

MUSIC MAJOR

MAJOR DESCRIPTION

The Major in Music program is built around the individual interests and needs of the student while providing a solid foundation in the study of music history and culture, music analysis, theory, composition, and performance. Wesleyan's Music department enjoys an international reputation for innovation in the study of World Music, and majors will study at least one musical tradition outside their prime concentration. The Music Major at Wesleyan emphasizes how the combined experience of music with the study of music reinforces and inspires each other. Students may focus on areas such as Western classical music; new and experimental music; African American, Indonesian, Indian, and African musics; and European and American music outside the art tradition.

Students committed to pursuing their musical aspirations at a collegiate level possess a unique passion for music combined with broad intellectual curiosity, a strong appreciation of artistic expression, dedication to their craft, a collaborative spirit, open-minded creativity, and a strong work ethic.

Careers in music may include performance, music instruction, music therapy, arts journalism or criticism, arts administration, music production or direction, event coordination, entrepreneurship, and more.

ADMISSION TO THE MAJOR

Individual programs of study in the Music Major are developed by students with academic advisors. A student must have already taken at least one course in each capability area: theory/composition, history/culture, and performance, before applying for the major. The Music Theory Gateway course (MUSC103) is a requirement of all majors which may be waived based on a placement test.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Music majors take three courses in each capability area: theory/composition, history/culture, and performance. Two additional courses from the MUSC300-level Seminars for Music Majors bring the number of music credits to 11.

The required senior project or senior honors thesis brings the total number of music credits to 12 or 13, respectively.

Diversity of musical experience is a core value of the Music Department and is expected of all music majors. Towards that goal, each major's program of study must include at least two Music credits out of the major's main area of interest.

Many Music majors, particularly those taking private lessons, end up taking more than 16 credits in music. However, since no more than 16 credits in music may be counted toward the 32 credits required for graduation, students must always complete at least 16 credits outside of music.

COURSES FOR NON-MAJORS

With the exception of Music Major Seminars, all classes offered by the Music Department are open to non-majors.

GENERAL EDUCATION

Music majors are advised to complete their General Education expectations (three each of Arts and Humanities, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Social Sciences courses). Prospective majors who have not taken enough courses outside the Music department may be refused entry into the major. Students who fail to fulfill the General Education expectations are not considered for department prizes and honors.

STUDENT LEARNING GOALS

At graduation, music majors will be able to:

- Think analytically and critically about musical languages, histories, and cultures
- Write effectively about music
- Perform and/or create music with proficiency and creativity
- Engage unfamiliar traditions and paradigms of humanly organized sound with sensitivity and insight
- Apply their musical knowledge and skills within broader investigations of the human experience

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

AP THEORY CREDIT IS CONSIDERED AS FOLLOWS: AP THEORY CREDIT ON THE STUDENT'S WESLEYAN TRANSCRIPT

- A score of 4 or 5 will provide one Wesleyan credit towards graduation
- Student will still need to complete 3 additional theory/composition credits for the major

STUDENTS WITH QUESTIONS REGARDING AP THEORY

- Should meet with the theory faculty of the Music Department teaching MUSC103 to discuss options

PRIZES

MERIT-BASED AWARDS THAT MAY BE AWARDED ANNUALLY ELIZABETH VERVEER TISHLER PRIZE

Established in 1981 by a gift from Mrs. Tishler. Expanded in 1989 for excellence in piano performance.

GWEN LIVINGSTON POKORA PRIZE

Established in 1993, awarded annually to the outstanding undergraduate student in music composition.

LEAVELL MEMORIAL PRIZE

Awarded annually to a senior who has done outstanding work in music and whose work manifests the ideals of the World Music Program in the Music Department.

LIPSKY PRIZE

The gift of the Reverend and Mrs. Bailey G. Lipsky in memory of their son, Francis Jules Lipsky, Class of 1931, to the member of the choir possessing in the highest degree unflinching kindness, quiet dignity, and brilliant scholarship.

SAMUEL C. SILIPO PRIZE

Awarded annually for the most valuable player(s) of the Wesleyan orchestra.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**SPECIAL ACTIVITIES**

The department supports a number of unusual activities, many of which are available to the student body in general as well as to music majors. Among them are ensembles in various Asian, African, American, and European traditions, as well as a variety of chamber ensembles.

PRIVATE LESSONS PROGRAM

Private lessons are available for many instruments and voice in Western art music, African American music, and a variety of other musics from around the world. Lessons are considered one-credit-per-semester courses. An additional fee, \$780 per semester, is charged for these private lessons (financial aid may be available to students eligible for university financial aid). Approved music majors in their junior and senior years are eligible for partial subsidy when taking one (1) private lesson, per semester, for academic credit with a private lessons teacher.

DEPARTMENTAL COLLOQUIUM

An ongoing departmental colloquium is intended for the entire music community. It includes presentations by Wesleyan faculty, students, and outside speakers and encourages general discussion of broad issues in the world of music.

FACILITIES

The study facilities include a working collection of musical instruments from many different cultures; a music-instrument manufacturing workshop; a 45-piece Javanese *Gamelan* Orchestra; a large formal concert hall and a small multipurpose concert hall; an electronic music studio coupled to a professional recording studio; a computer-arts studio capable of producing electronic music, video art, and environmental simulations; a music and record library; an electronic keyboard lab; and an archive of world music.

COURSES

The following is a listing according to categories of courses offered by the department:

Code	Title	Hours
FYS Courses		
MUSC116F	Visual Sounds: Exploring the Landscape and Architecture of Musical Notation (FYS)	1
MUSC117F	Musicking Body (FYS)	1

MUSC118F	Bob Dylan and His World: Sources and Legacies (FYS)	1
MUSC119F	Jazz in the 1960s (FYS)	1
MUSC120F	Music, Place, and Culture: An Exploration of African American Soundscapes and Traditions (FYS)	1
MUSC124F	Mapping Culture (FYS)	1
MUSC125F	Music and Downtown New York, 1950-1970 (FYS)	1
MUSC126F	Poetry and Song (FYS)	1
MUSC128F	Music and the Moving Image: From Music Video to Film to Digital Media (FYS)	1
MUSC130F	Wagner and Wagnerism: Richard Wagner's Music and Influence from the 1840s to the Present (FYS)	1
MUSC131F	Gender and Sexuality in Hip Hop (FYS)	1
MUSC133F	Caribbean Connection: Music and Culture of Trinidad and Tobago Music (FYS)	1

Music Theory and Composition

MUSC103	Materials and Design	1
MUSC104	Rhythms of the World: An Introduction to Rhythm, Meter, and (Musical) Time	1
MUSC105	MF DOOM and Pierre Henry	1
MUSC201	Tonal Harmony	1
MUSC202	Theory and Analysis	1
MUSC203	Chromatic Harmony	1
MUSC204	20th Century Compositional Techniques	1
MUSC205	Song: Music and Text	1
MUSC206	18th-Century Counterpoint	1
MUSC207	Orchestration	1
MUSC208	Post-Tonal Music Theory	1
MUSC210	Theory of Jazz Improvisation	1
MUSC212	South Indian Music: Solkattu	1
MUSC220	Composing, Performing, and Listening to Experimental Music	1
MUSC221	Live-Electronics for Composition, Improvisation, and Sound Art	1
MUSC222	Sound Art, Music, and Interactive Media	1
MUSC223	Music, Recording, and Sound Design	1
MUSC225	Sound Systems and Chamber Electronics	1
MUSC230	Music Theater Workshop (cross list)	1
MUSC240	Visual Sounds: Exploring the Landscape and Architecture of Musical Notation	1
MUSC308	Composition in the Arts	1

Music History and Culture

MUSC102	World Music	1
MUSC106	A Thousand Years of Music History	1
MUSC108	History of Rock and R&B	1
MUSC109	Introduction to Experimental Music	1
MUSC110	Introduction to South Indian Music	1
MUSC111	Music and Theater of Indonesia	1
MUSC115	Introduction to North Indian Music	1
MUSC116	Visual Sounds: Exploring the Landscape and Architecture of Musical Notation	1

MUSC117	Musicking Body	1	MUSC428	Chinese Music Ensemble	1
MUSC121	Queering Russian Music	1	MUSC429	Voice Technique & Improvisation	1
MUSC125	Music and Downtown New York, 1950-1970	1	MUSC430	South Indian Voice--Beginning	1
MUSC127	C-Pop in the Shadow of a Rising China	1	MUSC431	South Indian Voice--Intermediate	1
MUSC129	The Art of Listening	1	MUSC432	South Indian Voice--Advanced	1
MUSC241	Mystical Visions, Medieval Women, and the Performance of Early Music (cross list)	1	MUSC433	South Indian Music--Percussion	1
MUSC242	Baroque and Classical Music	1	MUSC434	Improvisational Techniques in South Indian Music	1
MUSC243	Music of the 19th Century	1	MUSC435	Keyboard Techniques for Composers and Conductors	1
MUSC244	Music of the 20th Century	1	MUSC436	Wesleyan Concert Choir	1
MUSC245	Music in the United States in the Nineteenth Century	1	MUSC437	Singing to Your Instruments	1
MUSC246	The Symphony: Evolution of Genre	1	MUSC438	Wesleyan University Collegium Musicum (cross list)	1
MUSC248	Music in Outer Space	1	MUSC439	Wesleyan University Orchestra	1
MUSC249	Calderwood Seminar in Public Writing: Music Journalism and Public Musicology	1	MUSC440	Instrumental Conducting	1
MUSC250	Film and Folk Music of India	1	MUSC441	Piping Performance: An Exploration of Artistic Expression through the Pipe Organ	1
MUSC261	Music and Modernity in China, Japan, and Korea	1	MUSC442	Chamber Music Ensemble	1
MUSC265	African Presences I: Music in Africa	1	MUSC443	Wesleyan Wind Ensemble (WesWinds)	1
MUSC269	Sacred and Secular African American Musics	1	MUSC444	African Popular Music Performance	1
MUSC272	History of Jazz in American Culture	1	MUSC445	West African Music and Culture: Beginners	1
MUSC273	BlaQueer Sounds: Queer Negotiations in African American Music	1	MUSC446	West African Music and Culture--Intermediate	1
MUSC274	Hymnody in the United States Before the Civil War	1	MUSC447	West African Music and Culture--Advanced	1
MUSC275	Music and Downtown New York	1	MUSC448	Ebony Singers: Gospel Music	0.5
MUSC277	Jazz Avant-Gardes	1	MUSC450	Steelband	1
MUSC278	Survey of Jazz Styles	1	MUSC451	Javanese Gamelan--Beginners	1
MUSC285	Global Hip Hop of the Non-Anglophone World (CLAC .50)	0.5	MUSC452	Javanese Gamelan--Advanced	1
MUSC290	Research Skills in Ethnomusicology--IRL & Digital	1	MUSC453	Keyboard Techniques II: Conducting and Score Reading	1
MUSC291	The Gendering of Music in Cross-Cultural Perspective	1	MUSC455	Jazz Ensemble	1
MUSC293	Mapping Culture	1	MUSC456	Jazz Improvisation Performance	1
MUSC294	Queer Opera	1	MUSC457	Jazz Orchestra I	1
MUSC295	Global Hip-Hop	1	MUSC458	Jazz Orchestra II	1
MUSC296	Soundscapes of Islam	1	MUSC459	Methods of Improvisation Ensemble	1
MUSC297	Music of Central Asia: From Throat-singing to Heavy Metal	1	MUSC461	Sound Systems: The How of Hearing	1
Music Major Seminars			MUSC463	Teaching Music Lessons to Children in Local Schools	1
MUSC300	Seminar for Music Majors	1	MUSC464	Laptop Ensemble	1
MUSC304	Arranging and Composing for Jazz Orchestra	1	Graduate Courses		
MUSC308	Composition in the Arts	1	MUSC500	Graduate Pedagogy	0.5
Music Performance			MUSC505	Topics in Applied Ethnomusicology/Public Musicology	1
MUSC405	Private Music Lessons for Nonmusic Majors	1	MUSC506	Reading Ethnomusicology	1
MUSC406	Private Music Lessons for Declared Music Majors	1	MUSC507	Practicing Ethnomusicology	1
MUSC413	Korean Drumming and Creative Music Ensemble	1	MUSC508	Graduate Seminar in Composition	1
MUSC414	Korean Drumming and Creative Music Ensemble Advanced	1	MUSC509	Special Topics in Contemporary Music	1
MUSC416	Beginning Taiko--Japanese Drumming Ensemble	1	MUSC510	Graduate Proseminar in World Music Studies	1
MUSC418	Taiko II: Japanese Drumming Ensemble	1	MUSC513	Improvisation in Cross-Cultural Perspective	1
			MUSC515	Mapping Music as/in Motion: The Cartographies and Circulation of Aural Culture	1
			MUSC517	Sex/Gender/Queerness in Music and Music Scholarship	1
			MUSC518	Music and Embodiment	1

MUSC519	Current Issues in Ethnomusicology	1
MUSC520	Explorations in Musicology	1
MUSC521	Seminar in Interdisciplinary Studies	1
MUSC522	Seminar in Comparative Music Theory	1
MUSC530	Department of Music Colloquium	0.25

HONORS

The senior project requirement may be satisfied by the completion of an honors project, a project that may encompass a composition, a concert, etc., but the honors project always contains a substantial written component; for this reason it is called the honors thesis. An honors thesis satisfies the departmental requirement for a senior project, even if it is not awarded honors. The honors thesis tutorial is always a two-semester undertaking.

CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE

All music majors are required to complete a senior project by the end of their final year. The purpose of the project is to give focus to the major by means of independent, creative work and to encourage independent study with the close advice and support of a faculty member. Students who choose to undertake an honors thesis may count this as their senior project.