Music

Director of Undergraduate Studies: Kaley Mason, Go H 201, 702.8668, krmason@uchicago.edu
Academic Affairs Secretary: James Hillis, Go H 303, 702.2089, jhillis@uchicago.edu
Web: music.uchicago.edu

Program of Study

The Department of Music aims to broaden the exposure to and enrich the understanding of the various musical traditions of the world. Courses address the materials of tonal music in the Western tradition, the analysis of individual works, the study of composers and genres, non-Western and vernacular repertories, musical composition, critical approaches to music, and the role of music in society. The BA program in music provides a background both for graduate work in music and for study in other fields. The department also sponsors a number of performance organizations and concert series.

Courses for Nonmajors: General Education. Students seeking to meet the general education requirement in dramatic, musical, and visual arts with music courses must choose from among the following: Introduction to Western Music (MUSI 10100), Introduction to World Music (MUSI 10200), Introduction to Music: Materials and Design (MUSI 10300), or Introduction to Music Analysis and Criticism (MUSI 10400). Students seeking to meet the general education requirement in civilization studies may select the following two-quarter sequence: Music in Western Civilization (MUSI 12100-12200). These courses are open to all students, regardless of previous musical background.

Other Courses for Nonmajors. In addition to the general education courses, the department offers a two-quarter Introduction to Music Theory (MUSI 14100-14200) for students who have had little or no exposure to reading music. Students who can read music comfortably can take a three-quarter sequence in Harmony (MUSI 15100-15200-15300); a placement examination for this series of courses is given during the first week of Autumn Quarter. Courses numbered from 20000 to 24900 are open to students who have passed a course at the 10000 level or who have equivalent musical background. In addition, courses designed for the major (MUSI 25000 to 29900), as well as certain graduate courses, are open to qualified College students who are not majoring in music, with consent of the instructor.

Students in other programs of study may also complete a minor in music. Information follows the description of the major.
Program Requirements

BA Program. The program for the bachelor's degree in music offers a balance of practical, historical, and conceptual approaches to music.

Students are required to take at least twelve music courses and participate in a campus performing organization (or comparable musical activity) for at least three quarters. Students should begin the major by taking the three-quarter sequence in harmony and voice-leading (MUSI 15100-15200-15300). Students follow this introductory course with the following: (1) a yearlong sequence that takes up topics in the history of Western art music (MUSI 27100-27200-27300), (2) Introduction to the Social and Cultural Study of Music (MUSI 23300), and (3) four additional courses numbered MUSI 20000 or above. MUSI 27100-27200-27300 is offered in alternate years. It typically takes three years to complete the introductory and advanced courses. It is thus highly advisable for students to take the MUSI 15100 through 15300 sequence during their first or second year.

The required course in musicianship skills (MUSI 28500) is offered each quarter of every year and should be taken after the MUSI 15100-15200-15300 sequence. MUSI 28500 is a yearlong course. One quarter’s credit (100 units) is granted in the final quarter after successful completion of all three quarters. To meet requirements for full-time student status, students must carry at least three additional courses each quarter.

Students must arrange a formal consultation with the director of undergraduate studies before declaring music as their major.

Summary of Requirements

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<td>MUSI 28500</td>
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<td>MUSI 23300</td>
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<td>Additional Music Courses</td>
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<td>Participation in a Performance Organization</td>
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Composition. Students whose interest lies in composition are advised to take a sequence of two courses: Introduction to Composition (MUSI 26100) followed by Advanced Composition (MUSI 26200). These two courses are designed for students wishing to learn composition or improve their compositional technique. Students pursuing composition, particularly those intending to apply to graduate school in music composition, are also advised to take such courses as Sixteenth-Century Counterpoint (MUSI 26800), Eighteenth-Century Counterpoint (MUSI 26900), Contemporary Opera (MUSI 22900), Introduction to Computer Technology (MUSI 28200), or Twentieth-Century Analysis (MUSI 25300). By making special arrangements with a composition instructor, students may also register for composition lessons by using an Independent Study elective (MUSI 29700).

Ethnomusicology. Students wishing to specialize in ethnomusicology in the context of a music major are advised to take, in addition to Introduction to the Social and Cultural Study of Music (MUSI 23300), Introduction to World Music (MUSI 10200); these will provide grounding in musical styles and repertoires, as well as the techniques and methods of study central to ethnomusicology. Other classes can be selected at the 23000 level, allowing students to build up specific areas of expertise in fields such as jazz, popular music, Middle Eastern music, and South Asian music. Students considering graduate studies in ethnomusicology are strongly advised to take the Honors Seminar (MUSI 29500) and write an honors thesis with a focus on an ethnomusicological topic.

Grading. Courses used to meet the general education requirement in the dramatic, musical, and visual arts must be taken for a quality grade. Courses taken to meet requirements in the major also must be taken for a quality grade.

Honors. Students may be recommended for honors if they (1) have a GPA of at least 3.0 overall and at least 3.5 in the major, and (2) present an outstanding senior thesis or composition under the approved supervision of a faculty member in the Department of Music. Registration in MUSI 29900 may be devoted to the preparation of the senior thesis or composition. This research paper or project may not be used to meet the BA paper or project requirement in another major. The optional Undergraduate Honors Seminar (MUSI 29500), typically offered each Autumn Quarter, is designed to prepare students to write an honors essay. Students seeking honors should speak with the director of undergraduate studies no later than Spring Quarter of their third year.

Minor Program in Music

The minor program in music requires the completion of seven courses and the student's participation for at least three quarters in a performance organization approved by the Department of Music. Students who elect the minor program in music must meet with the director of undergraduate studies before the end of Spring Quarter of their third year to declare their intention to complete the minor. The director's approval for the minor program should be submitted to a student's College adviser by this deadline on a form obtained from the adviser.

No courses in the minor can be double counted with the student's major(s) or with other minors; nor can they be counted toward general education requirements. They must be taken for quality grades and more than half of the requirements for the minor must be met by registering for courses bearing University of Chicago course numbers.
Performance Organizations

Membership in the Department of Music performance organizations is open to qualified students from all areas of the University through competitive auditions held at the beginning of Autumn Quarter. Most organizations rehearse weekly. For further information, students should see the brochure Performance Opportunities at the University of Chicago or contact Barbara Schubert, director of performing programs.

Symphony Orchestra. The 100-member University Symphony Orchestra presents six concerts per season. Familiar and unusual repertoire from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries is featured, often relating to a particular theme. A major performance with the University Chorus every season, the biennial University Concerto Competition, and regular performances with professional soloists are highlights of the symphony’s activities. Wednesday evening rehearsals. B. Schubert. Summer, Autumn, Winter, Spring.

Chamber Orchestra. The University Chamber Orchestra is a string ensemble that specializes in baroque, early classical, and twentieth-century repertoire. Supplemented by wind players for particular pieces, the group presents one concert per quarter as a core orchestra in the annual opera production. Monday evening rehearsals. A. Koehler. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

Wind Ensemble. The University Wind Ensemble performs both symphonic wind ensemble literature and transcriptions of major orchestral repertoire. The group presents one concert per quarter and occasionally performs at informal activities and social events on campus. Monday evening rehearsals. W. Gordon. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

Chorus. The 100-plus-member University Chorus performs choral literature of the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries, accompanied by keyboard, small instrumental ensembles, or the University Symphony. One major concert per quarter plus supplemental performances on campus and elsewhere in the city make up the season. Monday evening rehearsals. J. Kallembach. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

Motet Choir. The 40-member University Motet Choir is a select group that specializes in a cappella choral literature of all periods, plus Renaissance and baroque works accompanied by period instruments. The ensemble presents one major concert per quarter on campus, has frequent performances elsewhere in Chicago, and goes on an annual tour. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday noontime rehearsals. J. Kallembach. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

Jazz X-TeT. The Jazz X-TeT is an eight- to ten-piece group dedicated to the exploration of small-group improvisation and ensemble performance in traditional jazz styles. The ensemble’s repertoire ranges from standards to new compositions written for the group to collaborative works, often inviting noted professional soloists. The group presents one major concert per quarter on campus, as well as supplemental performances on campus and elsewhere in the city. Wednesday evening rehearsals. M. Bowden. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

Middle East Music Ensemble. The Middle East Music Ensemble (MEME) explores a variety of classical, neo-classical, and popular forms originating throughout the Middle East. Participants develop knowledge of Middle Eastern compositional and improvisational techniques through performance, often with accomplished guest artists. The ensemble performs one major concert per quarter and is open to all students and to community members with appropriate musical experience. Thursday evening rehearsals. I. Boulos. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

New Music Ensemble. The University New Music Ensemble performs a wide variety of twentieth- and twenty-first-century repertoire, with each of its quarterly concerts including solo and ensemble works for singers and instrumentalists. Experimental music, world premieres, and multimedia programs are an integral part of every season, including recognized masterworks and new works by composition students in the Department of Music. Saturday and Sunday rehearsals. B. Schubert. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

Javanese Gamelan Ensemble. The Javanese Gamelan Ensemble is part of the department’s expanded offerings in ethnomusicology. The group focuses on authentic performance practice and makes use of numerous opportunities to rehearse and perform with visiting artists from Java and around the United States. The ensemble’s performances feature contemporary Indonesian and American compositions in addition to traditional Javanese gamelan pieces. Tuesday evening rehearsals. A. Northrup, M. Awe. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

Chamber Music Ensembles. The Chamber Music Program is open to students from all areas of the University and at all levels of proficiency, based upon audition. Various ensembles, which are organized in accordance with players’ tastes and skills, provide opportunities for musical coaching and performance, including master classes and coaching sessions with area professionals, visiting artists, and resident ensembles. Chamber Music Showcase Concerts are held quarterly. Rehearsal schedule to be arranged. I. Levinson. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

Other Performance Activities. Many other musical activities are available at the University, including the Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Company, noontime
This course provides an introduction to ethnomusicology and related disciplines with an emphasis on the role of music as ritual, aesthetic experience, mode of communication, and artistic expression. The second quarter explores extensions of harmonic syntax, the basics of classical form, further work with counterpoint, and nondiatonic seventh chords. The third quarter undertakes the study of modulation, sequences, and additional analysis of classical forms. Musicianship labs in ear training and keyboard skills required. L. Zbikowski, Autumn; S. Rings, Winter; T. Christensen, Spring.

20900/30901. Issues in Film Music. (=CMST 28100) This course explores the role of film music in the history of cinema. What role does music play as part of the narrative (source music) and as nondiegetic music ( underscoring)? How does music of different styles and provenance contribute to the semiotic universe of film? And how did film music assume a central voice in twentieth-century culture? We study music composed for films (original scores) as well as pre-existent music (such as popular and classical music). The twenty films covered in the course may include classical Hollywood cinema, documentaries, foreign (including non-Western) films, experimental films, musicals, and cartoons. This course typically is offered in alternate years. B. Hoeckner. Autumn.

23300. Introduction to the Social and Cultural Study of Music. Prior music course and ability to read music notation not required. This course provides an introduction to ethnomusicology and related disciplines with an emphasis on the role of music as ritual, aesthetic experience, mode of communication, and artistic expression. The second quarter explores extensions of harmonic syntax, the basics of classical form, further work with counterpoint, and nondiatonic seventh chords. The third quarter undertakes the study of modulation, sequences, and additional analysis of classical forms. Musicianship labs in ear training and keyboard skills required. L. Zbikowski, Autumn; S. Rings, Winter; T. Christensen, Spring.
methods and contemporary practice of social and cultural analysis. The course reviews a broad selection of writing on non-Western, popular, vernacular, and “world-music” genres from a historical and theoretical perspective, clarifying key analytical terms (i.e., “culture,” “subculture,” “style,” “ritual,” “globalization”) and methods (i.e., ethnography, semiotics, psychoanalysis, Marxism). In the last part of the course, students learn and develop component skills of fieldwork documentation and ethnographic writing. *Autumn.*

23503/33503. *Introduction to the Musical Folklore of Central Asia.* (=ANTH 25905, EEUR 23400/33400, NEHC 23503/33503) This course explores the musical traditions of the peoples of Central Asia, both in terms of historical development and cultural significance. Topics include the music of the epic tradition, the use of music for healing, instrumental genres, and Central Asian folk and classical traditions. Basic field methods for ethnomusicology are also covered. Extensive use is made of recordings of musical performances and of live performances in the area. *K. Arik. Spring.*

23700/33700. *Music of South Asia.* (=RLST 27700, SALC 20800/30800) PQ: Any 10000-level music course or consent of instructor. This course examines the music of South Asia as an aesthetic domain with both unity and particularity in the region. The unity of the North and South Indian classical traditions is treated historically and analytically, with special emphasis placed on correlating their musical and mythological aspects. The classical traditions are contrasted with regional, tribal, and folk music with respect to fundamental conceptualizations of music and the roles it plays in society. In addition, the repertoires of Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Sri Lanka, as well as states and nations bordering the region, are covered. Music is also considered as a component of myth, religion, popular culture, and the confrontation with modernity. *This course typically is offered in alternate years. Winter.*

23900/33900. *Rock.* PQ: Any 10000-level music course or consent of instructor. This course considers some critical accounts of the music industry, of subcultures, and of mass media aesthetics; some historical dimensions of rock (e.g., circum-Atlantic, global circulation of blues-derived popular forms); and some analytical approaches deriving from the main theoretical traditions of Western art music, psychoanalysis, semiotics, and ethnography—as applied to, for example, rhythm and meter, repetition, tonality, and voice. Students are also encouraged, through readings and listening, to contextualize rock within a broad field of popular/vernacular music making in the twentieth century. *This course typically is offered in alternate years. T. Jackson. Autumn.*

24000/34000. *Composition Lessons.* PQ: MUSI 26100 and consent of instructor. Students may enroll in this course more than once as an elective, but it may be counted only once toward requirements for the music major or minor. This course consists of individual weekly composition lessons. *K. Suzuki. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

25300. *Analysis of Twentieth-Century Music.* PQ: MUSI 15300 or equivalent. This course introduces theoretical and analytical approaches to twentieth-century music. The core of the course involves learning a new theoretical apparatus—often called “set theory”—and exploring how best to apply that apparatus analytically to pieces by composers such as Schoenberg, Bartók, and Stravinsky. We also explore the relevance of the theoretical models to music outside of the high-modernist canon, including some jazz. The course provides an opportunity to confront some foundational questions regarding what it means to “theorize about music.” *This course typically is offered in alternate years. S. Rings. Spring.*
26100. Introduction to Composition. PQ: MUSI 14200 or 15300, or equivalent. This course introduces some of the basic problems in musical composition through a series of simple exercises. Spring.

26300-26400/34700-34800. Introduction to Computer Music. PQ: Consent of instructor. Rudimentary musical skills (but not technical knowledge) required; basic Macintosh skills helpful. This two-quarter course of study gives students in any discipline the opportunity to explore the techniques and aesthetics of computer-generated/assisted music production. During the first quarter, students learn the basics of digital synthesis, the Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI), and programming. These concepts and skills are acquired through lecture, demonstration, reading, and a series of production and programming exercises. Weekly lab tutorials and individual lab time in the department's computer music studio are in addition to scheduled class time. This course is offered in alternate years. H. Sandroff. Autumn, Winter.

26800. Sixteenth-Century Counterpoint. PQ: MUSI 15300 or equivalent. This course is an introduction to the theory, analysis, and composition of modal counterpoint using texts that use examples by sixteenth-century theorists (i.e., Zarlino) and composers (i.e., Josquin, Lassus, Palestrina). Techniques include cantus firmus, canon, and modal mixture. Students read sources, analyze passages, and compose (and improvise) counterpoint in two to four parts. This course typically is offered in alternate years. Autumn.

26900. Eighteenth-Century Counterpoint. This is a practical course for learning the art of fugue writing that concentrates on writing different types of fugues and on short pieces involving different types of imitation. The material is based on Bach's The Well-Tempered Clavier, Goldberg Variations, Das Musikalische Opfer, and Die Kunst der Fuge. This course typically is offered in alternate years. Winter.

27100-27200-27300. Topics in the History of Western Music. PQ: MUSI 14200 or 15300. Open to nonmajors with consent of instructor. This sequence is a three-quarter investigation into Western art music, with primary emphasis on the vocal and instrumental repertories of Western Europe and the United States. MUSI 27100 begins with the earliest notated music and considers monophonic liturgical chant and the development of sacred and secular vocal polyphony through the sixteenth century. MUSI 27200 addresses topics in music from 1600 to 1800, including opera, sacred music, the emergence of instrumental genres, the codification of tonality, and the Viennese classicism of Haydn and Mozart. MUSI 27300 treats music since 1800. Topics include the music of Beethoven and his influence on later composers; the rise of public concerts, German opera, programmatic instrumental music, and nationalist trends; the confrontation with modernism; and the impact of technology on the expansion of musical boundaries. This sequence is offered in alternate years. Winter, Spring.

28500. Musicianship Skills. PQ: MUSI 15300. Open only to students who are majoring in music. One credit is granted only after successful completion of the year's work. This is a yearlong course in ear training, keyboard progressions, realization of figured basses at the keyboard, and reading of chamber and orchestral scores. Classes each week consist of one dictation lab (sixty minutes long) and one keyboard lab (thirty minutes long). A. Briggs. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

29500. Undergraduate Honors Seminar. PQ: Consent of instructor. Open only to fourth-year students who are majoring in music and wish to develop a research project and prepare it for submission for departmental honors. The seminar guides students through the preliminary stages of selecting and refining a topic, and provides an interactive forum for presenting and discussing the early stages of research, conceptualization, and writing. The course culminates in the presentation of a paper that serves as the foundation of the honors thesis. The instructors work closely with honors project supervisors, who may be drawn from the entire music faculty. Autumn.

29700. Independent Study in Music. PQ: Consent of instructor and director of undergraduate studies. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Consent Form. This course is intended for students who wish to pursue specialized readings in music or to do advanced work in composition. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

29900. Senior Essay or Composition. PQ: Consent of instructor and director of undergraduate studies. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Consent Form. Autumn, Winter, Spring.