MPATC-GE 2026 Colloquy in Music (2-3 Credits)
Typically offered Fall, Spring, and Summer terms
Designed primarily for Master's candidates in music performance and/or composition. Synthesis for learning based on performance. Recital and a Master's final written project are required.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: Yes

MPATC-GE 2027 Seminar in Composition: String Quartet I (3 Credits)
Typically offered Fall and Spring
This is the first of a two-seminar sequence that provides analytical and practical approaches to composition for the string quartet. Over the course of two semesters students write a progressive series of studies starting with a solo, followed by a duo, trio and finally a full quartet. Professional musicians workshop these pieces in class, culminating in a concert by a guest quartet in residence. Interwoven with these workshops students analyze and discuss contemporary quartet repertoire from the past 50 years.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2028 Seminar in Composition: String Quartet II (3 Credits)
Typically offered Fall and Spring
This is the second of a two-seminar sequence that provides both analytical and practical approaches to composition for the string quartet. This seminar includes workshops and performances of a full composition for String Quartet as well as student presentations on selected contemporary quartet repertoire.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: Yes

MPATC-GE 2029 Seminar in Composition: Innovation (3 Credits)
In this workshop on musical innovation, our unbridled artistry, open dialogue, and freeexpression will culminate in our final performance: innOVATION. We will embark on an eclectic journey of surprises, exceptions and extremes by comparing contemporary avant-garde trends to fringe music/multimedia across time, location and style. Our inclusive approach to sonic, technological, structural and conceptual experimentation welcomes students interested in musical innovation from any field, be it composition, multimedia, technology, performance, theory, education, or science.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2030 Composer's Ensemble (3 Credits)
Typically offered Fall and Spring
Rehearsal techniques and special problems in ensemble performance.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: Yes

MPATC-GE 2031 Contemporary Music (3 Credits)
Typically offered Fall
In-depth study of selected topics in music since 1945 emphasizing developments in the recent avant-garde.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2032 Scoring Techniques (3 Credits)
In this umbrella course, students study and practice a specific area in the field of screen music scoring. The course is intended as a means to provide students with the necessary insights to develop professionally in these specific areas of interest. During the course, students are exposed to real-world scoring scenarios.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No
MPATC-GE 2041 Scoring Techniques: Video Games (3 Credits)
This course provides students with the set of skills required to create music for video games and interactive environments. During the course, students learn how to work with technology used to implement audio in games, work on strategies to create interactive non-linear music, and develop strategies to foster their creativity by applying specific techniques designed to create rich music in these environments.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: Yes

MPATC-GE 2042 Psychology of Music (3 Credits)
Typically offered Fall and Summer terms
This course considers the effect of music on the human mind. Concepts discussed include our perception of music, psychoacoustics, expressive performance, representations of music, computational models, and the relations between music theory and our perceptions of music.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2046 Music Criticism (3 Credits)
Typically offered Fall and Spring
Explores the role of critics in the development of individual careers and in more general tendencies in music and the arts. The approach is largely practical, with discussions of the 'real world' of music and journalism, analysis of published and unpublished reviews, examination of the criteria that go into critical thinking, and the writing of several reviews. Reading assignments provide historical and theoretical contexts.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2048 Scoring Techniques: Film & Animation (3 Credits)
Typically offered Fall and Spring
In this hands-on course, students study and practice a specific area in the field of screen music scoring. The course is intended as a means to provide the students with the necessary insights to develop professionally in these specific areas of interest. During the course, students are exposed to real-world scoring scenarios.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: Yes

MPATC-GE 2049 Contemporary Scoring Techniques (2-3 Credits)
Typically offered Fall and Spring
Immerses the student composer in creating music for a range of visual media including movies, shorts, television, and animation. Topics of inquiry include the visual, aural, narrative, textual and subtextual components of communication with moving images; the aesthetics, techniques and technicalities of spotting and synchronizing music; orchestration, both traditional and digital; production and mixing; and compositional practices unique to the work of scoring for moving images. Weekly scoring assignments and in-class critiques.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2069 Opera in The 20th Cent (3 Credits)
Typically offered Spring
An examination of opera from the beginning of the 20th century to the present. An overview of the important works composed within this time period and an in-depth musical examination of selected pre-1950 works. Discussion of issues in present day composition and production of opera, including perspectives from prominent people in the field.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2080 Advanced Orchestration (3 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
This umbrella course examines the principles of orchestral scoring through detailed analysis of seminal scores and written orchestration projects. Topics courses enable students to focus their studies on specialized applications, such as orchestration of music for the concert hall, orchestration for screen music, and contemporary instrumentation and orchestration techniques.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2081 Advanced Orchestration: Screen Scoring (3 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
This hands-on course provides the students with a practical toolkit to enable them to become proficient orchestrators in the field of film and media production. Using examples from traditional and contemporary practices, students analyze seminal scores written for the screen, orchestrate diverse exercises, and evaluate the result of their work by listening to live recordings of their exercises.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: Yes

MPATC-GE 2082 Advanced Orchestration: Concert Music (3 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
The principles of orchestral scoring are examined through detailed score analysis and writing projects, as well as related topics including transposition, score format, and new notation. Classical through contemporary styles.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: Yes

MPATC-GE 2088 Orchestration I (3 Credits)
This introductory course to instrumentation and orchestration covers the basics of writing for orchestral instruments, while also introducing students to the creative process of orchestral thinking. Through a combination of online self-learning modules, in-class demonstrations and workshops with performers, class discussion and score analysis, and readings of the students' work by diverse ensembles, the students learn the intricacies ofidiomatically writing for orchestral instruments and typical orchestral ensembles.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2090 Song Writers Forum (2-3 Credits)
Typically offered Fall and Spring
Songwriters Forum is a practical writing course designed to help students become the best music creators they can be, in styles, genres, and approaches they define. While the focus tends to be on popular song, the curriculum addresses any and all songwriting. Forum students analyze, review, and, most of all, explore the tools (including collaboration) employed by composers and lyricists whose work has distinguished them as important practitioners of the art and craft of song. The goal is improved writing, with all other elements and aspects directed towards it.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: Yes
MPATC-GE 2095  Songwriting History and Criticism (3 Credits)
Typically offered Fall
This course will explore the history & development of classic popular music of the past 60 years. Through a detailed study of 14 profoundly influential songs & recordings, we will examine how art affects, & is affected by, its cultural & historical moment. Over the course of the semester, students will engage in musical analysis, critical listening, & a detailed study of songwriting & recording techniques. They will also view archival films of relevant musical artists, & engage in close analysis of selected musical performances.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2096  Songwriting History and Criticisms: 14 Songs (2-3 Credits)
Typically offered Spring
This course will explore the history and development of classic popular music of the past 60 years, with a focus on the period 1980-2005. Through a detailed study of 14 profoundly influential songs and recordings, we will examine how art affects, and is affected by, its cultural and historical moment. Students will engage in musical analysis, critical listening, and a detailed study of songwriting and recording techniques. They will also view archival video of relevant musical artists, films, and news events and engage in close analysis of select musical performances.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2098 Orchestration II (3 Credits)
This introductory course to instrumentation and orchestration covers the basics of writing for the most important orchestral instruments, and introduces the students to the creative process of orchestral thinking. Students learn by a combination of online self-learning modules, in-class
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2109 Narrative Writing for Music Analysis (3 Credits)
Typically offered Spring
The course introduces students to the stylistic and analytical norms of writing compelling and well-grounded analyses of music. Students will progress through a series of exercises leading to a substantial music analysis in written narrative form. Students will develop and expand their writing skills in preparation for advanced coursework in music theory and literature, as well as scholarly writing in music.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2116 Music Theory Pedagogy (3 Credits)
This course introduces students to the specialized discipline of teaching music theory. Through extensive study of recent debates, current scholarship, and online resources, students develop a broader understanding of the pedagogical context for undergraduate theory and aural skills training, and best practices for presenting these materials in a 21st-century classroom. With a defined focus on professional development, this course prepares students for college-level classroom teaching.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2127 Aesthetics/Compositional Process in Symphony (3 Credits)
Typically offered Fall
Students examine the impact of a large scale form on the compositional process. The course focuses on an in-depth study of the many issues raised in planning and composing symphonic works and the specific aesthetic concerns of composers in the structuring of large-scale symphonic works.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2130 Conducting (1 Credit)
In this umbrella course, students practice the techniques and methodologies of music conducting for a varied set of situations, levels, and ensembles.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2131 Conducting: Foundations (1 Credit)
In this studio class, students develop foundational conducting skills for the professional conductor. This includes specific techniques associated with choral conducting, instrumental conducting, and conducting synchronized with visual media. Topics include arms/baton technique, rehearsing the ensemble, score study techniques, and conducting with a click track.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2133 Conducting: Advanced Musical Theater (3 Credits)
In this studio class, students work on specific advanced skills required for the professional music theater conductor. They study works from the music theater repertoire, with a specific emphasis on shows of various periods and genres. Students develop a comprehensive approach to rehearsal planning and structure, including specific strategies that allow time optimization.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2134 Conducting: Intermediate Instrumental (2 Credits)
In this studio class, students build upon foundational conducting skills to develop specific techniques to conduct instrumental ensembles with a focus on the orchestral repertoire. Students practice seminal pieces of the history of western orchestral music that serve as case studies to develop a sophisticated set of instrumental conducting skills.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2135 Conducting: Advanced Instrumental (3 Credits)
In this studio class, students work on specific advanced skills required for today’s professional orchestral and ensemble conductor. They practice challenging pieces from the orchestral repertoire, with a specific emphasis on contemporary pieces of music. Students also develop a comprehensive approach to rehearsal planning and structure, including specific strategies that allow time optimization.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No
MPATC-GE 2200  Seminar in Music Theory  (3 Credits)
Typically offered Spring
Under this general title various courses will be offered that explore music theoretic and analytical topics of current interest. These topics will range from (i) the study and application of an important theoretical framework or analytical approach, to (ii) the close examination of a particular repertory and the theoretical/analytical tools developed for it.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2201  Seminar Music Theory: Schenkerian Analysis  (3 Credits)
Typically offered Fall
This course will provide students with a thorough grounding in Heinrich Schenker’s theory of tonal structure. The associated analytical technique will be developed through weekly assignments and a final project. A number of specialized topics - including the theory’s implications to performance, composition, and improvisation - will be explored through readings from the Schenkerian literature.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2202  Sem in Music North Indian & Balinese Gamelan Analysis  (3 Credits)
Typically offered not typically offered
In recent years, there has been a marked increase in theoretical and analytical writing on musics that lie outside the European art music tradition. This course focuses on two traditions: North Indian Classical and Balinese gamelan music, incorporating transcription, analysis, and critical engagement with recently published theoretical writing. Students explore compositional and improvisational techniques, processes, and forms used in these musical traditions.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2207  Seminar In Music Theory: Recent Approaches to Music Analysis  (3 Credits)
Typically offered not typically offered
The range of music analytical techniques continues to expand as music theory begins to incorporate more and more insights from fields as far flung as mathematics, cognitive psychology, and performance studies while branching out into the study of repertories far removed from the standard canon. In addition, while pitch has long remained the focus of theoretical modeling, new theories of rhythm, form, and timbre have brought increasing sophistication to our understanding of these subdisciplines. This course will provide students with the background to explore a broad spectrum of recent work in music theory and analysis.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2208  Seminar in Music Theory: Analyzing Tonal Forms  (3 Credits)
Typically offered not typically offered
This course centers on in-depth study of tonal forms from the 18th & 19th centuries. Students will engage with major repertoire from the tonal canon starting at the phrase level & ending with analyses of full-length works. A major emphasis of this course is engaging with deformations of the tonal models, developing strategies for analyzing new works, & effectively articulating a work’s underlying narrative in formal theoretical writing. Explorations into later tonal styles will also occur later in the semester.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2209  Seminar in Music Theory: Music and the Senses  (3 Credits)
Our senses are inextricably linked. Sounds can create the illusion of visual movement, a pianist’s gestures alter the way we perceive duration, a change in musical timbre can make a cup of coffee taste more bitter, and the flash of an object can make an unnoticed sound audible. Drawing on research in cognitive psychology and neuroscience, this course explores the dynamic way our senses influence our experience of music and multimedia. Through class discussions and projects, students apply research in multisensory perception to their own area of specialization.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2230  Review of Tonal Theory I  (1 Credit)
Typically offered Fall
This course will review & extend the material covered in a standard undergraduate music theory sequence, from the phrase of model through elements of tonal counterpoint & chromaticism to a study of large-scale forms. The focus will be on the Western European tonal traditions of the 18th & 19th centuries, with excursions into 20th century repertory as appropriate. Lectures will consider the pedagogy of music theory as well as a range of theoretical viewpoints. Weekly problem sets & analytical assignments will reinforce the class content.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2231  Review of Tonal Theory II  (1 Credit)
Typically offered Spring
This course will review & extend the material covered in a standard undergraduate music theory sequence, from the phrase model through elements of tonal counterpoint & chromaticism to a study of large-scale forms. The focus will be on the Western European tonal tradition of the 18th & 19th centuries, with excursions into 20th century repertories as appropriate. Lectures will consider the pedagogy of music theory as well as a range of theoretical viewpoints. Weekly problem sets & analytical assignments will reinforce the class content.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2300  Ind Study  (1-6 Credits)
Typically offered Fall, Spring, and Summer terms
It should be noted that independent study requires a minimum of 45 hours of work per point. Independent study cannot be applied to the established professional education sequence in teaching curricula. Each departmental program has established its own maximum credit allowance for independent study. This information may be obtained from a student’s department. Prior to registering for independent study, each student should obtain an Independent Study Approval Form from the adviser.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: Yes

MPATC-GE 2321  Private Composition Lessons  (1-3 Credits)
Typically offered Fall, Spring, and Summer terms
Composition in all forms and styles including electronic. Electronic laboratory by assignment. Weekly attendance at department Composer’s Forum required.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: Yes
MPATC-GE 2322 Composition Masterclass (1 Credit)
Typically offered not typically offered
This course, taught in small groups of students, serves to polish and develop composing skills in an environment that stimulates discussion. During the small group discussions, students present some of their work, which is critiqued by the instructor and the other students in the group. Through this process of critique and discussion, students refine their composition skills and techniques.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: Yes

MPATC-GE 2424 Composers Forum (3 Credits)
Typically offered Spring
Students attend weekly presentations from composers, and concerts. Composer guests introduce the students to their aesthetic world by discussing, analyzing, and playing recordings of some of their most relevant works. Students will have the opportunity to network with a diverse range of visiting composers, which will help them to create contacts for their professional development. Some of the classes include attending concerts in which works from living composers are featured, including NYU students and faculty.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: Yes

MPATC-GE 2429 Music Notation (1 Credit)
Typically offered not typically offered
This course provides the advanced knowledge in music notation and music preparation required for the professional world. Students learn the best practices to present and produce scores using industry standard notation software programs. Students also learn how to be efficient in creating, revising, and preparing their scores. In addition, students learn how to incorporate advanced or non-standard notation in their scores.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2472 Music Lit of the 20 Cent: Sound, Music, Tech (1900-Present) (3 Credits)
Typically offered Fall
This course tells the stories of composers, inventors, & entrepreneurs who opened music up to electronic instruments, new sounds, & new ideas of composition between 1900 & the beginning of the 21st century. Specific instruments will be examined, including the Theremin, RCA Synthesizer, Moog synthesizer, Buchla synthesizer, Synclavier, & Kyma. Specific compositions will be discussed. This course will define a starting point for ongoing innovation in sound design, composition, & the creation of new musical instruments.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2501 Narrative and Theatrical Songwriting (3 Credits)
This course introduces students to the practice and discipline of writing narrative and theatrical songs (those that tell a story or function as part of a larger one) through a survey of the literature, an examination of the principles and tools employed in such songs, and guided creation of individual songs and larger works. Analyses of material from the repertoire serve as a basis for inspiring new work. Emphasis on comprehending and mastering the writing process, and responding to the modern cultural context in which this work is created.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2506 Rights, Revenue & Relationships: What Music Creators Need to Know (3 Credits)
Students pursuing careers in music creation — songwriters, composers, instrumentalists, vocalists, engineers, producers, and others — need to be well-versed in myriad ways to protect and maximize the rights, revenue streams, and professional relationships that flow from their work. As music marketplace opportunities and distribution channels widen and diversify, music creators have far greater choices than ever before. Students explore the essential elements required to build a career and a life in music, examining them from the creator’s perspective.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2520 Seminar in Composition: Masterclass with Julia Wolfe (1 Credit)
Typically offered Fall and Spring
Focuses on developing a personal musical language, compositional skills, and self-presentation - all key factors in developing a presence in the field of Music Composition. Students create new works for the NYU Contemporary Ensemble. The course includes student presentations of their works-in-progress, presentations of previous works, and engagement with the ensemble. Critique/feedback is offered on form, aesthetics, orchestration, and developing an individual voice, as well as on how composers articulate their ideas to the public.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2550 Screen Music: History, Analysis, and Aesthetics. (3-4 Credits)
Typically offered Fall and Spring
This research-based course explores the aesthetics and the history of music for the screen. In a modular approach, all students study core research foundations that relate to the field of music for the screen. After this, they select between a range of research topics that relate to the history and/or aesthetics of diverse types of music for the screen.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2555 Music Editing for Screen Music (3-4 Credits)
Typically offered Fall and Spring
Musical, aesthetic, and technical processes of assembling and shaping a film's soundtrack in collaboration with the filmmaker and composer. Collaborative projects encompassing film score recording sessions, an understanding of the music editor's position, responsibilities, and techniques in the post-production process of a film.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 2930 Review of Tonal Theory I (1 Credit)
Typically offered Fall, Spring, and Summer terms
This first course in a two-semester sequence reviews and extends material covered in a standard undergraduate music theory sequence, from the phrase model through elements of tonal counterpoint and chromaticism to a study of large-scale forms. Emphasis on Western European tonal traditions of the 18th and 19th centuries, with excursions into 20th-century repertory as appropriate. Lectures focus on analysis, dictation, and written theory skills and homework assignments and dictations reinforce class content. Level I discusses diatonic tonal harmony.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No
MPATC-GE 2931  Review of Tonal Theory II  (1 Credit)
Typically offered Fall and Spring
This second course in a two-semester sequence reviews and extends material covered in a standard undergraduate music theory sequence, from the phrase model through elements of tonal counterpoint and chromaticism to a study of large-scale forms. Emphasis on the Western European tonal traditions of the 18th and 19th centuries, with excursions into 20th-century repertory as appropriate. Lectures focus on analysis, dictation, and written theory skills and homework assignments and dictations reinforce class content. Level II focuses on chromatic tonal harmony.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

MPATC-GE 3026  Sem in Music+Music Ed  (2-4 Credits)
Typically offered Fall
Designed for doctoral students. Study directed toward fulfillment of degree requirements in performance and/or composition.
Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: Yes