

# Music

---

Department Website: <http://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 repertoires, 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 the **arts** with music courses must choose from among the following:

MUSI 10100	Introduction to Western Art Music	100
MUSI 10200	Introduction to World Music	100
MUSI 10300	Introduction to Music: Materials and Design	100
MUSI 10400	Introduction to Music: Analysis and Criticism	100

Students seeking to meet the general education requirement in **civilization studies** may select the following two-quarter sequence. These courses are open to all students, regardless of previous musical background.

MUSI 12100-12200	Music in Western Civilization I-II	200
------------------	------------------------------------	-----

## Other Courses for Nonmajors

In addition to the general education courses, the department offers MUSI 14300 Music Theory Fundamentals for students who have had little or no exposure to reading music. Students who can read music comfortably can take the three-quarter sequence MUSI 15100-15200-15300 Harmony and Voice Leading; 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.

## BA Program Requirements

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

Students are required to earn at least 1200 units of music course work and participate for at least three quarters in one of the Music Department's major ensembles (numbered MUSI 17000-MUSI 17999).

Students should begin the major by taking the three-quarter, 300-unit sequence MUSI 15100-15200-15300 Harmony and Voice Leading. Students follow this introductory sequence with the following:

1. MUSI 27100-27200-27300 Topics in the History of Western Music I-II-III, a yearlong sequence that covers topics in the history of Western art music,
2. MUSI 23300 Introduction to the Social and Cultural Study of Music,
3. MUSI 28500 Musicianship Skills, a yearlong course (see below for details), and
4. Four additional courses numbered MUSI 20000 or above.

MUSI 27100-27200-27300 Topics in the History of Western Music I-II-III is now offered every year, thus making it possible to complete the major within the space of two years. However, it is highly advisable for students to take MUSI 15100-15200-15300 Harmony and Voice Leading before the MUSI 270s sequence, i.e., during their first or second year.

MUSI 28500 Musicianship Skills is a yearlong, 100-unit course that should be taken after the MUSI 15100-15200-15300 Harmony and Voice Leading sequence. Though students are expected to participate in Musicianship Skills for the full year, the Autumn and Winter Quarter enrollments are worth zero units; credit is earned upon completion of the yearlong course via enrollment in Spring Quarter. To meet requirements for full-time student status, students must be enrolled in at least three other courses (300–400 units) during Autumn and Winter Quarters.

Students must arrange a formal consultation with the director of undergraduate studies before declaring music as their major. Declaration is formalized via [my.uchicago.edu](http://my.uchicago.edu).

## Summary of Requirements

MUSI 15100-15200-15300 Harmony and Voice Leading

300

MUSI 23300	Introduction to the Social and Cultural Study of Music	100
MUSI 27100-27200-27300	Topics in the History of Western Music I-II-III	300
Four additional courses numbered MUSI 20000 or above		400
MUSI 28500	Musicianship Skills *	100
Participation for at least three quarters in one of the Music Department's major ensembles		
Total Units		1200

\* MUSI 28500 Musicianship Skills is a yearlong course. One quarter's credit (100 units) is granted by completion of the Spring Quarter enrollment. To meet requirements for full-time student status, students must carry at least three additional courses in Autumn and Winter Quarters.

### Composition

Students whose interest lies in composition are advised to take MUSI 26100 Introduction to Composition as one of their electives in the major. It is designed for students wishing to learn composition or to 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:

MUSI 25300	Analysis of Twentieth-Century Music	100
MUSI 26100	Introduction to Composition	100
MUSI 26300-26400	Introduction to Computer Music	200
MUSI 26800	Sixteenth-Century Counterpoint	100
MUSI 26900	Eighteenth-Century Counterpoint	100

By making special arrangements with a composition instructor, students may also register for composition lessons by using MUSI 29700 Independent Study in Music as an elective.

### Ethnomusicology

Students wishing to specialize in ethnomusicology in the context of a music major are advised to take MUSI 10200 Introduction to World Music for their general education requirement in the arts in addition to MUSI 23300 Introduction to the Social and Cultural Study of Music; these will provide grounding in musical styles and repertoires, as well as the techniques and methods of study central to ethnomusicology. Other courses 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 MUSI 29500 Undergraduate Honors Seminar and write an honors thesis with a focus on an ethnomusicological topic.

### Grading

Courses used to meet the general education requirement in the arts must be taken for a quality grade. Courses taken to meet requirements in the major or minor 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 Senior Essay or Composition may be devoted to the preparation of the senior thesis or composition during the student's fourth year. This research paper or project may not be used to meet the BA paper or project requirement in another major. The optional MUSI 29500 Undergraduate Honors Seminar, typically offered each Spring Quarter, is designed to prepare third-year students to write an honors essay. Students seeking honors should speak with the director of undergraduate studies no later than Winter Quarter of their third year.

### Minor Program in Music

The minor program in music requires the completion of seven courses and the student's registration for at least three quarters in one of the Music Department's major ensembles with the consent of the director of undergraduate studies. 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.

### Summary of Requirements: Minor Program in Music

MUSI 15100-15200-15300	Harmony and Voice Leading	300
Four additional music courses numbered as MUSI 20000 or above		400
Participation for at least three quarters in one of the Music Department's major ensembles		
Total Units		700

## 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 visit the University of Chicago Music Performance Program website at [music.uchicago.edu/page/ensembles-and-programs-overview](http://music.uchicago.edu/page/ensembles-and-programs-overview) or contact Barbara Schubert, director of performance programs, at [b-schubert@uchicago.edu](mailto:b-schubert@uchicago.edu).

MUSI 17000	University Chorus
MUSI 17001	Motet Choir
MUSI 17002	Women's Ensemble
MUSI 17003	Rockefeller Chapel Choir
MUSI 17010	University Symphony Orchestra
MUSI 17011	University Chamber Orchestra
MUSI 17012	University Wind Ensemble
MUSI 17020	Early Music Ensemble
MUSI 17021	Jazz X-tet
MUSI 17022	Jazz Combo
MUSI 17023	Middle East Music Ensemble
MUSI 17024	New Music Ensemble
MUSI 17025	South Asian Music Ensemble

## Other Performance Activities

*These activities do not satisfy the ensemble requirement for the music major or minor.* Many other musical activities are available at the University, including the Chamber Music Program (<http://music.uchicago.edu/page/related-programs/#Chamber%20Music%20Program>), Piano Program (<http://music.uchicago.edu/page/related-programs/#Piano%20Program>), Vocal Studies Program (<http://music.uchicago.edu/page/related-programs/#Vocal%20Studies%20Program>), the Tea Time Concert Series (<http://music.uchicago.edu/page/tea-time-concert-series>), Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Company (<http://www.gilbertandsullivanoperacompany.org>), and many other campus opportunities (<http://music.uchicago.edu/page/other-campus-opportunities>).





### Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

Times was used instead of Trajan.

Times was used instead of Palatino.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.