

MUSIC at MSU DENVER

Advising Information Catalog Year 2025-2026

Bachelor of Music Composition Major

Recommended Course Sequence for Graduation in Eight Semesters

1st Semester (Fall):

MUS 0020	Recital Attendance (*Note 1)	0
MUS 1110	Music Theory I	3
MUS 1120	Music Theory Lab I	1
MUS 161B	Class Piano I	1
MUS 1650	Basic Music Technology	1
MUS 171x	Private Instruction I	2
MUS 38xx	Ensemble (*Note 2)	1
COM 1010	Presentational Speaking	3
ENG 1010	Composing Arguments	3
	TOTAL	15

2nd Semester (Spring):

MUS 0020	Recital Attendance	0
MUS 1130	Music Theory II	3
MUS 1140	Music Theory Lab II	1
MUS 1210	Intro to Musical Styles and Research	2
MUS 162B	Class Piano II	1
MUS 172x	Private Instruction II	2
MUS 38xx	Ensemble	1
GEN STU	Quantitative Literacy Requirement	3
ENG 1020	Freshman Composition: Research, Analysis and Documentation	3
	TOTAL	16

3rd Semester (Fall):

MUS 0020	Recital Attendance	0
MUS 2110	Music Theory III	3
MUS 2120	Music Theory Lab III	1
MUS 261B	Class Piano III	1
MUS 271x	Private Instruction III	2
MUS 3650	Basic Techniques of Composition	2
MUS 38xx	Ensemble	1
GEN STU	General Studies Requirement	6
	TOTAL	16

4th Semester (Spring):

MUS 0020	Recital Attendance	0
MUS 2130	Music Theory IV	3
MUS 2140	Music Theory Lab IV	1
MUS 262B	Class Piano IV	1
MUS 272x	Private Instruction IV	2
MUS 3050	Musics of the World	3
MUS 3460	Percussion Techniques and Pedagogy	1
MUS 3711	Private Instruction V (Composition)	2
MUS 38xx	Ensemble	1
	TOTAL	14

5th Semester (Fall):

MUS 0020	Recital Attendance	0
MUS 2660	Electronic Music Composition (*Note 3)	1
MUS 3150	Arranging and Orchestration	2
MUS 3210	Music History I	3
MUS 3430	Woodwind Techniques and Pedagogy	1
MUS 3741	Performance VI (Composition)	3
MUS 38xx	Ensemble	1
MUS 38xx	World Music Ensemble (*Note 4)	1
GEN STU	General Studies Requirement	3
	TOTAL	15

6th Semester (Spring):

MUS 0020	Recital Attendance	0
MUS 3100	Counterpoint (*Note 3)	3
MUS 3220	Music History II	3
MUS 3450	Brass Techniques and Pedagogy	1
MUS 38xx	Ensemble	1
MUS 38xx	Ensemble	1
MUS 4731	Performance VII (Composition)	3
GEN STU	General Studies Requirement	3
	TOTAL	15

7th Semester (Fall):

MUS 0020	Recital Attendance	0
MUS 3410	String Techniques and Pedagogy	1
MUS 3510	Basic Conducting	2
MUS 38xx	Ensemble	1
MUS 4741	Performance VIII (Composition)	3
GEN ELEC	General Elective	3
GEN STU	General Studies Requirement	6
	TOTAL	16

8th Semester (Spring):

MUS 0020	Recital Attendance	0
MUS 3540	Advanced Conducting	2
MUS 3640	Improvisation	1
MUS 38xx	Ensemble	1
MUS 4020	Senior Seminar	1
MUS 4110	Analysis of Music (*Note 3)	2
MUS 4960	Senior Composition Project	3
GEN STU	General Studies Requirement	3
	TOTAL	13

*Note 1: Students must enroll in Recital Attendance during each semester of required private instruction.

*Note 2: Music majors must enroll in their concentration's required ensemble during each semester of private instruction. See reverse.

*Note 3: Offered every other year.

*Note 4: Fulfilled by MUS 3818 Mariachi Ensemble, MUS 3834 Gamelan Ensemble, or MUS 3835 African Drumming and Dance Ensemble.

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Bachelor of Music Composition Major

Course Listing

Core Requirements for All Music Majors

MUS 0020	Recital Attendance (2 semesters)	0
MUS 1110	Music Theory I	3
MUS 1120	Music Theory Lab I	1
MUS 1130	Music Theory II	3
MUS 1140	Music Theory Lab II	1
MUS 161B	Class Piano I	1
MUS 162B	Class Piano II	1
MUS 171x	Private Instruction I	2
MUS 172x	Private Instruction II	2
MUS 2110	Music Theory III	3
MUS 2120	Music Theory Lab III	1
MUS 2130	Music Theory IV	3
MUS 2140	Music Theory Lab IV	1
MUS 3050	Musics of the World	3
MUS 3210	Music History I	3
MUS 3220	Music History II	3
MUS 38xx	World Music Ensemble	1

Ensembles 9

General Studies

GEN STU 33

General Electives 3

Specific Degree Requirements

MUS 0020	Recital Attendance (6 additional semesters)	0
MUS 1210	Intro to Musical Styles and Research	2
MUS 1650	Basic Music Technology	1
MUS 261B	Class Piano III	1
MUS 262B	Class Piano IV	1
MUS 2660	Electronic Music Composition*	1
MUS 271x	Private Instruction III	2
MUS 272x	Private Instruction IV	2
MUS 3100	Counterpoint*	3
MUS 3150	Arranging and Orchestration	2
MUS 3260	Prof. and Career Development for the 21 st Cent.	3
MUS 3410	String Techniques and Pedagogy	1
MUS 3430	Woodwind Techniques and Pedagogy	1
MUS 3450	Brass Techniques and Pedagogy	1
MUS 3460	Percussion Techniques and Pedagogy	1
MUS 3510	Basic Conducting	2
MUS 3540	Advanced Conducting	2
MUS 3640	Improvisation	1
MUS 3650	Basic Techniques of Composition	2
MUS 3711	Private Instruction V	2
MUS 3741	Performance VI	3
MUS 4020	Senior Seminar	1
MUS 4731	Performance VII	3
MUS 4741	Performance VIII	3
MUS 4110	Analysis of Music*	2
MUS 4960	Senior Composition Project	3

**Offered every other year.*

Ensemble Requirements for Bachelor of Music, Composition Major

Major Ensemble (as assigned)	5
MUS 3817 String Sinfonietta OR	
MUS 3820 Chorale OR	
MUS 3821 University Treble Choir OR	
MUS 3822 University Basso Choir OR	
MUS 3824 Symphonic Band OR	
MUS 3825 Wind Ensemble OR	
MUS 3827 Symphony Orchestra	
MUS 3819 Chamber Music	1
Strings Ensemble	1
MUS 3817 String Sinfonietta OR	
MUS 3827 Symphony Orchestra	

Band Ensemble	1
MUS 3824 Symphonic Band OR	
MUS 3825 Wind Ensemble OR	
MUS 3826 Secondary Instrument Ensemble	
Choir Ensemble	1
MUS 3820 Chorale OR	
MUS 3821 University Treble Choir OR	
MUS 3822 University Basso Choir OR	
MUS 3823 Auraria Choir	
World Ensemble	1
MUS 3818 Mariachi Ensemble OR	
MUS 3834 Gamelan Ensemble OR	
MUS 3835 African Drumming and Dance Ensemble	