

MUSIC COMPOSITION, BM

Students entering this program should have a strong background in music. This should include performance experience with a specific instrument or voice type.

Admission into the Major

In order to declare a major in music composition, students must submit sample compositions to be reviewed by the composition faculty. To begin the application process, students must fill out a separate application to the School of Music, which is available online at <http://music.ua.edu/apply-audition/>. Upon successful review of the submitted materials, students are expected to declare a major formally no later than the fourth semester of full-time enrollment (or at 61 semester hours for transfer students). Students can declare a major by completing the Change of Major/Minor Application online under the Student tab of myBama.

Students earning the Bachelor of Music (BM) degree with a major in composition must complete all University, College and departmental degree requirements. These include the general education requirements, the following major requirements and other sufficient credits to total a minimum of 122 applicable semester hours.

Code and Title	Hours
Major Courses	
MUS 115 Theory I: Voice Leading	4
MUS 117 Theory II: Diatonic Harmony	4
MUS 215 Theory III: Chromatic Harmony	4
MUS 217 Theory IV: Advanced Harmony	4
MUS 219 Composition I	2
MUS 220 Composition II	2
MUS 250 Music In World Cultures	3
MUS 251 Music History I	3
MUS 252 Music History II	3
MUS 303 16th-Century Counterpoint	3
MUS 304 18th-Century Counterpoint I	3
MUS 307 Form And Analysis	3
MUS 319 Composition III	3
MUS 320 Composition IV	3
MUS 323 Music History III	3
MUS 325 Instrumentation	3
MUS 351 Fund Of Conducting	2
MUS 403 or 18th-Century Counterpoint II	3
MUS 426 Analysis of 20th-Century Music	
MUS 418 Schenkerian Analysis	3
MUS 419 Composition V	3
MUS 420 Composition VI	3
MUS 492 or Choral Conducting	2
MUS 494 Band Conducting	
MUS electives 300 or 400 level	3
MUA 121 Class Piano I	4
& MUA 122 and Class Piano II	
& MUA 123 and Class Piano III	
& MUA 124 and Class Piano IV	
MUA 231 Piano (Secondary)	1

MUA applied (four semesters)	4
MUA ensembles (four semesters)	4
Total Hours	82

Grade Point Average

A 2.0 grade point average in the major is required for completion of the degree. Please see the Grades and Grade Points section of this catalog for an explanation on grade point average calculations.

Upper-level Residency

A minimum of 12 hours of 300- or 400-level courses in the major must be earned on this campus.

Required Minor

The music composition major does not require the completion of a minor.

Additional Major Requirements

MUS 121 Intro To Listening does not satisfy the fine arts (FA) general education requirement for music majors. Composition majors may audition for status as "principals" in any instrument or voice. Principal status qualifies the student for two hours of credit per semester instead of the usual one hour. Not more than 10 hours or fewer than two hours may be taken in any single instrument or family of instruments. Students who do not qualify as piano principals must enroll for that instrument during every semester. During the senior year, composition majors must present, to the satisfaction of the composition faculty, a recital of their works. Readings of works for large ensemble will count toward the fulfillment of this requirement.

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have met all University, College, major and minor requirements. However, each student must meet with an adviser in the major department for academic planning and to be approved for registration each semester. College advisers are also available for additional assistance with minor, college and University requirements.

MUA Applied Courses

Students must earn a minimum of four hours and four semesters in a single instrument or voice chosen from the following courses:

Code and Title	Hours
MUA 231 Piano (Secondary)	1
MUA 232 Organ (Secondary)	1
MUA 233 Harpsichord (Secondary)	1
MUA 234 Voice (Secondary)	1
MUA 235 Violin (Secondary)	1
MUA 236 Viola (Secondary)	1
MUA 237 Cello (Secondary)	1
MUA 238 Double Bass (Secondary)	1
MUA 239 Flute (Secondary)	1
MUA 240 Oboe (Secondary)	1
MUA 241 Bassoon (Secondary)	1
MUA 242 Clarinet (Secondary)	1
MUA 243 Saxophone (Secondary)	1
MUA 244 Trumpet (Secondary)	1

MUA 245	French Horn (Secondary)	1
MUA 246	Trombone (Secondary)	1
MUA 247	Euphonium (Secondary)	1
MUA 248	Tuba (Secondary)	1
MUA 249	Percussion (Secondary)	1

MUA Ensembles Courses

Four semesters of ensembles should be chosen from the following courses:

Code and Title	Hours
MUA 150 Huxford Symphony Orchestra	1
MUA 250 Huxford Symphony Orchestra	1
MUA 350 Huxford Symphony Orchestra	1
MUA 450 Huxford Symphony Orchestra	1
MUA 152 Wind Ensemble	1
MUA 252 Wind Ensemble	1
MUA 352 Wind Ensemble	1
MUA 452 Wind Ensemble	1
MUA 154 Symphonic Band	1
MUA 254 Symphonic Band	1
MUA 354 Symphonic Band	1
MUA 454 Symphonic Band	1
MUA 156 Percussion Ensemble	1
MUA 256 Percussion Ensemble	1
MUA 356 Percussion Ensemble	1
MUA 456 Percussion Ensemble	1
MUA 158 Contemporary Ensemble	1
MUA 258 Contemporary Ensemble	1
MUA 358 Contemporary Ensemble	1
MUA 458 Contemporary Ensemble	1
MUA 159 Jazz Ensembles	1
MUA 259 Jazz Ensemble	1
MUA 359 Jazz Ensembles	1
MUA 459 Jazz Ensemble	1
MUA 162 University Chorus	1
MUA 262 University Chorus	1
MUA 362 University Chorus	1
MUA 462 University Chorus	1
MUA 163 University Singers	1
MUA 263 University Singers	1
MUA 363 University Singers	1
MUA 463 University Singers	1

Career opportunities include full-time work as a performing musician, full-time opportunities as a licensed music therapist, and many other opportunities within the music industry.

Types of Jobs Accepted

Recent graduates from The University of Alabama are very successful in major symphony orchestras, military bands and jazz, as freelancers, and as working music therapists.

Learn more about opportunities in this field at the Career Center