

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

MUSIC

Faculty

- Brandon Derfler
- Chris Puckett
- Kimi Kawashima (Chair)

Program Goals

Our goal is to graduate students with unique abilities to:

- Perform with a high degree of competency on one or more instruments or voice in both solo and ensemble capacities and in different settings
- Apply the subdisciplines of music theory, aural skills, and music history to learning, insightfully interpreting, and successfully creating or performing music
- Communicate effectively about music in a variety of fundamental ways beyond performance—perhaps most essentially through teaching, writing, analysis, and public speaking
- Evaluate music as a cultural phenomenon closely connected with other art forms, increasingly interwoven with traditions and influences from around the world, and reflecting and affecting all local and global communities
- Synthesize and acquire the musical and technological skills necessary to succeed within the ever changing, complex world of professional music making

Objectives

The Florence J. Gillmor School of Music at Westminster offers a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in music and also offers a music minor. Music majors must select an emphasis in vocal performance, piano performance, or music studies. The BA degree in music is an excellent choice for talented students who plan to pursue graduate work in music, for liberal arts students pursuing two majors in preparation for graduate school, and for musical pre-law or pre-med students. It is also a degree that would qualify students for any number of music-related jobs following university. Among musicians with sufficient talent and training for careers in the field, those with degrees in music are at an advantage over those without.

The School of Music also offers opportunities for anyone on campus interested in making music, regardless of backgrounds or areas of formal study. School performing ensembles—open to capable and committed students and, in some cases, members of the community—include the Westminster Community Choir, Westminster Chamber Singers, SugarTown, Westminster Chamber Orchestra, Westminster Jazz Ensemble, Westminster Chamber Players, and Westminster Opera Studio. (All of the above require at least an informal audition.) Private lessons and WCore courses in music are also available to students.

Program Requirements

An audition is required for status as a major or minor in music. Students must choose a primary instrument and audition on that particular instrument (e.g., piano, voice, guitar, violin, etc.). Live auditions are held each year on specific dates as announced on the School of Music web page. Music major aspirants auditioning before the end of March who are planning to enroll as first-year students the following fall semester will automatically be considered for music scholarships. Due to strict course sequencing, students wishing to graduate with a music major within a four-year course of study must begin their required course work fall semester of their freshman year, and audition for status no later than the end of their first semester.

Students seeking a music minor must audition before their sophomore year and begin their required course work no later than fall semester of that same year. In order to maintain music major or minor status, each student must maintain a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA in music courses, and additionally pass each required music course with a minimum grade of C-.

Transfer students wishing to complete a music major at Westminster must complete at least half their total number of required music credits at Westminster, and be enrolled in a performing ensemble each semester while at Westminster. Transfer students wishing to complete a music minor must complete a minimum of nine credits of music—including two semesters of ensemble credit—at Westminster University. For more information, email the Music Department Chair, currently Dr. Christopher Puckett, at cpuckett@westminsteru.edu.

Students must meet the university-wide graduation requirements in addition to the Music major:

- 124 total hours
- 30 upper division hours
- WCore or Honors College requirements

Music Studies Major

Requirement Description	Credit Hours	Prerequisites
I. World Language Requirement	8	
Music majors must complete eight credit hours in a single world language.		
II. Performance-Based Coursework	14	
Piano Proficiency Requirement: Students must demonstrate reasonable piano proficiency, either through successful completion of a diagnostic test or alternately by taking a group piano course or private piano lessons at the discretion of the student's music advisor.		

Requirement Description	Credit Hours	Prerequisites
Private Lessons (primary instrument) 8 Four consecutive semesters are required. MUSC 191, 192, 291, 292 2 credits each Performing Ensembles 6 One of the following must be taken six different semesters:		
MUSC 315 Westminster Community Choir	1	placement audition required
MUSC 325 Westminster Jazz Ensemble	1	audition required
MUSC 335 Westminster Chamber Orchestra	1	audition required
MUSC 345 Westminster Chamber Singers Six semesters required for all voice students	1	audition required
MUSC 365 Westminster Opera Studio	1	audition required
MUSC 375 Westminster Percussion Ensemble	1	placement audition required
MUSC 385 Westminster Chamber Players	1	audition required
MUSC 395 SugarTown Acappella	1	audition required
III. Academic Coursework	19	
MUSC 171 Music Theory I	3	
MUSC 207 World Music, World Perspectives	3	
MUSC 271 Music Theory II	3	MUSC 171
MUSC 281 Aural Skills II	2	MUSC 181
Choose two of the following:		
MUSC 372 Music History I	3	MUSC 171
MUSC 373 Music History II	3	MUSC 271
MUSC 374 Music History III	3	MUSC 271
IV. Elective Courses	14	
Fourteen hours of music coursework and music-related WCFAH courses (any 100-level or higher music courses). A minimum of eleven elective credit hours must be upper-division academic music courses.		
V. Senior Project	2	
MUSC 421 Senior Project	2	MUSC 292
Total Hours for the Music Studies Major	57	

Recommended Plan of Study for BA Music Studies

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Year 1	WRIT 110 or Writing Emphasis WCore Course (take MUSC 104 instead if indicated by diagnostic test) MUSC 191 Ensemble Learning Community	MUSC 171 MUSC 181 MUSC 192 Ensemble Music Elective Elective (piano class if needed)
Year 2	MUSC 271 MUSC 281 MUSC 291 Ensemble Music Elective WCSAM	MUSC 292 Ensemble MUSC 373 WCFAH 132 Music Elective Elective
Year 3	World Language I Ensemble WCFAH 219 Music Elective WCSBS	World Language II Ensemble MUSC 207 Music Elective Elective
Year 4	WCSAM MUSC 372 or 374 Music Elective Elective	MUSC 421 WCSBS Music Elective Elective

Music Major- Performance Emphasis (Piano)

Requirement Description	Credit Hours	Prerequisites
I. World Language Requirement	8	
Music majors must complete eight credit hours in a single world language.		
II. Performance-Based Coursework	24	
Private Piano Lessons Two credits must be taken every semester except the eighth. MUSC 191, 192, 291, 292, 391, 392, 491		
MUSC 420 Senior Recital (final year)	2	MUSC 491
Performing Ensembles 4 Must be repeated for four semesters.		
MUSC 385 Westminster Chamber Players	1	audition required
Collaborative Piano Performance 4		
MUSC 331 Collaborative Piano I	2	
MUSC 332 Collaborative Piano II	2	
III. Academic Coursework	38	
MUSC 171 Music Theory I	3	
MUSC 181 Aural Skills I	2	
MUSC 207 World Music, World Perspective	3	
MUSC 271 Music Theory II	3	MUSC 171
MUSC 281 Aural Skills II	2	MUSC 181
MUSC 372 Music History I	3	MUSC 171
MUSC 373 Music History II	3	MUSC 271
MUSC 374 Music History III	3	MUSC 271
MUSC 371 Music Theory III	3	MUSC 271

Requirement Description	Credit Hours	Prerequisites
MUSC 381 Aural Skills III	2	MUSC 281
MUSC 471 Music Theory IV	3	MUSC 371
MUSC 481 Aural Skills IV		MUSC 381
MUSC 341 Piano Literature I	2	
MUSC 342 Piano Literature II	2	
MUSC 343 Piano Pedagogy	2	
IV. Elective Courses	4	
Four hours of music coursework and music-related WCFAH courses (any 100-level or higher music courses).		
Total Hours for the Piano Performance Major	74	

Recommended Plan of Study for Piano Performance Major

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Year 1	MUSC 331 or 341 MUSC 385 MUSC 191 Learning Community (WCSBS)	MUSC 171 MUSC 181 MUSC 192 MUSC 385 MUSC 332 or 342 WCSAM Elective
Year 2	MUSC 271 MUSC 281 MUSC 291 WCFAH 207 MUSC 331 or 341 MUSC 385 Elective	MUSC 292 MUSC 373 MUSC 385 WCFAH 132 MUSC 371 MUSC 381
Year 3	MUSC 372 or 374 MUSC 391 MUSC 471 MUSC 481 World Language	MUSC 392 MUSC 207 MUSC 332 or 342 World Language WCSAM
Year 4	MUSC 343 MUSC 372 or 374 MUSC 491 Music Elective WCSBS Elective	MUSC 420 Elective

Music Major- Performance Emphasis (Vocal)

Requirement Description	Credit Hours	Prerequisites
I. World Language Requirement	8	
Music majors must complete eight credit hours in a single world language.		
II. Performance-Based Coursework	28	
<p>Piano Proficiency Requirement Students must demonstrate reasonable piano proficiency, either through successful completion of a diagnostic test or alternately by taking a group piano course or private piano lessons at the discretion of the student's music advisor.</p> <p>Private Music Lessons (voice) 16</p> <p>Two credits must be taken every semester except the eighth. MUSC 191, 192, 291, 292, 391, 392, 491 14</p>		

Requirement Description	Credit Hours	Prerequisites
MUSC 420 Senior Recital (final year)	2	MUSC 491
Performing Ensembles 10		
At least one of the following must be taken every semester.		
MUSC 345 Westminster Chamber Singers	1	audition required
MUSC 365 Westminster Opera Studio	1	audition required
Conducting Courses 2		
MUSC 301 Choral Conducting	2	
III. Academic Coursework	37	
MUSC 171 Music Theory I	3	
MUSC 181 Aural Skills I	2	
MUSC 207 World Music, World Perspective	3	
MUSC 311 English & Italian Diction for Singers	2	
MUSC 312 French & German Diction for Singers	2	
MUSC 271 Music Theory II	3	MUSC 171
MUSC 281 Aural Skills II	2	MUSC 181
MUSC 371 Music Theory III	3	MUSC 271
MUSC 381 Aural Skills III	2	MUSC 281
MUSC 471 Music Theory IV	3	MUSC 371
MUSC 481 Aural Skills IV	2	MUSC 381
MUSC 303 Vocal Pedagogy	2	
MUSC 320 Vocal Literature Survey	2	
Choose two of the following:		
MUSC 372 Music History I	3	MUSC 171
MUSC 373 Music History II	3	MUSC 271
MUSC 374 Music History III	3	MUSC 271
Total Hours for the Vocal Performance Major	73	

Recommended Plan of Study for BA Music– Vocal Performance

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Year 1	WRIT 110 or WCore Writing Emphasis Course (MUSC 103 & 104 if indicated by diagnostic test) MUSC 191 MUSC 311 MUSC 345 Learning Community	MUSC 171 MUSC 181 MUSC 192 MUSC 345 MUSC 312 or 320 WCSBS
Year 2	MUSC 271 MUSC 281 MUSC 291 MUSC 345 MUSC 219 MUSC 303 Elective	MUSC 292 MUSC 345 WCFAH 132 MUSC 373 MUSC 371 MUSC 381
Year 3	MUSC 365 MUSC 345 MUSC 391 MUSC 471 MUSC 481 MUSC 372 or 374 World Language I	MUSC 365 MUSC 345 WCSAM MUSC 392 MUSC 207 World Language II Elective
Year 4	MUSC 365 MUSC 372 or 374 MUSC 491 MUSC 301 WCSAM Elective	MUSC 312 or 305 MUSC 365 MUSC 420 WCSBS Elective

Music Minor

Requirement Description	Credit Hours	Prerequisites
I. Piano Proficiency Requirement	0-2	
Students must demonstrate reasonable piano proficiency, either through successful completion of a diagnostic test or alternately by taking a group piano course or private piano lessons at the discretion of the student's music advisor.		
II. Performance-Based Coursework	4-6	
Private Lessons (primary instrument) Two consecutive semesters are required. MUSC 191, 192 1-2 credits each Performing Ensembles 2 One of the following must be taken two different semesters.		
MUSC 315 Westminster Community Choir	1	placement audition required
MUSC 325 Westminster Jazz Ensemble	1	audition required
MUSC 335 Westminster Chamber Orchestra	1	audition required
MUSC 345 Westminster Chamber Singers	1	audition required
MUSC 365 Westminster Opera Studio	1	audition required
MUSC 375 Westminster Percussion Ensemble	1	
MUSC 385 Westminster Chamber Players	1	audition required
MUSC 395 SugarTown Acappella	1	audition required
III. Academic Coursework	16	
MUSC 171 Music Theory I	3	
MUSC 181 Aural Skills I	2	

Requirement Description	Credit Hours	Prerequisites
MUSC 271 Music Theory II	3	MUSC 171
MUSC 281 Aural Skills II	2	MUSC 181
Choose two of the following:		
MUSC 372 Music History I	3	MUSC 171
MUSC 373 Music History II	3	MUSC 271
MUSC 374 Music History III	3	MUSC 271
IV. Elective Courses	4	
Four hours of music coursework and music-related WCFAH courses (any 100-level or higher music courses).		
Total Hours for the Music Minor	24–28	

Recommended Plan of Study for Music Minor

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Year 1	Piano Proficiency Requirement MUSC 191 Music Ensemble	MUSC 171 MUSC 181 MUSC 192 Music Ensemble
Year 2	MUSC 271 MUSC 281	Music Elective(s)
Year 3	MUSC 372	MUSC 373
Year 4	Music Elective(s)	Music Elective(s)

Note: Ensemble and elective scheduling are flexible within the four-year plan of study, but the Department of Music strongly encourages every music minor to participate in a music ensemble whenever his/her schedule allows.