

# MUSIC (BA)

Department Website (<http://as.nyu.edu/music/>)

**NYSED:** 08060 **HEGIS:** 1005.00 **CIP:** 50.0901

## Program Description

The Department of Music offers both a major and a minor in Music. Both programs give students the opportunity to gain proficiency in the theory, history, and interpretation of music throughout the world and help them build a solid set of applied critical and listening abilities demanded of musicians and listeners today. The major offers students opportunities for independent research during their final year.

The breadth and depth of knowledge offered by the major provide an excellent foundation for academic, creative, and performance work, offering a solid set of applied critical and listening abilities. The major is equally ideal for students seeking careers requiring a solid liberal arts background and strong analytical and critical skills and for students interested in humanistic fields in which sonic culture is a central element.

The department teaches a wide range of innovative courses in ethnomusicology, popular music, the cultural study of music, and sound studies. Many of these courses are open to non-majors. Some recent courses include: Music in the Post-9/11 World; Introduction to World Music; Music in New York; Music, Global Hip-Hop, and the Politics of Culture; and Music, Sound, and Technology.

The department's Waverly Labs provide digital resources for composition and research. The department hosts the Washington Square Contemporary Music Society and a number of other performing ensembles and initiatives. Our majors and minors may also take private instrumental instruction with department support and are eligible to join performance ensembles at the Steinhardt School. Our students take advantage of our location in one of the world's major cultural centers by attending concerts and pursuing internships with New York recording companies, music magazines, or major performing arts organizations.

## Honors Program

Highly motivated students may apply for the department's honors program, which culminates in a senior-year independent study supervised by a faculty member. To qualify, students must maintain a minimum 3.65 GPA both overall and in the major.

Honors students must complete the ten required 4-credit courses (40 credits) for the Music major. As part of their coursework, they may enroll in MUSIC-UA 997 Independent Study (either 2 or 4 credits), where they will develop a capstone project in musicology, music history, ethnomusicology, analysis, or composition under faculty supervision. Projects may include an analytical or historiographical study of a significant work or repertoire, a biographical study of a composer, or the composition of a substantial musical work.

Students interested in pursuing departmental honors must apply via email to the Director of Undergraduate Studies by April of their junior year. Applications should include a brief description of the proposed project and the name of the faculty supervisor.

## 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>).

## Program Requirements

The major requires ten 4-credit courses (40 credits) completed with a grade of C or better as outlined below.

Course	Title	Credits
<b>General Education Requirements</b>		
First-Year Seminar		4
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing as Inquiry	4
Foreign Language <sup>1</sup>		16
Quantitative Reasoning		4
Physical Science		4
Life Science		4
Texts and Ideas		4
Cultures and Contexts		4
Societies and the Social Sciences		4
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
MUSIC-UA 193	Seminar:	4
MUSIC-UA 201	Music Theory I	4
MUSIC-UA 202	Music Theory II	4
Select two courses in the area of Music, History, and Cultures		8
Select two courses in the area of Sonic Art		8
<b>Electives</b>		
Select three major electives in MUSIC-UA <sup>2</sup>		12
Other Elective Credits		40
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>128</b>

<sup>1</sup> The foreign language requirement is satisfied upon successful completion through the Intermediate level of a language. This may be accomplished in fewer than 16 credits, but those credits must then be completed as elective credit.

<sup>2</sup> One of these electives must be designated as an advanced course in music. The advanced elective is typically taken in fall of the senior year.

## Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
<b>1st Semester/Term</b>		
MUSIC-UA 193	Seminar:	4
Foreign Language		4
Texts and Ideas		4
First-Year Seminar		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>2nd Semester/Term</b>		
MUSIC-UA 201	Music Theory I	4
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing as Inquiry	4
Foreign Language		4
Cultures and Contexts		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>3rd Semester/Term</b>		
MUSIC-UA 202	Music Theory II	4
MUSIC-UA XXX	Music, History, and Cultures Elective 1 of 2	4
Foreign Language		4

Quantitative Reasoning		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>4th Semester/Term</b>		
MUSIC-UA XXX	Music, History, and Cultures Elective 2 of 2	4
MUSIC-UA XXX	Sonic Art Elective 1 of 2	4
Foreign Language		4
Societies and the Social Sciences		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>5th Semester/Term</b>		
MUSIC-UA XXX	Major Elective 1 of 3	4
MUSIC-UA XXX	Sonic Art Elective 2 of 2	4
Physical Science		4
Elective		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>6th Semester/Term</b>		
MUSIC-UA XXX	Major Elective 2 of 3	4
Life Science		4
Elective		4
Elective		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>7th Semester/Term</b>		
MUSIC-UA XXX	Major Elective 3 of 3 <sup>1</sup>	4
Elective		4
Elective		4
Elective		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>8th Semester/Term</b>		
Elective		4
Elective		4
Elective		4
Elective		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>128</b>

<sup>1</sup> Must be an advanced course.

## Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of program requirements, students are expected to have acquired:

1. The ability to listen attentively to music and sound and to reformulate their aural experiences in precise terms.
2. The ability to interpret music and sound as historical and cultural artifacts in a world of meanings, media, interactions, and power.
3. Experience working creatively in music and sound, whether through performance, composition, or the creation of other sonic artifacts.
4. The ability to conduct research, including the use of ethnography, archives, library research, and relevant technologies.
5. Skills for effective written and oral presentation.

## Policies

### Program Policies

#### Grading Policy

A grade of C or higher is required for a course to count toward the major or minor in Music; courses graded Pass/Fail do not count.

#### Advanced Placement Policy

The College awards 4 credits for a score of 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement examination in Music Theory and counts this as elective credit

toward the baccalaureate degree, but the credits do not count toward the Music major or minor. CAS does not award any credit for International Baccalaureate or any other advanced standing examinations in music.

### Internships and Independent Study

The CAS Department of Music sponsors internships for Music majors only. Interested students should directly contact the department's director of undergraduate studies to submit a proposal and for further details. Students may apply up to 4 credits of internship towards the Music major.

Independent Study may be taken through the CAS Department of Music for research in an area of particular interest and, in some cases, for applied music instruction. This option is generally available only to Music majors, and students should apply to the director of undergraduate studies.

### Performance Credit

Students may count up to four credits of performance coursework from this department or from the Steinhardt School's Department of Music and Performing Arts Professions toward the major in Music.

### NYU Policies

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

### College of Arts and Science Policies

A full list of relevant academic policies can be found on the CAS Academic Policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/undergraduate/arts-science/academic-policies/>).