

# BM in Composition

The School of Music offers five majors in music composition:

- Bachelor of Music in composition — harp/guitar/bass emphasis
- Bachelor of Music in composition — keyboard emphasis
- Bachelor of Music in composition — strings emphasis
- Bachelor of Music in composition — voice emphasis
- Bachelor of Music in composition — winds/percussion emphasis

## Program Requirements

A minimum total of 120 credit hours is required for the BM in composition. With the exception of the ensembles required, the degree requirements are the same for each major. Please consult an advisor to determine which ensembles are needed for a specific major. In addition to meeting the requirements of the WSU General Education Program (<http://catalog.wichita.edu/undergraduate/academic-information/general-education-program/>) and the requirements of the College of Fine Arts, students must meet the following requirements:

Course	Title	Hours
<b>General Education</b>		
Select courses to meet General Education requirements <sup>1</sup>		34-35
<b>Applied Music (20 credit hours)</b>		
Primary performance medium		16
Class Piano/Secondary performance medium <sup>2</sup>		4
MUSA 113P	Piano Class Level I - Music Majors	
MUSA 114P	Piano Class Level II - Music Majors	
MUSA 115P	Piano Class Level III - Music Majors	
MUSA 116P	Piano Class Level IV - Music Majors	
<b>Required Music Core (13 credit hours)</b>		
MUSC 127	Musicianship 1	2
MUSC 128	Musicianship 2	2
MUSC 129	Aural Skills 1	2
MUSC 130	Aural Skills 2	2
MUSC 229	Aural Skills 3	2
MUSC 113	Introduction to Music Studies and Professional Skills	3
<b>Musicology Electives (6 credit hours)</b>		
Select 6 credit hours from the following		6
MUSC 336	Survey of the Western Musical Canon	
MUSC 348A	History of Jazz	
MUSC 675A	Topics in Musicology: Aesthetics	
MUSC 675B	Topics in Musicology: Global Musics	
MUSC 675C	Topics in Musicology: Identity	
MUSC 675D	Topics in Musicology: Popular Musics	
<b>Theory/Composition Electives (14 credit hours)</b>		
Select 14 credit hours from the following		14
MUSC 120	Jazz Improvisation	
MUSC 228	Post-Tonal Music	
MUSC 240	Jazz Music Theory	
MUSC 523	Form and Analysis	
MUSC 531	Topics in Music Technology	

MUSC 561	The Art of Counterpoint	
MUSC 345	Jazz Arranging	
MUSC 645	Choral Arranging	
MUSC 650	Performance and Analysis	
MUSC 651A	Topics in Analysis: Music in Media	
MUSC 651B	Topics in Analysis: Popular Music Analysis	
<b>Composition Major Required Courses (26 credit hours)</b>		
MUSC 259	Introduction to Music Composition	2
MUSC 260	Intermediate Music Composition	2
MUSC 560	Applied Composition (repeatable)	4
MUSC 660	Applied Composition (repeatable)	4
MUSC 641	Orchestration	2
MUSP 307 or MUSP 308	Instrumental Conducting Choral Conducting	2
MUSP 651  or MUSP 691	Advanced Conducting and Score Reading Advanced Choral Conducting	2
Ensembles <sup>3, 4</sup>		8
MUSP 105	Recital Attendance (four semesters)	0
MUSP 400	Senior Recital	0
<b>Open Electives (7 credit hours)</b>		
Select enough electives to reach 120 credit hours		7
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>120</b>

<sup>1</sup> Required major courses may also count towards General Education requirements. Students will need to select additional electives to reach 120 credit hours required for graduation with assistance from an advisor.

<sup>2</sup> If piano proficiency is met prior to using the allotted 4 credits, students should pursue a second performance medium.

<sup>3</sup> See degree check sheets for specified ensembles.

<sup>4</sup> Ensembles are counted by semester.

Composition majors are required to present a capstone recital or project featuring their original compositions, representing a variety of mediums. This should represent a minimum of 25 minutes of music. Scores of these compositions, where applicable, should be submitted in PDF form by the end of week one of the recital semester. These scores must be prepared in an approved professional music notation software. Works without scores should be submitted in some other form during week one as well. Since some compositions may not be suitable for recital performance, at the discretion of the supervising faculty, the following may be counted (in whole or in part) toward the 25-minute minimum, provided that it was presented publicly on campus within the year prior to the recital:

1. Works performed by any of WSU's large ensembles;
2. Sound installations;
3. Original compositions for media (film, game, etc.); or
4. Other projects deemed relevant to composition study and comparable to recital performance by the supervising faculty.

*Note:* All music majors must pass a piano proficiency examination.

***Applied Learning***

Students in the Bachelor of Music in composition program are required to complete an applied learning or research experience to graduate from the program. The requirement can be met by completing a senior recital of original compositions, MUSP 400.