

MUSIC, BA

Overview

Our Bachelor of Arts in Music is a condensed, four-year program perfect for students interested in combining a music major with a second major or minor in a non-music degree program. It's all about helping you keep music in your life.

Request Info (<https://uwm.edu/arts/request-information/>) | Visit (<https://uwm.edu/arts/visit/>) | Apply (<https://uwm.edu/arts/apply/>)

Faculty and Staff

Our inspirational faculty and staff make sure students feel welcome and empowered to think outside the box and explore all possibilities of making art at UWM. Visit the Peck School of the Arts directory (<https://uwm.edu/arts/directory/>) to meet these artists, explore their biographies and engage with recent work.

Scholarships and Aid

Financial constraints shouldn't hinder your artistic dreams. Our comprehensive range of scholarships and aid programs (<https://uwm.edu/arts/students/scholarships-aid/>) is designed to empower and support artists like you.

Study Abroad

We believe that a complete education in the arts should take you beyond the classroom and the local community. By studying abroad, you'll gain more than a change of scenery. You'll embark on a transformative educational experience and bring a global perspective to your field of study. Explore upcoming trips (<https://uwmilwaukee.studioabroad.com/?FuseAction=Programs.AdvancedSearch>) offered in partnership with the Center for International Education.

Requirements

Admission Requirements

Undergraduate applicants must meet general University admission requirements (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/admission-costs/undergraduate-admission/>) in addition to specific program requirements found on the Peck School of the Arts apply page (<https://uwm.edu/arts/apply/>).

Undergraduate Advising

Academic advising is a collaborative process that empowers students to realize their maximum educational potential. Students are encouraged to visit the Peck School of the Arts Advising & Student Services page (<https://uwm.edu/arts/students/advising/>) to meet with your advisor prior to each semester's registration period. Advisors provide students with individualized appointments to assist with degree requirements, course selection, campus resources, college success strategies, graduation assessment, academic policies and more.

Laptop Requirement

Preparing for a future defined by digital technology is an important step in developing artists. Our digitally integrated curriculum helps you achieve a professional level with leading art-related software and practices.

Laptop ownership is strongly recommended for *all* students. However, it's required for most majors. For more information, please visit the Peck School of the Arts admission page (<https://uwm.edu/arts/apply/>).

Degree Requirements

Music Theory and History Requirements

The Music Theory core comprises a four-semester sequence of Materials of Theory concurrently with three semesters of Aural Theory. The Music History core comprises a three-semester sequence of the General History of Western Music. See individual programs for details.

Lessons, Studio Class, Convocation

Music performance instruction on the primary instrument consists of three components each week: a private lesson with the studio instructor (scheduled independently), a studio class with other students on the instrument, and a department-wide recital on Friday (Convocation) with a rotating selection of student performers.

Students are required to participate in an approved performing organization in each semester in which the student is registered for music performance instruction in the major instrument.

Performance Ensembles

Students pursuing a music degree are required to participate in performing organizations during their course of study. Students must be registered in an approved ensemble concurrent with each semester of private study in lessons. Directors make ensemble assignments at the beginning of each semester. Only one approved ensemble credit per semester may apply toward degree requirements. The Department of Music recognizes the following approved ensembles: *Alta Voce*, *Bella Voce*, *Concert Chorale*, *Kameraden Chorus*, *Symphony Band*, *Symphony Orchestra* and *Wind Ensemble*. Other performance ensembles may be approved for music minors, students with provisional admission or in certain degree programs.

Credits from an accredited college/university for performing organizations may be granted for undergraduate students as follows:

- All transfer students to UWM, regardless of entry level, must take at least two semesters of an approved major performing organization. The performing organization must conform to the individual degree requirements: instrumentalists take band or orchestra; vocalists take choral ensembles.
- Entering sophomores with 30 or more earned credits may only transfer up to two completed semesters of an approved performing organization from another university; and
- Entering juniors with 60 or more earned credits may only transfer up to four completed semesters of an approved performing organization from another university.

Advance to Major and Retention

Students declared provisional at the time of auditions can achieve Music major status based on a successful jury performance at the end of the first semester. Students not performing a successful first semester jury will not be allowed to continue as a Music major and will be dropped from the Music Department. Provisional students must take all required first-semester Music courses during the provisional semester.

Students accepted through auditions who lack basic aural, theory, and/or keyboard skills must successfully complete MUSIC 1 (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/search/?P=MUSIC%201>) and/or MUSPERF 1 (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/search/?P=MUSPERF%201>).

catalog.uwm.edu/search/?P=MUSPERF%201) in their first year of study. A final grade of B or higher is required to enroll in the subsequent Music Theory and Piano courses.

A Music major who has a studio performance grade of C or lower for two consecutive semesters may be placed on probation. Students then have the opportunity to re-audition or attain a passing grade for the performance lessons. Final jury is attained during the probation semester along with a 2.0+ cumulative GPA.

Credits and Courses
University Core

Code	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements ¹		
Competencies		
Oral and Written Communication – Part A and Part B ^{2,3}		
Quantitative Literacy (QL) – Part A and Part B ^{2,3}		
Foreign Language ²		
Distribution Requirements ¹		
Humanities		6
Natural Sciences (Must include one lab)		6
Social Sciences		6
Cultural Diversity ²		
Electives		
Electives Outside Peck School of the Arts		12
Electives in Peck School of the Arts ⁴		12
Electives Outside Discipline		3
Total Credits		45

¹ See General Education Requirements (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#bachelorsdegreegeneraleducation>) for more information.

² Credits may be utilized in required curriculum areas.

³ OWC Part A and QL Part A should be completed within the first two semesters of pursuing a Music program.

⁴ 9 credits are required in 3 of the 4 other departments in PSOA, outside of the student's discipline: Art and Design, Dance, Music, Theatre, or Film, Video, Animation, and New Genres.

Major Requirements

The minimum number of credits required to complete the Bachelor of Arts is 120. Students who need background preparation courses in math, English, foreign language, and chemistry may need additional credits.

Code	Title	Credits
Lessons in Principal Instrument		
Option A:		
MusPerf 3xx (6 semesters) ⁵		
MusPerf 1xx (2 semesters) ⁶		
Option B:		
MusPerf 3xx (8 semesters)		
Performance Ensemble		
Select 8 semesters		8
Music Theory		
MUSIC 123	Aural Theory I	1
MUSIC 124	Aural Theory II	1

MUSIC 127	Materials of Theory I	2
MUSIC 128	Materials of Theory II	3
MUSIC 225	Materials of Theory III	3
MUSIC 226	Aural Theory III	1
MUSIC 421	Materials of Theory IV	3
Music History		
MUSIC 106	Foundations of Music (one semester taken during freshman year)	3
MUSIC 211	General History of Western Music I	3
MUSIC 212	General History of Western Music II	3
Required Elective		
Select one Music Theory or Music History Elective (see lists below)		3
General Electives		
Select 27 credits		27
Total Credits		75-77

⁵ Additional semesters of Principal Instrument study may be taken as Music electives.

⁶ Can be completed concurrently with 200 level lessons. Based on audition results, students enroll in MUSPERF 1 (Levels I & II) for up to two semesters to attain piano proficiency and/or MUSPERF 101 up to two semesters if you elect to take piano. MUSPERF 1 will not be counted toward degree requirement.

Music Theory Electives

Code	Title	Credits
MUSIC 220	Introduction to Computers and Music	3
MUSIC 321	Counterpoint	3
MUSIC 323	Instrumental and Choral Orchestration	3
MUSIC 327	Studio Techniques	3
MUSIC 328	Interactive Electronic Music	3
MUSIC 421	Materials of Theory IV	3
MUSIC 680	Special Studies in Music:	3

Music History Electives

Code	Title	Credits
MUSIC 311	Music of the Baroque Era	3
MUSIC 312	Music of the Classic Era	3
MUSIC 313	Music of the Romantic Era	3
MUSIC 314	Music since 1900	3
MUSIC 317	Introduction to American Music	3
MUSIC 449	Women in Music:	3
MUSIC 680	Special Studies in Music:	3

Plan of Study
Sample Plan of Study

Year 1		
Fall		Credits
Select one of the following in music performance: ¹		1
MUSPERF 1 or MUSPERF 101	Fundamentals of Piano: or Lessons in Piano	
MUSPERF 3XX	Principal Instrument	2
MUSIC XXX	Performance Ensemble	1

MUSIC 123	Aural Theory I	1
MUSIC 127	Materials of Theory I	2
MUSIC 106	Foundations of Music	3
Electives or Core Curriculum		5

Credits 15

Spring

Select one of the following in music performance: ¹

MUSPERF 1	Fundamentals of Piano:	
MUSPERF 101	Lessons in Piano	
MUSPERF 3XX	Principal Instrument	2
MUSIC XXX	Performance Ensemble	1
MUSIC 124	Aural Theory II	1
MUSIC 128	Materials of Theory II	3
Electives or Core Curriculum		7

Credits 15

Year 2

Fall

MUSPERF 101	Lessons in Piano	1
MUSPERF 3XX	Principal Instrument	2
MUSIC XXX	Performance Ensemble	1
MUSIC 225	Materials of Theory III ²	3
MUSIC 226	Aural Theory III	1
MUSIC 211	General History of Western Music I	3
Electives or Core Curriculum		4

Credits 15

Spring

MUSPERF 101	Lessons in Piano	1
MUSPERF3XX	Principal Instrument	2
MUSIC XXX	Performance Ensemble	1
MUSIC 421	Materials of Theory IV	3
MUSIC 212	General History of Western Music II	3
Electives or Core Curriculum		5

Credits 15

Year 3

Fall

MUSPERF 101	Lessons in Piano	1
MUSPERF 3XX	Principal Instrument	2
MUSIC XXX	Performance Ensemble	1
Select one Music History or Music Theory elective in either Junior or Senior year (see list below)		3
Electives or Core Curriculum		8

Credits 15

Spring

MUSPERF 101	Lessons in Piano	1
MUSPERF 3XX	Principal Instrument	2
MUSIC XXX	Performance Ensemble	1
Select one Music History or Music Theory elective in either Junior or Senior year (see list below)		3
Electives or Core Curriculum		8

Credits 15

Year 4

Fall

MUSIC 3XX	Principal Instrument	1
MUSIC XXX	Performance Ensemble	1
MUSIC 310	Introduction to World Musics ³	3
Electives or Core Curriculum		10

Credits 15

Spring

MUSPERF 3XX	Principal Instrument	2
MUSIC XXX	Performance Ensemble	1

Electives or Core Curriculum 12

Credits 15

Total Credits 120

¹ Music Performance Courses. 12 cr can be satisfied by six semesters in a single Principal Instrument study at the 300 level and two semesters of Piano at the 100 level. Additional semesters of Principal Instrument study may be taken as Music electives.

² MUSIC 225 will serve a successful completion for the University QL-B requirement.

³ MUSIC 310 will serve as successful completion for the University OWC-B requirement.

Music History or Music Theory Electives

Code	Title	Credits
MUSIC 311	Music of the Baroque Era	3
MUSIC 312	Music of the Classic Era	3
MUSIC 313	Music of the Romantic Era	3
MUSIC 314	Music since 1900	3
MUSIC 220	Introduction to Computers and Music	3
MUSIC 321	Counterpoint	3
MUSIC 323	Instrumental and Choral Orchestration	3
MUSIC 327	Studio Techniques	3
MUSIC 328	Interactive Electronic Music	3
MUSIC 680	Special Studies in Music: (Variable Topic)	1-3

Music Learning Outcomes

Students graduating with this degree in Music will be able to:

- Recognize and distinguish music from all periods of European art music history, and from a variety of other world cultures and traditions, based on musical and stylistic features.
- Recognize assumptions, concepts, models, and various methods in musicological and ethnomusicological work and in their own thinking and will be able to choose the most appropriate analytical tools and concepts to examine specific music.
- Interpret, analyze, critique, and reflect on art music from different critical perspectives and aesthetic viewpoints.
- Express ideas about music in written form demonstrating a mastery of factual knowledge, bibliographic resources, analytical method, critical thinking, and the ability to construct a coherent and well-organized argument.
- Perform solo instrumental or vocal repertoire, chamber music, and large ensemble music in public, in a practical demonstration of their understanding of period or cultural aesthetic ideals.
- Apply pedagogical skills appropriate to their instrument/voice, choosing performance exercises that deal with technical issues found in the repertoire, and guiding beginning students in learning music.

Policies and Regulations

Academic Regulations

For information on University-wide Academic Action Policy and honors for scholarship, see Academic Policies (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/>).

Auditing Courses

No studio or performance courses may be audited.

Declaration of Submajor

In most instances, after two years of basic preparatory courses in the major, students choose an area of specialization within their respective departments, known as a submajor. Students must declare a submajor after they have accumulated 45 to 75 credits to assure completion of the appropriate curriculum requirements for graduation.

Grievance and Appeal Procedures

If you have concerns about a class or a grade, or if you've been dropped from a program and would like to appeal, follow the grievance procedures found under the resources section on the Peck School of the Arts Advising & Student Services page (<https://uwm.edu/arts/students/advising/>).

Independent Study

Under special conditions, juniors and seniors are permitted to take courses in independent study. For regulations on independent study, see the departmental advisor.

Program Changes

All program changes must be signed by the instructor and the Peck School of the Arts Office of Student Services. Certain other courses may also require this approval indicated in the semester's *Schedule of Classes*.

Second Bachelor's Degree Candidates

Students with good scholastic records who wish to earn a second bachelor's degree in the Peck School of the Arts must obtain the recommendation of the Peck School of the Arts department in which they wish to major before they can be accepted. Upon acceptance, students must earn in residence a minimum of 30 credits beyond the studies for the first degree and must satisfy all curriculum requirements.

Semester Credit Load

A full-time Peck School of the Arts student is one who takes a minimum of 12 credits per semester. Typically, Peck School of the Arts students are not permitted to carry more than 18 credits per semester. Students who have a 3.0+ cumulative GPA may, with the permission of the Peck School of the Arts Office of Student Services, carry up to 21 credits per semester.

Transfer Students

Transfer students from other universities and colleges or UWM units are accepted by the Peck School of the Arts provided they meet the UWM admissions criteria and have a 2.0+ cumulative GPA.

Honors in the Major

- **Honors in the Major** is granted to students who have earned a GPA of 3.500 or greater in the major and the academic department's recommendation.

- **High Honors in the Major** is granted to students who have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or greater and the academic department's recommendation.
- **Departmental Honors** are granted to students recommended by their academic department for Honors excellence in performance not reflected in the GPA.
- **Dean's Honors** are granted to students with major achievements in one or more of the arts.

College of the Arts and Architecture Dean's Honor List

GPA of 3.750 or above, earned on a full-time student's GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

Honors College Degree and Honors College Degree with Distinction

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/honors-college/>) section of this site.

Commencement Honors

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is **not** rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

Final Honors

Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.

Contact Information

Advising & Student Services
Theatre Building, Room 120

<https://uwm.edu/arts/contact/>