro-American Music in the US
- MUSIC 1310 Introduction to Global & Popular Music
- MUSIC 1903 Senior Project
- MUSIC 1904 Senior Seminar
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_ (performance)
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_ (performance)
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_ (performance)

### Required courses

- MUSIC 0224 History of Western Music Since 1750
- MUSIC 0415 Theory 2
- MUSIC 0711 History of Jazz or MUSIC 1326 Afro-American Music in the US
- Course at the 1200-level
- Course at the 1200-level
- Course from the 1200- to 1400-level
- Course from the 1200- to 1400-level

### Three performance courses

- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_

Includes private lessons and/or ensemble participation.

## Performance Track

### Core courses

- MUSIC 0222 History of Western Music to 1750
- MUSIC 0411 Theory 1
- MUSIC 0412 Musicianship 1
- MUSIC 0416 Musicianship 2
- MUSIC 0711 History of Jazz or MUSIC 1326 Afro-American Music in the US
- MUSIC 1310 Introduction to Global & Popular Music
- MUSIC 1903 Senior Project
- MUSIC 1904 Senior Seminar
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_ (performance)
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_ (performance)
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_ (performance)

### Required courses

- MUSIC 0224 History of Western Music Since 1750
- MUSIC 0415 Theory 2
- MUSIC 0417 Theory 3
- MUSIC 0419 Theory 4
- MUSIC 0711 History of Jazz or MUSIC 1326 Afro-American Music in the US; whichever was not taken as a core course

### One composition course

- MUSIC 1421 Composition 1
- MUSIC 1422 Composition 2
- MUSIC 1431 Instrumentation & Orchestration
- MUSIC 1441 Electronic & Computer Music 1
- MUSIC 1442 Electronic & Computer Music 2

### Six performance courses

- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_

Includes private lessons and/or ensemble participation.

## Checklist for the Music minor

### Prerequisite course

- MUSIC 0100 Fundamentals of Western Music

### Required courses

- MUSIC 0222 History of Western Music to 1750 or MUSIC 0224 History of Western Music Since 1750
- MUSIC 0411 Music Theory 1
- MUSIC 0412 Musicianship 1
- MUSIC 0416 Musicianship 2
- MUSIC 0711 History of Jazz or MUSIC 1326 Afro-American Music in the US
- MUSIC 1310 Introduction to Global & Popular Music
- Course from the 1200- to 1400-level

### Three performance courses

- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_
- MUSIC \_\_\_\_\_

Performance includes private lessons and/or ensemble participation. It must include at least one term of participation in a world music ensemble.

**Note:** Students must apply for any official minor they will complete or have completed at the time they apply for graduation.