

Department of Music

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Mission

The mission of the Department of Music at Mississippi State University is to contribute to the development of broadly acculturated citizens in our state and region through enhanced musical understanding and enriching musical experiences, providing access and opportunity to our diverse population through programs of teaching, research, and service.

About the Department

In the Fall of 2022 the department moved into a \$21 million state-of-the-art facility. The 37,000 square foot facility at 124 Hardy Road includes classrooms, a choral rehearsal hall, faculty offices, sound-proof practice rooms, recording studio, lecture/recital hall, student lounge, and administrative suite to complement the Famous Maroon Band facilities. The Department of Music is part of the College of Education and is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music.

Bachelor of Music Education

The Bachelor of Music Education is a 124-126 hour professional degree program (depending on concentration) that leads to licensure to teach music in the State of Mississippi. The Department of Music offers four concentrations of the BME: Guitar, Instrumental, Keyboard and Vocal.

The Instrumental concentration qualifies the student for a Music Instrumental (K-12) teaching license. The Vocal, Keyboard, and Guitar concentrations qualifies the student for a Music Choral (K-12) teaching license.

The Vocal concentration qualifies the student for a K-12 Choral Music teaching license, allowing graduates to teach General, Instrumental, and Choral music in all grades in the state of Mississippi.

Bachelor of Music Performance

The Bachelor of Music Performance is a 120-hour professional degree program that prepares students to work independently towards performance at the highest possible level; possess knowledge of applicable solo and ensemble literature; and to gain experience with the fundamentals of music pedagogy. The Department of Music offers four concentrations of the Bachelor of Music Performance; Guitar, Instrumental, Keyboard, and Vocal.

Bachelor of Arts in Music

The Department of Music offers a Bachelor of Arts in Music degree in a liberal arts tradition of music study. This degree is designed to provide foundation coursework to apply to a variety of interdisciplinary careers including music, in preparation for graduate study, or for self-improvement.

For suggested course sequence for all degrees and concentrations, visit the Department of Music website: <http://www.music.msstate.edu/academics/>

Students are required to earn a "C" or better in all required (non-elective) Applied Music (MUA), Music (MU), and Music Education (MUE) courses.

Auditions

All potential music majors and minors are required to audition for appropriate faculty in order to determine their preparedness to enter the program, participate in ensembles, and determine eligibility for a scholarship or service award.

Although alternate dates are available, the preferred audition date for music majors and minors in all areas is the third Saturday in February. Other audition dates are available by contacting the applied faculty of your area of concentration, the department office (662) 325-3070, or the major ensemble offices. (Choir (662) 325-3490; Band (662) 325-2713; Orchestra (662) 325-3070).

Transfer Information

After successful admission to the University, and in addition to the music major audition, transfer students are required to complete a music theory and aural skills entrance exam to determine preparedness for upper division study. For more information see the Department of Music website at <http://www.music.msstate.edu/students/transfers/> or call 662-325-3070.

Music Minor

The Department of Music offers MSU students the opportunity to complete a Minor in Music. The Music Minor is a comprehensive set of courses designed to increase student musicianship and knowledge. Students must audition/ interview and be accepted as a music minor before the minor may be declared. Acceptance in any given studio area is on a space available basis. The requirements for the music minor cannot be completed after graduating from MSU.

There are two tracks in the Minor of Music:

1. A General Minor in Music that offers the first two semesters of the Major in Music: Music Theory, Ear Training, Piano, Applied Study, Ensembles and a Fine Arts Music Topics course.
2. A Minor in Music and Culture which is intended for students with an interest in non-Western music, especially the music of Africa and the African Diaspora. This minor features an interdisciplinary approach to exploring music and supports MSU's vision of diversity and global involvement

For information and required courses, visit the Department of Music website: <http://www.music.msstate.edu/academics/minorinmusic/>

Music Education Major

General Education Requirements

English Composition

EN 1103	English Composition I	3
or EN 1104	Expanded English Composition I	
EN 1113	English Composition II	3
or EN 1173	Accelerated Composition II	

Creative Discovery

MU 3013	Survey of Western Music History I	3
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Humanities

Literature Elective		6
History Elective		

Social Science

PSY 1013	General Psychology	3
Social/Behavioral Science Elective		

Quantitative Reasoning

MA 1213	Math in Your World	3
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Natural Science

2 lab-based sciences		6-8
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Major Core

College Core

EPY 3143	Human Development and Learning Strategies in Education	3
EDX 3213	Individualizing Instruction for Exceptional Children	3
MUE 1151	Technology for Music Education	1

MUE 2153	Foundations of Music Education	3
MUE 2163	Elementary Music Methods	3
MUE 4152	Secondary Music Methods	2
MUE 4873	Managing the Music Education Classroom	3
MUE 4886	Teaching Internship in Music Education	6
MUE 4896	Teaching Internship in Music Education	6

Major Core

Oral Communication

Satisfied through music history courses, upper division proficiency exam, music education courses and student teaching.

Upper Level Writing Requirement

Satisfied through music theory, music history, music education courses and the upper division proficiency exam.

MU 1213	Music Theory I	3
MU 1321	Ear Training I	1
MU 1413	Music Theory II	3
MU 1521	Ear Training II	1
MU 2613	Music Theory III	3
MU 2721	Ear Training III	1
MU 2813	Music Theory IV	3
MU 2921	Ear Training IV	1
MU 2012	World Music	2
MU 3023	Survey of Western Music History II	3
MU 3412	Conducting	2
MU 3442	Advanced Conducting	2
MU 4313	Form and Analysis	3
MU 1010	Recital Hour (7 semesters of C or better)	0
MU 1101	Communicating About Music	1

Major Ensemble (7 semesters of study) 7

Piano Proficiency Exam

Music Theory & Aural Skills Proficiency Exam

Upper Division Performance Exam

Degree Recital

Choose one of the following concentrations:**Instrumental Concentration (MUI)**

Piano Class or Functional Skills (4 hours required) 4

MU 2111 & MU 2121 & MU 3111 & MU 3121 or MU 3112 & MU 3122	Group Piano I and Group Piano 2 and Group Piano 3 and Group Piano 4 Functional Skills for Piano Majors 1 and Functional Skills for Piano Majors 2	
MUE 1141	Voice Methods	1
MUE 3212	Brass Methods	2
MUE 3222	Woodwind Methods	2
MUE 3232	String Methods	2
MUE 3242	Percussion Methods	2
MU 4322	Band Arranging	2

Applied Lessons – (6 semesters of study) 12

Open Electives 3

Total Degree Hours 126

Vocal Concentration (MUV)

Piano Class or Functional Skills (4 hours required)		4
MU 2111 & MU 2121 & MU 3111 & MU 3121 or MU 3112 & MU 3122	Group Piano I and Group Piano 2 and Group Piano 3 and Group Piano 4 Functional Skills for Piano Majors 1 and Functional Skills for Piano Majors 2	
MU 1142		
MU 1152		
MU 1242	Diction I	2
MU 1252	Diction II	2
MUE 3262	Instrumental Methods	2
Applied Voice – (6 semesters of study)		12
Choose one of the following:		2
MU 3411	Functional Piano Skills for Vocal Majors (2 semesters of study)	
Applied Piano – (2 Semesters of Study)		
Open Electives		2
Total Degree Hours		126

Keyboard Concentration (MUP)

MU 3112	Functional Skills for Piano Majors 1	2
MU 3122	Functional Skills for Piano Majors 2	2
MUE 3262	Instrumental Methods	2
MUE 3333	Introduction to Piano Pedagogy	3
MUE 1141	Voice Methods	1
Applied Voice – (2 semesters of study)		2
Applied Piano – (6 semesters of study)		12
Open Electives		6
Total Degree Hours		126

Guitar Concentration (GUIT)

Piano class or Functional Skills (4 hours required)		4
MU 2111 & MU 2121 & MU 3111 & MU 3121 or MU 3112 & MU 3122	Group Piano I and Group Piano 2 and Group Piano 3 and Group Piano 4 Functional Skills for Piano Majors 1 and Functional Skills for Piano Majors 2	
MUE 1141	Voice Methods	1
MUE 3232	String Methods	2
MUE 3233	Guitar Pedagogy	3
MUE 3262	Instrumental Methods	2
Applied Guitar - (6 semesters of study)		12
Applied Voice - (2 semesters of study)		2
Open Electives		4
Total Hours		126

Music Performance Major

General Education Requirements

English Composition

EN 1103	English Composition I	3
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or EN 1104	Expanded English Composition I	
EN 1113	English Composition II	3
or EN 1173	Accelerated Composition II	
Creative Discovery		3
MU 3013	Survey of Western Music History I	
Humanities		6
Any Gen Ed course		
Social/Behavioral Science		6
Any Gen Ed course		
Quantitative Reasoning		3
MA 1213	Math in Your World	
Natural Sciences		6-8
Any General Education Science courses with a lab		
Total Hours		30-32

Major Core

Major Core

MU 1010	Recital Hour	1
MU 1213	Music Theory I	3
MU 1321	Ear Training I	1
MU 1413	Music Theory II	3
MU 1521	Ear Training II	1
MU 1553	Computer Skills for Musicians	3
MU 2012	World Music	2
MU 2613	Music Theory III	3
MU 2721	Ear Training III	1
MU 2813	Music Theory IV	3
MU 2921	Ear Training IV	1
MU 3023	Survey of Western Music History II	3
MU 3333	Orchestration	3
MU 3412	Conducting	2
MU 4313	Form and Analysis	3
Piano Class or Functional Skills - choose 4 hours:		4
MU 2111	Group Piano I	
MU 2121	Group Piano 2	
MU 3111	Group Piano 3	
MU 3121	Group Piano 4	
MU 3112	Functional Skills for Piano Majors 1	
MU 3122	Functional Skills for Piano Majors 2	
Foreign Language	One semester of any foreign language	3
Upper Level Writing Requirement: Satisfied through music theory, music history, music literature, and pedagogy courses and the upper division proficiency exam		
Public Speaking	Satisfied through music history, upper division proficiency exam, music literature and pedagogy courses	
MU 1101	Communicating About Music	1
Piano Proficiency Exam		0
Music Theory & Aural Skills Proficiency Exam		0
Upper Division Performance Exam		0
Junior Recital		0
Senior Recital		0

Choose one of the following concentrations:

Guitar Concentration

Applied Guitar - (8 semesters of study)		16
Concert Ensembles		6
Ensemble Electives		6
MUE 3233	Guitar Pedagogy	3
MU 3233	Guitar Literature	3
MU 4951	Senior Performance Recital	1
Electives (MU, MUA, MUE)		15
Total Degree Hours		120

Instrumental Concentration

Applied (brass, percussion, string, woodwind) - 8 semesters of study		16
Concert Ensembles		6
Ensemble Electives		6
Pedagogy Course (brass, percussion, string, woodwind)		3
Literature Course (brass, percussion, string, woodwind)		3
MU 4951	Senior Performance Recital	1
Electives (MU, MUA, MUE)		15
Total Degree Hours		120

Keyboard Concentration

Applied Piano - (8 semesters of study)		16
Ensembles		8
MU 3433	Piano Literature	3
MU 4443		
MU 4733	Piano Performance Practice	3
MU 4951	Senior Performance Recital	1
Electives (MU, MUA, MUE)		16
Total Degree Hours		120

Vocal Concentration

Applied Voice - (8 semesters of study)		16
Concert Ensembles		6
Ensemble Electives		4
MU 1142		
MU 1152		
MU 2242		
MU 2252		
MU 4951	Senior Performance Recital	1
Electives (MU, MUA, MUE)		15
Total Degree Hours		120

Minor in Music and Culture

The minor in Music and Culture is intended for students with an interest in non-Western music, especially the music of Africa and the African Diaspora. The program offers students from any major, the opportunity to study the ways in which human cultural diversity is represented through music. The minor features an interdisciplinary approach to exploring music and supports MSU's vision of diversity and global involvement. The minor is distinct from other existing degrees in that it offers an anthropological approach that does not rely heavily on music performance skills.

Required Courses		6
AN 1143	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	
MU 2012	World Music	
Choose one of the following:		
PE 1091	Contemporary Dance	

MU 1401	Recreational Interactive Drumming	
Electives		12
Choose at least two Non-Western Music and Culture electives		
MU 1103	African American Music	
MU 1153	Music of Africa	
MU 2023	Music of Latin America	
MU 3103	Native American Music	
Choose up to two Western Music and Culture electives		
MU 1123	History and Appreciation of American Music	
MU 1133	The History of Rock and Roll	
MU 1143	The History of Jazz	
MU 1163	Introduction to Music in Film	
MU 1173	Music of the Beatles	
MU 2173	Women in Music	
Total Hours		18

General Minor in Music

The General Minor in Music is a comprehensive set of courses designed to increase student musicianship and knowledge. Students must audition and be accepted as a music minor before it can be declared. Acceptance in any given studio area is on a space available basis. The requirements for the music minor can not be completed after graduating from MSU.

Music History		2-3
Choose from the following:		
MU 1103	African American Music	
MU 1113	History and Appreciation of Music	
MU 1123	History and Appreciation of American Music	
MU 1133	The History of Rock and Roll	
MU 1143	The History of Jazz	
MU 1153	Music of Africa	
MU 1163	Introduction to Music in Film	
MU 1173	Music of the Beatles	
MU 2012	World Music	
MU 2023	Music of Latin America	
MU 2173	Women in Music	
MU 3013	Survey of Western Music History I	

Music Theory and Aural Skills		
MU 1213	Music Theory I	3
MU 1321	Ear Training I	1
MU 1413	Music Theory II	3
MU 1521	Ear Training II	1
Class Piano		
MU 2111 & MU 2121 or MU 3112	Group Piano I and Group Piano 2 Functional Skills for Piano Majors 1	2
Applied Study		4
Two semesters of study (2 credit hours each semester); must be completed on the same instrument		
Ensembles		2
Two semesters of major or minor ensembles		
Recital Hour		
MU 1010	Recital Hour (must be taken for 2 semesters)	1
Total Hours		18-19

To earn a Minor in Music from Mississippi State University, all of the coursework listed above must be completed at Mississippi State University, Starkville Campus, with a grade of C or better. The requirements for any music minor cannot be completed after graduating from MSU.