

# 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) (<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 are 2-credit courses. All other courses in the Music Program are 4-credit courses.*

Course	Title	Credits
<b>General Education Requirements</b>		
Colloquia		4
First-Year Writing Seminar		4
Arts, Design, and Technology		4
Cultural Exploration Analysis		4
Data and Discovery		4
Structures of Thought and Society		4
J-Term Field Colloquia (2 courses)		6
Physical Education (2 courses)		0
<b>Required Courses</b>		
MUSIC-UH 1006	Thinking and Writing About Music	4
MUSIC-UH 1101	Sonic Practice	4
MUSIC-UH 1010	Musicianship Skills I	2
MUSIC-UH 1011	Musicianship Skills II	2
Select two of the following:		8
MUSIC-UH 2004	Music Histories and Historiography 2	
MUSIC-UH 2005	Anthropology of Music 2	
MUSIC-UH 2210	Art of Song	
MUSIC-UH 2413	Fundamentals of Digital Audio - Introduction to Pro Tools	
MUSIC-UH 2416	Recording and Production Techniques	
MUSIC-UH 2417	Advanced Musical Programming	
MUSIC-UH 2418	Immersive Audio Storytelling for Motion Picture	
MUSIC-UH 2419	Computational Approaches to Music and Audio I	
MUSIC-UH 2662	Music and Copyright	
MUSIC-UH 2665	Global Jazz	
MUSIC-UH 2667X	Music of the Indian Ocean World	

MUSIC-UH 2668	Popular Music and Politics in Africa	
MUSIC-UH 2801	Music Theory & Analysis II (Select one of the following:)	
Select one of the following:		4
MUSIC-UH 3411	Mixing & Mastering Techniques	
MUSIC-UH 3417	Computational Approaches to Music and Audio II	
MUSIC-UH 3430	Special Topics in Music Production	
MUSIC-UH 3460	Advanced Topics in Music Technology	
MUSIC-UH 3860	Advanced Topics in Music Theory	
<b>Major Electives</b>		
Select 3 major elective credits		12
<b>Capstone</b>		
MUSIC-UH 4000	Capstone Seminar	4
MUSIC-UH 4001	Music Practice Capstone Project	4
<b>Other Electives</b>		
Other Elective Credits		54
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>128</b>

**Note:** 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

Course	Title	Credits
<b>1st Semester/Term</b>		
Colloquia		4
First-Year Seminar		4
Core Course		4
Core Course		4
Physical Education		0
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>2nd Semester/Term</b>		
J-Term Field Colloquia		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>3rd Semester/Term</b>		
MUSIC-UH 1006	Thinking and Writing About Music	4
MUSIC-UH 1101	Sonic Practice	4
Core Course		4
Core Course		4
Physical Education		0
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>4th Semester/Term</b>		
MUSIC-UH 1010	Musicianship Skills I	2
MUSIC-UH 1011	Musicianship Skills II	2
MUSIC-UH 2004	Music Histories and Historiography 2	4
MUSIC-UH 3411	Mixing & Mastering Techniques	4
Elective Course		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>5th Semester/Term</b>		
J-Term Field Colloquia		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>6th Semester/Term</b>		
MUSIC-UH 2662	Music and Copyright	4

Major Elective		4
Major Elective		4
Elective Course		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>7th Semester/Term</b>		
Major Elective		4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>8th Semester/Term</b>		
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>9th Semester/Term</b>		
MUSIC-UH 4000	Capstone Seminar	4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		2
<b>Credits</b>		<b>14</b>
<b>10th Semester/Term</b>		
MUSIC-UH 4001	Music Practice Capstone Project	4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>128</b>

## 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/>).