

School of Arts and Sciences

MUSIC

www.music.pitt.edu

In the University of Pittsburgh Department of Music, we make music through composition, improvisation, and performance, and explore music's meaning in the structure of individual works, the relationships between them, and their place in the cultures that produce them. One of the most exciting things about music is how it can bring together such different types of thought and action. The most sensory and practical things and the most theoretical and abstract ones cannot be separated in the musician's world. Thus, music enjoys a special place in our endeavor to understand ourselves. The department's program for majors is designed to introduce you to composition, improvisation, and performance, and students from throughout the University are invited to join in any of them. In support of this multifaceted program, the Department of Music has assembled a diverse faculty, including experts in composition, performance, theory, history, jazz, and ethnomusicology, and is committed to conducting its activities within an atmosphere that encourages communication and cooperation within that diversity.

Department faculty compose modern concert music and electronic music and study musical life in non-Western countries such as China and Indonesia, as well as America and Europe. To enrich your classroom learning, you can pursue directed research projects and/or participate in a senior seminar, use recording studios—including a new studio—and work with local cultural institutions such as symphony orchestras and the Renaissance and Baroque Society. There are many performing ensembles on campus that sponsor yearly performing tours for members, often traveling abroad.

Pittsburgh is an ideal city in which to study music; the city is home to a multitude of performing groups such as the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the Pittsburgh Opera, and the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera. In addition, many internationally known smaller ensembles and solo artists perform in Pittsburgh, often in Oakland. Every year, the Pitt Jazz Seminar brings several world-renowned jazz musicians to speak and perform. Music department faculty have begun the Music on the Edge concert series, in which new music is performed on campus. There is a thriving local music scene, and the public can hear local music in a number of performance venues.

The department's facilities include:

- Theodore M. Finney Music Library, containing scores, books, periodicals, and recordings
- Center for American Music, with recordings, manuscript scores, and instruments from the 19th and early 20th centuries
- Practice and rehearsal rooms
- An electronic music studio
- An ethnomusicological laboratory in which to analyze music sound digitally
- An extensive collection of musical instruments, including organs, harpsichords, and African, Chinese, Indian, and Western musical instruments

The Department of Music offers two tracks for undergraduates: Western Art Music and Jazz

Required Courses for Music Majors (37 credits):

Prerequisites (3 credits):

MUSIC 0100 Fundamentals of Western Music: This essential course introduces the basic materials of music to the prospective music major. Topics include keys, scales, and modes; intervals; rhythm and meter; triads and seventh chords; and procedures of four-part writing. This course assumes that you are able to read musical notation.



Music Theory I–IV (12 credits):

MUSIC 0411 Theory I and MUSIC 0415 Theory II: These courses introduce the principles and practice of diatonic harmony and voice leading through a study of works by leading composers of the 18th and 19th centuries.

MUSIC 0417 Theory III and MUSIC 0419 Theory IV: Theory III introduces the principles and practices of chromatic harmony and voice leading through a study of works by leading composers of the 18th and 19th centuries. Theory VI encompasses a broad range of 20th and 21st century musics from around the world.

NOTE: Students following the Jazz Track are not required to take Theory III and Theory IV.

Musicianship I–IV (4 credits):

MUSIC 0412 Musicianship I, MUSIC 0416 Musicianship II, MUSIC 0418 Musicianship III, and MUSIC 0420 Musicianship IV: These courses provide a disciplined environment in which to develop sight-singing skills and overall musicianship. Activities include sight-singing (moveable Do solfeggio), melodic dictation, rhythmic dictation, and coordination exercises.

History of Western Music (6 credits):

MUSIC 0222 History of Western Music to 1750: This course is a study of selected masterworks of Western art music in a historical context from Gregorian chant through Johann Sebastian Bach. Emphasis is on musical understanding through critical listening, score study, and lectures.

MUSIC 0224 History of Western Music Since 1750: This course traces the history of musical style from the late 18th century to the present through a close study of representative works in the context of leading artistic and intellectual trends.

Students should complete the above sequence in music theory, musicianship, and music history before taking the upper-division 1200- and 1400-level courses.

MUSIC 1904 Senior Seminar (3 credits): The topic of the senior seminar changes, but participants are expected to produce a major research project or other approved project displaying the ability to work independently at an advanced level.

Applied Music Requirements (6 credits):

Private lessons (three semesters at 1 credit each) are taken on the instrument of your choice. Lessons are offered in voice, jazz voice, piano, organ, harpsichord, violin, viola, violoncello, double bass, flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, French horn, trumpet, trombone, percussion, jazz studio set drumming, guitar, jazz guitar, non-Western instruments, and other instruments.

Ensemble Participation (three semesters at 1 credit each; each ensemble can be taken more than once for credit). Choose from the following ensembles: Collegiate Chorale, Heinz Chapel Choir, University Glee Club, Women's Chorale, Opera Workshop, University Orchestra, Marching Band, Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, Collegium Musicum, African Drumming Ensemble, Guitar Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Chamber Music, Chinese Music Ensemble, and Javanese Gamelan Ensemble. The ensembles are open to all students and can be enjoyed as musical as well as extracurricular activities.

Additional Upper-Division Requirements for the Western Art Music track (6 credits):

One course in the 1300-level series: Non-Western Music (3 credits); choose from:

MUSIC 0311 Introduction to World Music	MUSIC 1340 Music in Africa
MUSIC 1320 Music in North America	MUSIC 1352 Music in Southeast Asia
MUSIC 1324 European and American Folk Music	MUSIC 1354 Music in East Asia
MUSIC 1356 Music in the Middle East and India	MUSIC 1332 Music in Latin America
MUSIC 1358 Music in South Asia	MUSIC 1334 Afro American Music in the Caribbean
MUSIC 1396 Music in Society	

One additional course in the 1200, 1300, or 1400-level series: (3 credits); choose from:

History of Western Music	
MUSIC 1222 Medieval and Early Renaissance Music	MUSIC 1228 Late Romantic and Early 20th-Century Music
MUSIC 1224 Later Renaissance and Baroque Music	MUSIC 1230 Music Since 1945
MUSIC 1226 Classical and Early Romantic Music	MUSIC 1242 Major Composer
Non-Western Music (see 1300-level series list above)	

Composition/Electroacoustic Music (3 credits); choose from:

MUSIC 1421 Composition I

MUSIC 1441 Electroacoustic Music I

MUSIC 1422 Composition II

MUSIC 1442 Electroacoustic Music II

MUSIC 1431 Instrumentation and Orchestration

Upper-Division Requirements for Music Majors in the Jazz Track (12 credits):

The jazz studies program at Pitt is directed by jazz musicians and Nathan Davis, inductee to the International Jazz Hall of Fame. Students can expand their studies by playing in the Jazz Ensemble and seeing renowned jazz musicians during the annual Pitt Jazz Seminar. Students taking the concentration in jazz studies omit the upper-division requirements for standard music majors listed above, and take the following courses instead:

MUSIC 0711 History of Jazz: The course focuses on the chronological development of jazz from its beginnings on the plantation to its present state as a world concert music. Various styles such as ragtime, blues, gospel, spirituals, rhythm and blues, rock, and soul are examined.

MUSIC 1326 Afro American Music in the United States: This course is designed to familiarize you with the various phases of Afro American music existing in North America: blues, gospel-spirituals, work songs, children's game songs, and classical compositions of ragtime composers Scott Joplin, J.P. Johnson, et al. You will conduct a field project centered on street recordings, locations, and interviews of local and visiting artists. A detailed study of great Pittsburgh performers, present and past, will constitute a major portion of this course.

MUSIC 1731 Jazz Arranging I: This course develops your knowledge of the techniques of jazz-rock composition and arranging. The distinctive features of jazz-rock harmony are studied, and students write arrangements for various instrumental combinations.

MUSIC 1741 Jazz Improvisation I: This course provides an analysis of the techniques of jazz-rock-pop improvisation. You develop a repertoire of current standards and compose and analyze pieces in several styles.

Related Area: All School of Arts and Sciences degree candidates are required to complete 12 credits in a subject area not related to their major. The music department recommends a subject such as communication, computer science, English, history of art and architecture, foreign languages and literature, history, philosophy, physics, psychology, religion, or theatre arts as a related area.

Language Study: Students who intend to pursue graduate studies in historical musicology, ethnomusicology, theory, or music composition are strongly urged to acquire a reading knowledge of at least one foreign language. Voice students are advised to study Italian, French, and German, each for one year.

Scholarships and Awards: Each year the Department of Music awards the following scholarships to University of Pittsburgh students: The Anita J. Curka Music Scholarship, for outstanding performance (open to majors and nonmajors); The Mildred Miller Posvar Scholarship, for outstanding academic and music performance by a senior music major; The Mellon Jazz Scholarship, for outstanding performance in jazz; and a number of awards from the Marietta d'Auberge Scholarship Fund. Information concerning each of these awards is available from the department's undergraduate advisor.

For more information on the music program, contact:

University of Pittsburgh

Department of Music

John Goldsmith, undergraduate advisor

128 Music Building

Pittsburgh, PA 15260

412-624-4508

E-mail: jgold1@pitt.edu

For information on other majors, contact:

University of Pittsburgh

Office of Admissions and Financial Aid

Alumni Hall, 4227 Fifth Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15260-6601

412-624-PITT

E-mail: oafa@pitt.edu

www.oafa.pitt.edu

Special Programs

Study Abroad

Studying abroad is an exciting way to add an international perspective to your undergraduate education and strengthen your credentials as a graduate. The University of Pittsburgh encourages you to take advantage of this opportunity (almost 5 percent of Pitt students study abroad compared with 1.3 percent, nationally). Study abroad will not only distinguish you when you enter the job market or pursue graduate study, but also help broaden your experience of the world beyond your own country's borders, giving you an appreciation of other cultures and peoples while allowing you to earn credits toward your degree. Scholarships are available, and financial aid is applicable.

Institute of Asian Studies, University of Adelaide, Australia

At the Elder Conservatorium of Music, you can study music theory and performance, with concentrations in brass, composition, early music, ethnomusicology, jazz, music education, organ, percussion, piano, string, voice, and woodwind. Programs are for a full year or one semester, and students can live on campus or with a local family. Field trips to the Australian outback and Aboriginal sites are included.

Institute of European Studies, London Center, England

Through agreements with the Royal College of Music and City University, you can supplement academic studies with courses in music history and theory, practice, and technological advances in modern music. Instrumental studies include Oriental and early music instruments. Field trips throughout London complement all courses, and students live in apartments or with families.

Institute of European Studies (IES), Milan, Italy

Courses in music history and appreciation are regularly offered in this program, and you can arrange to study at a number of prestigious institutions, such as the Civica Scuola di Musica and Conservatorio G. Verdi. Instruction includes chamber performance, electronic music, ancient music, orchestra, and musicology. Housing with Italian roommates is arranged through IES.

Vienna Center for European Studies, Vienna, Austria (IES)

You can study music history and appreciation for a full year, one semester, or a summer in this city renowned for its musical contributions through the centuries. Vienna has the longest opera season in the world and offers concerts every night. Qualified students also can take master classes in voice and music at the Vienna Conservatory of Music. Field trips to Prague in the Czech Republic, Budapest in Hungary, and to Poland and Germany are offered, and students are housed in private residences.