

MUSIC (BA)

CIP: 50.0901

Program Description

The Music Program at NYU Abu Dhabi is committed to educating a new generation of musicians, capable of making and thinking about music from transnational and interdisciplinary perspectives. We seek to enrich the education and experience of all NYUAD students, and foster a vibrant and diverse musical community.

The music major at NYU Abu Dhabi focuses on developing well-rounded students, no matter which track they choose. In the Music Practice track, students develop an artistic practice combining composition, technology, and performance. The Music Studies track produces scholars of music with proficiency in research and a sophisticated understanding of music as a global cultural phenomenon.

Non-majors may engage with the Music Program in a variety of ways –from developing musical skills through lessons and ensembles to integrating one of our many crosslisted seminar courses into a broader program of study.

In the twenty-first century, music defies boundaries. Composers and performers now consistently stretch their art beyond the strictures of traditional instruments and sounds, and sometimes even beyond the realm of sound itself into engagement with movement and interactive media. Meanwhile, music has become a topic of cutting-edge scholarly work in such diverse disciplines as computer science, disability studies, history, neuroscience, philosophy, psychology, and sociocultural anthropology.

The Music Program fully embraces this reality. The faculty engage with multiple disciplines in their scholarly work, creative work, and teaching. The Program maintains key participation in the minors in Anthropology, African studies, Peace Studies, and Sound and Music Computing, as well as curricular synergies with Film, Theater, and Interactive Media.

By taking advantage of the uniqueness of Abu Dhabi as a cosmopolitan city and an international hub, the Music Program offers students opportunities to learn firsthand about a diverse range of traditional and popular music spanning various cultures and styles.

We connect our students to the thriving music and media scenes in Abu Dhabi, Dubai, and other dynamic urban centers in the MENA, East Africa, and India (not to mention Europe and North America), by facilitating artist visits, field trips, and various opportunities for study and internship. What is more, the close relationship between the Music Program and the NYUAD Arts Center opens many opportunities for students to engage with world-renowned artists through a range of activities, from educational workshops to recording sessions in our state-of-the-art facilities.

Study Away Pathway for Music

The study away pathway for the Music major can be found on the NYUAD Student Portal at students.nyuad.nyu.edu/pathways (<https://students.nyuad.nyu.edu/pathways/>). Students with questions should contact the Office of Global Education.

Admissions

New York University's Office of Undergraduate Admissions supports the application process for all undergraduate programs at NYU. For additional information about undergraduate admissions, including application requirements, see [How to Apply \(https://www.nyu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply.html\)](https://www.nyu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply.html).

Program Requirements

The Music major requires a minimum of 13 courses, and has two tracks: Artistic Practice and Music Studies. The courses offered by the music program are grouped into four disciplinary areas: Music Practice, Music Studies, Music Technology, and Music Theory. Different combinations of courses in the four disciplinary areas define the track for the major.

Note: *Individual Instruction (in Performance or Composition), Group Instruction (in Performance), and Ensembles, MUSIC-UH 1410 and MUSIC-UH 1420 are 2-credit courses. All other courses in the Music Program are 4-credit courses.*

Course	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		
Colloquia		8
First-Year Seminar		4
Arts, Design, and Technology		4
Cultural Exploration Analysis		4
Data and Discovery		4
Structures of Thought and Society		4
January Term Courses (3 courses)		12
Required Courses		
MUSIC-UH 1001	Music Theory & Analysis I	4
MUSIC-UH 1002	Music Technology Fundamentals	4
MUSIC-UH 1003	Making Music	4
Select one of the following:		8
MUSIC-UH 1004 & MUSIC-UH 2005	Music: Histories and Historiography 1 and Anthropology of Music 2	
MUSIC-UH 1005 & MUSIC-UH 2004	Anthropology of Music 1 and Music Histories and Historiography 2	
MUSIC-UH 4000	Capstone Seminar	4
Major Requirements		
Select one of the following tracks:		28-52
Artistic Practice		
Music Studies		
Other Elective Credits		
Total Credits		92-116

Tracks

Artistic Practice

Course	Title	Credits
Select one elective course in Music Theory or Music Studies		4
Select 20 credits of elective course work in Music Practice and/or Music Technology including: at least two 2-credit individual instruction and/or ensemble experiences; at least two 3- or 4-credit courses in Music Practice and/or Music Technology		20
MUSIC-UH 4001	Music Practice Capstone Project	4
Total Credits		28

Music Studies

Course	Title	Credits
Select eight elective courses in Music Theory or Music Studies		32
Select 16 credits of elective courses in Music Studies and/or Music Theory		16
MUSIC-UH 4001	Music Practice Capstone Project	4
Total Credits		52

Note: Regardless of track, individual instruction cannot be taken for more than 8 credits in either instrument or composition and cannot be more than 10 credits in total.

Sample Plan of Study

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the NYU Abu Dhabi Music degree, all graduates are expected to have developed:

1. Musical literacy, conceived as formal knowledge of music and musical practices from major world cultures, according to style, periodization, region, genre, and structural features.
2. Ability to communicate in written and oral form about music and music practices employing a critical vocabulary that can be applied to the analysis, interpretation, and making of music;
3. Ability to use sound equipment, and music notation, sequencing, recording, and programming software;
4. Ability to compose music in different styles for different configurations instruments voices and/or electronics;
5. Ability to proficiently play an instrument or sing with proper intonation, clear articulation and phrasing;
6. An interdisciplinary conception of music, informed by a well-grounded understanding of its historical and contemporary interrelations with other art forms and fields of inquiry and research.

Music Practice

Upon successful completion of the Music Practice track, graduates will:

1. Ability to develop artistic work that reflects conceptual thought;
2. The development an original Capstone project that demonstrates autonomy and engagement with an arts practice tradition.

Music Studies

Upon successful completion of the Music Studies track, graduates will:

1. The ability to read critically and engage with scholarship on music;
2. The ability to conduct original research, using library resources, archives, ethnographic methods and/or relevant new technologies, expressed in the form of a scholarly essay.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

NYU Abu Dhabi Policies

A full list of relevant policies can be found on NYU Abu Dhabi's undergraduate academic policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/undergraduate/abu-dhabi/academic-policies/>).