

Murray State University
BACHELOR OF MUSIC: Composition Track
 2025-2026 Undergraduate Bulletin

Advisor _____

Name _____ M Number _____

E-Mail _____ Phone _____

| COURSE DESCRIPTION | HRS | GRADE |
|--------------------|-----------|-------|
| UNIVERSITY STUDIES | 32-35 hrs | |

FOUNDATIONS **14-17 hrs**

COM 161 Intro Pub Speak 3 _____

ENG 105 Crit. Rdg., Writing, & Inquiry 4 _____

Science Elective with Lab 4-5 _____

Math Elective 3-5 _____

THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE **18 hrs**

Literary and Philosophical Perspectives 3 _____

Historical Perspectives 3 _____

Creative Perspectives 3 _____

MUS170 - Intro to Music Theory 3 _____

Social and Behavioral Perspectives 3 _____

Cultural, Diverse Perspectives and Responsible Citizenship 3 _____

MUSIC ENSEMBLES **8 hrs**

MUS 151, 154, 157, 158, 161, 166, 167 (351, 354, 357, 358, 361, 366, 367)

MUSIC ELECTIVES **8 hrs**

Choose from: MUS 102-121, 123-149, 170-335, 337-341, 375-499

| COURSE DESCRIPTION | HRS | GRADE |
|--------------------|--------|-------|
| MUSIC COURSES | 74 hrs | |

MUS 100T Transitions 1 _____

MUS 101 Recital Assembly¹ 0 _____

MUS 114-119 Applied Lesson² 2 _____

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MUS 140 Intro to Composition 3 _____

MUS 171 Aural Skills I 1 _____

MUS 172 Keyboard I 1 _____

MUS 173 Tonal Analysis 3 _____

MUS 174 Aural Skills II 1 _____

MUS 175 Keyboard II 1 _____

MUS 214-219 Applied Lesson² 2 _____

MUS 214-219 Applied Lesson² 2 _____

MUS 241 Composition I 2 _____

MUS 241 Composition I 3 _____

MUS 243 Making Music with Your Laptop 2 _____

MUS 270 Chromatic Harmony and Form 3 _____

MUS 271 Aural Skills III 1 _____

MUS 272 Keyboard III 1 _____

MUS 274 Aural Skills IV 1 _____

MUS 275 Keyboard IV 1 _____

MUS 276 Popular Music Analysis 3 _____

MUS 313 Intro to Mus Synthesis 1 _____

MUS 314-319 Applied Lesson² 2 _____

MUS 314-319 Applied Lesson² 2 _____

MUS 323 Basic Conducting 2 _____

MUS 341 Composition II 3 _____

MUS 341 Composition II 3 _____

MUS 370 Adv. Tonal Analysis 3 _____

MUS 373 Arranging Techniques 2 _____

MUS 381 Music in a Historical Context 3 _____

MUS 382 Music in a Global Context 3 _____

MUS 383 Special Topics in Music History 3 _____

MUS 392 Prof. Engagement 1 _____

MUS 441 Composition III 3 _____

MUS 441 Composition III 3 _____

MUS 470 Post-Tonal Analysis 3 _____

MUS 497 Sr Project 1 _____

Total Curriculum Requirements: 120 hours

BACHELOR OF MUSIC: Composition Track

NOTE: All Music courses required for the degree must be completed with the grade of "C" or better.

Incoming students to Murray State will audition on their primary instrument – should meet the same expectations we have for incoming MUED students.

Students will begin music study as a BA/BS Music major. Interested students should take MUS 140 Introduction to Composition in their first spring semester. Near the end of that (and subsequent) semester(s), students can apply for a spot in the composition studio, receiving private one-on-one instruction from a professor (2-credit lessons). Near the end of a student's first semester of private study, they can make their official application to be a composition major (usually near the end of their 3rd semester). If they are admitted, students will take 3-credit composition lessons for the rest of the program.

In addition to passing the sophomore barrier for their primary instrument, students will submit their composition portfolio in the middle of their third semester of applied study for review. Usually this mid-degree review takes place during their first time taking MUS 341 (typically in the first semester of their junior year). Students will be expected to show progress and growth in order to continue in the program.

FOOTNOTES

1. Six (6) successful semesters of MUS 101 Recital Assembly are required.
2. A minimum of six consecutive semesters of specified study in applied music is required as are periodic jury and proficiency examinations.
3. Concurrent with each semester of applied study on an instrument, students are required to enroll in a major performing ensemble on that instrument with the approval of the ensemble director. Students must successfully complete at least 6 semesters of major ensembles.

COURSE SEQUENCES

All applied lessons require a "C" or better to continue in the sequence.

MUS 170, MUS 173, MUS 270, MUS 273 must be taken in sequence, with a "C" or better to continue in the sequence.

MUS 171, MUS 174, MUS 271, MUS 274 must be taken in sequence, with a "C" or better to continue in the sequence.

MUS 381 must be taken first in the Music History Sequence, and the grade of "C" or better is required to continue in the sequence. MUS 382 & MUS 383 may be taken in any order.

Semester/year student entered the Music program _____

Semester/year student entered the Composition degree program _____

The **BACHELOR OF MUSIC: Composition Track** degree program requirements have been explained to the student indicated at the top of page one.

Advisor's Signature _____ Date _____

Student's Signature _____ Date _____