

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

CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
FYS 100	First Year Seminar	3	_____
MTH 121	Critical Thinking	3	_____
_____	Critical Thinking	3	_____

CORE 2:

CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
ENG 101	Beginning Composition	3	_____
ENG 201	Advanced Composition	3	_____
CMM 103	Fund Speech-Communication	3	_____
MTH 121	Concepts and Applications (CT)	3	_____
_____	Core II Phys./Natural Science	4	_____
_____	Core II Humanities	3	_____
_____	Core II Social Science	3	_____
_____	Core II Fine Arts	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
_____	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 213	Advanced Aural Skills I	2	_____
MUS 218	Intro to Music Technology	3	_____
MUS 301	Analysis	3	_____
MUS 310	Performing Arts Entrepreneurship	1	_____
MUS 315	Basic Conducting	2	_____
MUS 317	Counterpoint	2	_____
MUS 320	Instrumental Arranging (or MUS 322)	2	_____
MUS 360	Music History 1730-1900	3	_____
MUS 361	Music Since the 1900's	3	_____
MUS 376	Recital	1	_____
MUS 432	Electronic Music Composition	2	_____
MUS 476	Senior Recital	0	_____
_____	Improvisation Class	1	_____
MUS 497	Capstone	1-2	_____
_____	Music Elective	2-6	_____
MUS 179A	Class Piano	1	_____
MUS179B	Class Piano	1	_____
MUS179C	Class Piano	1	_____
MUS179D	Class Piano	1	_____
_____	Non-Music Elective	4	_____
_____	Non-Music Elective	3	_____
_____	Non-Music Elective	3	_____
_____	Non-Music Elective	3	_____

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 theory and 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.

	FALL SEMESTER				SPRING SEMESTER			
	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
YEAR ONE	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	_____
	MUS 180	Applied Composition	1-2	_____	ENG 101	Beginning Composition	3	_____
	_____	Ensemble 200 Level	1	_____	MUS 180	Applied Composition	1-2	_____
	_____	Applied 100	1-2	_____	_____	Ensemble 200 Level	1	_____
	UNI 100	Freshman First Class	1	_____	_____	Applied 100	1-2	_____
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	_____
	_____	Ensemble 200 Level	1	_____	_____	Applied 100	1-2	_____
	_____	Applied 100	1-2	_____	_____	Non-Music Elective	2	_____
ENG 201	Advanced Composition	3	_____					
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	_____
	_____	Core II Fine Arts	3	_____	_____	Core II Humanities (WI, CT)	3	_____
	_____				_____	Non-Music Elective	3	_____
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	_____
	_____	Non-Music Elective	3	_____	_____	Non-Music Elective	4	_____

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

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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!



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



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



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



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

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.



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



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



Are you making progress toward completion of your piano proficiency? If not, please speak with your music advisor.



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

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.



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



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



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



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

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?



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



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.



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



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

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
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