

BFA: MUSIC COMPOSITION

REQUIREMENTS

CORE CURRICULUM The Core Curriculum is designed to foster critical thinking skills and introduce students to basic domains of thinking that transcend disciplines. The Core applies to all majors. Information on specific classes in the Core can be found at marshall.edu/gened.

CORE 1: CRITICAL THINKING				CORE 2:			
CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
FYS 100	First Year Seminar	●	3	_____			
MTH 121	Critical Thinking	●	3	_____			
_____	Critical Thinking	●	3	_____			
Additional University Requirements							
_____	Writing Intensive		3	_____			
_____	Writing Intensive		3	_____			
_____	Multicultural/International		3	_____			
MUS 497	Capstone		1-2	_____			

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

All Music Composition majors are required to take the following courses:

CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
_____	Applied 100	◆	1-2	_____			
_____	Applied 100	◆	1-2	_____			
_____	Applied 100	◆	1-2	_____			
_____	Applied 100	◆	1-2	_____			
MUS 180	Applied Music Composition	◆	1-2	_____			
MUS 180	Applied Music Composition	◆	1-2	_____			
MUS 180	Applied Music Composition	◆	1-2	_____			
MUS 180	Applied Music Composition	◆	1-2	_____			
MUS 380	Applied Music Composition	◆	2	_____			
MUS 380	Applied Music Composition	◆	2	_____			
MUS 380	Applied Music Composition	◆	2	_____			
MUS 380	Applied Music Composition	◆	2	_____			
_____	Ensemble 200 Level	◆	1	_____			
_____	Ensemble 200 Level	◆	1	_____			
_____	Ensemble 200 Level	◆	1	_____			
MUS 110	The Professional Musician	◆	1	_____			
🌿 MUS 111	Elementary Music Theory I	◆	2	_____			
MUS 112	Elementary Music Theory II	◆	2	_____			
🌿 MUS 113	Elementary Aural Skills I	◆	2	_____			
🌿 MUS 114	Elementary Aural Skills II	◆	2	_____			
MUS 211	Advanced Music Theory I	◆	2	_____			
🌿 MUS 212 & MUS 214	Advanced Music Theory II & Aural Skills II (or MUS 217 Jazz Theory)	◆	4	_____			

MUS 100 Applied Music Laboratory (0 credits) 8 semesters: 1____2____3____4____5____6____7____8____

MAJOR INFORMATION

- All students desiring entry into the B.F.A. degree, the music education program, or the music minor must be formally admitted to the music program. This admittance is based upon an audition in the student's major performance area (instrument or voice) and an interview with the area faculty. Students desiring to enter the composition area of emphasis should be prepared to show evidence of music theory study and/or compositions. Students should contact the music office to arrange for an audition and interview.
- All coursework in the music and music education majors must be completed with a grade of C or above. A course with a grade of D or F must be repeated with at least a grade of C to count for graduation or be used as a prerequisite for another required course.
- All music and music education majors are required to pass a piano proficiency examination prior to the capstone semester.
- In addition to university and degree program requirements listed under the Bachelor of Fine Arts, candidates for the B.F.A. in music must complete 73 credit hours of study in music, divided into the core curriculum of 18 credit hours and 55 credit hours devoted to one of four areas of emphasis.
- Forty (40) credit hours must be earned in courses numbered 300-499.
- No course in the major requirements for graduation may be taken Credit/Non-Credit unless the course is so specified.
- Upon completion of the fourth semester of 100-level applied music study on the principal instrument, students must pass a sophomore hearing for promotion to upper-division (300-level) applied music study on the principal instrument.

🌿 Milestone Course: This is a key success marker for your major. See your advisor to discuss the importance of this course in your plan of study.

BFA: MUSIC COMPOSITION

Students who major in music composition develop their abilities to create newly composed works as well as develop an in-depth understanding of the theory of the “grammar” of music. Composition majors write original compositions ranging from simple songs to large symphonic works. This degree is excellent preparation for students who desire careers in academic music.

YEAR ONE	FALL SEMESTER				SPRING SEMESTER			
	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
	MUS 100	Applied Music Laboratory	◆	0	MUS 100	Applied Music Laboratory	◆	0
	🌿 MUS 111	Elementary Music Theory I	◆	2	MUS 110	The Professional Musician	◆	1
	🌿 MUS 113	Elementary Aural Skills I	◆	2	MUS 112	Elementary Music Theory II	◆	2
	🌿 MUS 179A	Class Piano	◆	1	🌿 MUS 114	Elementary Aural Skills II	◆	2
	FYS 100	First Year Sem Crit Thinking	●	3	MUS179B	Class Piano	◆	1
	MTH 121	Concepts and Applications (CT)	●	3	🌿 CMM 103	Fund Speech Communication	●	3
YEAR TWO	FALL SEMESTER				SPRING SEMESTER			
	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
	MUS 100	Applied Music Laboratory	◆	0	MUS 100	Applied Music Laboratory	◆	0
	🌿 MUS179C	Class Piano	◆	1	MUS179D	Class Piano	◆	1
	MUS 211	Advanced Music Theory I	◆	2	🌿 MUS 212 & MUS 214	Advanced Music Theory II & Aural Skills II (or MUS 217 Jazz Theory)	◆	4
	MUS 213	Advanced Aural Skills I	◆	2	MUS 180	Applied Composition	◆	1-2
	MUS 218	Intro to Music Technology	◆	3	MUS 290	Music History to 1750	◆	3
	MUS 180	Applied Composition	◆	1-2	_____	Ensemble 200 Level	◆	1
YEAR THREE	FALL SEMESTER				SPRING SEMESTER			
	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
	MUS 100	Applied Music Laboratory	◆	0	MUS 100	Applied Music Laboratory	◆	0
	🌿 MUS 301	Analysis	◆	3	MUS 376	Recital	◆	1
	MUS 317	Counterpoint	◆	2	MUS 310	Performing Arts Entrepreneurship	◆	1
	🌿 MUS 360	Music History 1730-1900	◆	3	MUS 320	Instrumental Arranging (or MUS 322)	◆	2
	MUS 315	Basic Conducting	◆	2	MUS 361	Music Since the 1900's	◆	3
	MUS 380	Applied Music Composition	◆	2	MUS 380	Applied Music Composition	◆	2
YEAR FOUR	FALL SEMESTER				SPRING SEMESTER			
	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
	MUS 100	Applied Music Laboratory	◆	0	MUS 100	Applied Music Laboratory	◆	0
	MUS 380	Applied Music Composition	◆	2	MUS 380	Applied Music Composition	◆	2
	MUS 432	Electronic Music Composition	◆	2	MUS 497	Capstone	●◆	1-2
	_____	Core II Physical/Natural Science	●	4	_____	Core II Social Science (M/I, WI)	●	3
	_____	Improvisation Class	◆	1	_____	Non-Music Elective		3
	_____	Music Elective	◆	2-6	MUS 476	Senior Recital	◆	0

🌿 Milestone Course: This is a key success marker for your major. See your advisor to discuss the importance of this course in your plan of study.

● General Education Requirement ◆ Major Requirement 🌿 Area of Emphasis

INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- SGA
- Campus Activity Board
- JMELI
- Commuter Student Advisory Board
- Community Engagement Ambassadors
- Club Sports
- Religious Organizations
- Political Organizations
- Residence Hall Association
- Cultural Organizations
- National Society of Leadership and Success
- Greek Life

RELATED MAJORS

- Education
- Business
- Humanities
- Literary Studies

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- Have a minimum of 120 credit hours (some colleges or majors require more);
- Have an overall and Marshall Grade Point Average of 2.00 or higher;
- Have an overall Grade Point Average of 2.00 or higher in the major area of study;
- Have earned a grade of C or better in English 201 or 201 H;
- Have met all major(s) and college requirements;
- Have met the requirements of the Core Curriculum;
- Have met the residence requirements of Marshall University, including 12 hours of 300/400 level coursework in the student's college (see section entitled "Residence Requirements" in the undergraduate catalogue);
- Be enrolled at Marshall at least one semester of the senior year;
- Have transferred no more than 72 credit hours from an accredited West Virginia two-year institution of higher education.

Colleges and specific programs may have unique requirements that are more stringent than those noted above. Students are responsible for staying informed about and ensuring that they meet the requirements for graduation.

This academic map is to be used as a guide in planning your coursework toward a degree. Due to the complexities of degree programs, it is unfortunate but inevitable that an error may occur in the creation of this document. The official source of degree requirements at Marshall University is DegreeWorks available in your myMU portal. Always consult regularly with your advisor.

MUSIC COMPOSITION — 2024-2025

YEAR ONE



Have questions? Need to talk? You already have a Friend-At-Marshall ready to help you succeed. Find your FAM Peer Mentor here: www.marshall.edu/fam



Sign up for Handshake! Handshake is the #1 place to launch a career with no connections, experience, or luck required. The platform connects up-and-coming talent with 650,000+ employers.



In order to graduate on time, you need to take an average of 15 credits per semester. Are you on track? Take 15 to Finish!



Take a pulse check. Know what you need to do every year to keep your grants, scholarships, or federal financial aid.



Develop relationships with professors who can serve as future references by attending their office hours.



Attend an intercultural festival or event on campus or in town.



Be sure you are enrolled in the correct applied music courses and ensembles for your emphasis area.



YEAR TWO



Are you completing enough credits to graduate on time? Dropping or failing a class can put you behind. Use summer terms to quickly get back on track.



Join the Marshall Mentor Network and connect with professionals in your field to discuss your major, career path, and more.



College is a great time to experience the world! Consider studying abroad in the summer, during Spring Break, or for an entire semester.



Make plans to complete the sophomore hearing so that you can proceed to advanced study.



Explore peer leadership opportunities through the FAM Program, or apply to be a UNI Peer Mentor.



Develop relationships with professors who can serve as future references by attending their office hours.




Are you making progress toward completion of your piano proficiency?

If not, please speak with your music advisor.




YEAR THREE



Think about who can help you grow as a student and a professional (professors, advisors, alumni, etc.) and ask at least one to be your mentor.



Submit your work for annual scholarships, awards, and prizes.



Are you completing enough credits to graduate on time? Dropping or failing a class can put you behind. Use summer terms to quickly get back on track.



Want to continue your education and increase your opportunities? Talk to a faculty member about whether graduate school fits your career.




Take a pulse check. Know what you need to do every year to keep your grants, scholarships, or federal financial aid.



Apply to be a New Student Orientation Leader or a Campus Tour Guide.



Did you do really well in a hard course? Become a Tutor or Supplemental Instructor.



YEAR FOUR



This is it! Are you on track to graduate? Meet with your advisor for your Senior Eval to see what requirements you have left.



Strengthen your resume and enhance your presentation skills. Present what you've learned at an academic conference off campus.



Have you completed your piano proficiency requirement?



Think about who can help you grow as a student and a professional (professors, advisors, alumni, etc.) and ask at least one to be your mentor.



Be at the top of your professional game! Prepare a final resume and practice your interview skills with a career coach in Career Education.



Apply for a nationally competitive scholarship like Fulbright, Rhodes, or Gates Cambridge. Contact the Office of National Scholarships at Marshall.



No need to wait until graduate school. Discuss undergraduate research opportunities with faculty in your major right now.



TRANSFERABLE SKILLS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS MAJOR

- Creativity
- Attention to Detail
- Design Sense
- Imagination
- Open-Mindedness
- Curiosity
- Artistic Sense

ASSOCIATED CAREERS

- Teaching
- Research
- Private Music Lessons
- Instrumental Performance
- Vocal Performance
- Conducting
- Music Selection
- Composing/Arranging



Marshall University
College of Arts and Media
One John Marshall Drive
Huntington, WV 25755
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