



*Four-Year Degree Plan: Bachelor of Music in Composition*

Catalog Year: 2023-2024

**COLLEGE OF  
LETTERS,  
ARTS AND  
SCIENCES**

This is a degree plan for completing a Bachelor of Music in Composition in eight semesters. This document is meant to be used as a guide for planning purposes only and is intended for use in consultation with a Professional Academic or Faculty advisor. **Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the [MSU Denver catalog](#) for degree requirements.**

Year One					
Semester 1			Semester 2		
Fall		Credits	Spring		Credits
MUS 0020	Recital Attendance (*Note 1)	0	MUS 0020	Recital Attendance	0
MUS 1110	Music Theory I	3	MUS 1130	Music Theory II	3
MUS 1120	Music Theory Lab I	1	MUS 1140	Music Theory Lab II	1
MUS 161B	Class Piano I	1	MUS 162B	Class Piano II	1
MUS 1650	Basic Music Technology	1	MUS 172X	Private instruction II	2
MUS 171X	Private Instruction I	2	MUS 38XX	Ensemble	1
MUS 38XX	Ensemble (**Note 2)	1	GEN STU	Quantitative Literacy Requirement	3
COM 1010	Presentational Speaking	3	ENG 1020	Research and Argumentative Writing	3
ENG 1010	Composing Arguments	3			
<b>Semester 1 Total</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>Semester 2 Total</b>		<b>14</b>

Year Two					
Semester 3			Semester 4		
Fall		Credits	Spring		Credits
MUS 0020	Recital Attendance	0	MUS 0020	Recital Attendance	0
MUS 2110	Music Theory III	3	MUS 2130	Music Theory IV	3
MUS 2120	Music Theory Lab III	1	MUS 2140	Music Theory Lab IV	1
MUS 261B	Class Piano III	1	MUS 262B	Class Piano IV	1
MUS 271X	Private Instruction III	2	MUS 272X	Private Instruction IV	2
MUS 3650	Basic Technique of Composition	2	MUS 3050	Musics of the World	3
MUS 38XX	Ensemble	1	MUS 3460	Percussion Techniques & Pedagogy	1
GEN STU	General Studies Requirements	6	MUS 3711	Private Instruction V (Composition)	2
			MUS 38XX	Ensemble	1
<b>Semester 3 Total</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>Semester 4 Total</b>		<b>14</b>

Year Three					
Semester 5			Semester 6		
Fall		Credits	Spring		Credits
MUS 0020	Recital Attendance	0	MUS 0020	Recital Attendance	0
MUS 2660	Elect Music Composition (**Note 3)	1	MUS 3100	Counterpoint (**Note 3)	3
MUS 3150	Arranging & Orchestration	2	MUS 3220	Music History II	3
MUS 3210	Music History I	3	MUS 3450	Brass Techniques & Pedagogy	1
MUS 3430	Woodwind Techniques & Pedagogy	1	MUS 38XX	Ensemble	1
MUS 3741	Performance VI (Composition)	3	MUS 38XX	Ensemble	1
MUS 38XX	Ensemble	1	MUS 4731	Performance VII (Composition)	3
MUS 38XX	World Music Ensemble (****Note 4)	1	GEN STU	General Studies Requirement	3
GEN STU	General Studies Requirement	3			
<b>Semester 5 Total</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>Semester 6 Total</b>		<b>15</b>

Year Four					
Semester 7			Semester 8		
Fall		Credits	Spring		Credits
MUS 0020	Recital Attendance	0	MUS 0020	Recital Attendance	0
MUS 3410	String Techniques & Pedagogy	1	MUS 3540	Advanced Conducting	2
MUS 3510	Basic Conducting	2	MUS 3260	Prof Dev for 21 <sup>st</sup> Cent Musicians	3
MUS 38XX	Ensemble	1	MUS 3640	Improvisation	1
MUS 4741	Performance VII (Composition)	3	MUS 38XX	Ensemble	1
GEN ELEC	General Elective	3	MUS 4110	Analysis of Music (**Note 3)	2
GEN STU	General Studies Requirement	6	MUS 4960	Senior Composition Project	3
			GEN STU	General Studies Requirement	3
<b>Semester 7 Total</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>Semester 8 Total</b>		<b>15</b>

**Program Total: 120**

Students must complete all courses with a grade of C- or better. See the MSU Denver Catalog for Ensemble Requirements. Please see notes 1-4 for additional information.

\*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.

\*\*\*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.

Advisor Contact Information: Visit [Department of Music Advising](#) or [CLAS Academic Advising](#)

**Detailed Course Listing**

General Studies		
COM 1010	Presentational Speaking	3
--	General Studies Requirements	30
<b>General Studies Total</b>		<b>33</b>

Core Requirements		
--	Recital Attendance (2 Semesters)	0
--	Music Theory I, II, III, IV	12
--	Music Theory Lab I, II, III, IV	4
--	Class Piano I, II	2
--	Private Instruction I, II	4
--	Musics of the World	3
--	Music of History I, II	6
--	Ensemble (World)	1
<b>Core Requirements Total</b>		<b>32</b>

Specific Degree Requirements		
MUS 0020	Recital Attendance (6 addl semesters)	0
MUS 1650	Basic Music Technology	1
MUS 261B	Class Piano III	1
MUS 262B	Class Piano IV	1
MUS 2660	Elect Music Composition (**Note 3)	1
MUS 271X	Private Instruction III	2
MUS 272X	Private Instruction IV	2
MUS 3100	Counterpoint (**Note 3)	3

MUS 3150	Arranging & Orchestration	2
MUS 3260	Prof Dev for 21 <sup>st</sup> Cent Musicians	3
MUS 3410	String Techniques & Pedagogy	1
MUS 3430	Woodwind Techniques & Pedagogy	1
MUS 3450	Brass Techniques & Pedagogy	1
MUS 3460	Percussion Techniques & 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 4731	Performance VII	3
MUS 4741	Performance VIII	3
MUS 4110	Analysis of Music (**Note 3)	2
MUS 4960	Senior Composition Project	3
<b>Specific Degree Requirements Total</b>		<b>43</b>

Program Totals	
General Studies Requirements	33
Core Requirements	32
Specific Degree Requirements	43
Ensembles	9
General Electives	3
<b>Total to Graduate</b>	<b>120</b>