University of Pittsburgh | Dietrich School

Music Major and Minor

www.Music.Pitt.edu
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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.

To declare this major, students must complete MUSIC 0100 - FUNDAMENTALS OF WESTERN MUSIC with a letter grade of B- or better or achieve a sufficient score to on the Music placement exam to receive credit for this course."

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 online. 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 reach out to the Department of Music Academic Administrator or directly to the course instructor for more information. Music majors have first priority in scheduling private lessons, which cost an additional $445 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

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206 Music Building

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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)

Note (for all tracks): Performance includes private lessons (0500-level) and/or ensembles (0600-level). One semester of participation in a World Music Ensemble must be included

Required courses
__ MUSIC 0224 History of Western Music Since 1750
__ MUSIC 0415 Theory 2
__ MUSIC 0417 Theory 3
__ MUSIC 0419 Theory 4
__ One elective from the 1200- to 1400-level

Two composition courses
__ MUSIC 1421 Composition 1
__ MUSIC 1422 Composition 2
__ MUSIC 1431 Instrumentation & Orchestration
__ MUSIC 1442 Electronic Music Studio
__ MUSIC 1443 Progmng Envmnts Music Max/MSP
__ MUSIC 1444 Electronic Beats and Songwriting
__ MUSIC 1450 Music Production and Recording

Jazz 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 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 and Recording
__ 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 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
__ One elective from 1200- to 1400- level
__ 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; whichever was not taken as a core course
__ Course at the 1200-level
__ Course at the 1200-level
__ Course from the 1200- to 1400-level
__ Course from the 1200- to 1400-level

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 1442 Electronic Music Studio
__ MUSIC 1443 Progmng Envmnts Music Max/MSP
__ MUSIC 1444 Electronic Beats and Songwriting
__ MUSIC 1450 Music Production and Recording

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
__ 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 1700-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.