

University of Indianapolis – Shaheen College of Arts & Sciences

2025-2026 Curriculum Guide for Music Major (Music Theory/Composition emphasis) (MUS/MUTC)
Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science

Freshman Year

Semester I

- MUS 132 Aural Skills I (2) *
- MUS 133 Music Theory I (2) *
- MUS 105 Foundations for the Collegiate Musician (1)
- MUS 106 Freshman Experience in Music (1)
- MUS 140/145 Major Applied Area (1) **and**
- MUS 150 Performance Disciplines (1)
- MUS 118/ Keyboard Skills I (1) **or**
- MUS 140 Private Applied Piano (1)
- MUS 160 Concert Choir (.5-1) **or**
- MUS 161 Symphonic Wind Ensemble (.5-1) **or**
- MUS 180 Symphony Orchestra (.5-1)

Semester II

- MUS 132 Aural Skills II (2) **
- MUS 133 Music Theory II (2) *
- MUS 140/145 Major Applied Area (1) **and**
- MUS 150 Performance Disciplines (1)
- MUS 119/ Keyboard Skills (1) **or**
- MUS 140 Private Applied Piano (1)
- MUS 160 Concert Choir (.5-1) **or**
- MUS 161 Symphonic Wind Ensemble (.5-1) **or**
- MUS 180 Symphony Orchestra (.5-1)
- MUS 135 Intro to Compositional Techniques (2)

Sophomore Year

Semester I

- MUS 234 Aural Skills III (2)
- MUS 235 Music Theory III (2)
- MUS 140/145 Major Applied Area (1) **and**
- MUS 150 Performance Disciplines (1)
- MUS 140 Applied Piano (recommended elective)
- MUS 160 Concert Choir (.5-1) **or**
- MUS 161 Symphonic Wind Ensemble (.5-1) **or**
- MUS 180 Symphony Orchestra (.5-1)
- MUS 146 Applied Composition (1) **and**
- MUS 150 Performance Disciplines for Composition (1)

Semester II

- MUS 236 Form and Analysis (3)
- MUS 237 Music History I (3)
- MUS 257 Basic Conducting (2)
- MUS 140/145 Major Applied Area (1) **and**
- MUS 150 Performance Disciplines (1)

- MUS **150-UD** PD: Upper Divisional (0)
- MUS **140** Applied Piano (recommended elective)
- MUS **160** Concert Choir (.5-1) **or**
- MUS **161** Symphonic Wind Ensemble (.5-1) **or**
- MUS **180** Symphony Orchestra (.5-1)
- MUS **146** Applied Composition (1) **and**
- MUS **150** Performance Disciplines for Composition (1)

Junior Year

Semester I

- MUS **238** Music History II (3)
- MUS **340/345** Major Applied Area (1) **and**
- MUS **150** Performance Disciplines (1)
- MUS **160** Concert Choir (.5-1) **or**
- MUS **161** Symphonic Wind Ensemble (.5-1) **or**
- MUS **180** Symphony Orchestra (.5-1)
- MUS **346** Applied Composition (1) **and**
- MUS **150** Performance Disciplines for Composition (1)
- MUS **455** Instrumental/Choral Arranging (2)

Semester II

- MUS **338** Foundations in Ethnomusicology (3)
- MUS **340/345** Major Applied Area (1) **and**
- MUS **150** Performance Disciplines (1)
- MUS **160** Concert Choir (.5-1) **or**
- MUS **161** Symphonic Wind Ensemble (.5-1) **or**
- MUS **180** Symphony Orchestra (.5-1)
- MUS **346** Applied Composition (1) **and**
- MUS **150** Performance Disciplines for Composition (1)

Senior Year

Semester I

- MUS **340/345** Major Applied Area (1) **and**
- MUS **150** Performance Disciplines (1) (recommended electives)
- MUS **160** Concert Choir (.5-1) **or**
- MUS **161** Symphonic Wind Ensemble (.5-1) **or**
- MUS **180** Symphony Orchestra (.5-1)
- MUS **149** Applied Jazz (1) **or**
- MUS **207** Jazz Keyboard (1) **or**
- MUS **208** Jazz Improvisation I (3) (Instrumental elective) See jazz requirement below. **
- MUS **346** Applied Composition (1 credits) **and**
- MUS **150** Performance Disciplines for Composition (1)

Semester II

- MUS **340/345** Major Applied Area (1) **and**
- MUS **150** Performance Disciplines (1) (recommended electives)
- MUS **160** Concert Choir (.5-1) **or**
- MUS **161** Symphonic Wind Ensemble (.5-1) **or**
- MUS **180** Symphony Orchestra (.5-1)
- MUS **324** 18th Century Counterpoint (2) **or**
- MUS **334** 16th Century Counterpoint (2)

- **MUS 346** Applied Composition (1 credits) **and**
- **MUS 150** Performance Disciplines for Composition (1)
- **MUS 470** Senior Recital of original compositions - Capstone (0)

Please note the following:

ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

- An Audition is required before admission into all Music Degree programs
- *Passing the Theory Proficiency Exam or Music Fundamentals with a B- minimum is prerequisite to MUS 132 and 133.
- A Piano Proficiency Exam is required (See Music Handbook).

LESSONS

All music majors will be required to enroll in a minimum of one hour of applied lessons in the major instrument and one hour of Performance Disciplines during each semester of enrollment. A minimum of six semesters of applied lessons and six semesters of Performance Disciplines are required for the Bachelor of Science/Arts in Music, with a minimum of three hours at the 300 level. A minimum of two hours of secondary piano study is required of all percussion, string, wind, or voice majors. Organ or voice is recommended as a secondary instrument for piano majors.

ENSEMBLES

As part of the 4.5 ensemble hours for the major, participation in a major ensemble is required during all semesters of enrollment. A minimum of 2 semesters of chamber ensemble is required of all majors. Music majors whose applied area is guitar or piano must participate in a major ensemble for at least two years; for the remaining four semesters they may be in either chamber or major ensembles. Student ensemble requirements for music scholarship students are specified in the scholarship contract.

JAZZ REQUIREMENT FOR INSTRUMENTAL MAJORS

** All instrumental majors not pursuing the Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies. These majors must choose the jazz course in which they wish to enroll in the order of the following prescribed list.

First choice: MUS 149 Applied Jazz (1); Second choice: MUS 207 Jazz Keyboard (2); Third choice: MUS 208 Jazz Improvisation I (3). Please note, instructor consent is required for students to enroll in MUS 208 Jazz Improvisation.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- A grade of C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) or higher is required in all courses applying toward the Music Major. Minimum Recital Attendance is required for Upper Divisional and prior to Graduation. (See Music Handbook).
- An Upper Divisional must be completed in order to register for 300/400 level music classes. (See Music Handbook)
- The Music major with a concentration in Music Theory/Composition – Composition emphasis requires a total of 64.5 hours, 7 of which are Gen Ed equivalent, with an additional 46 Gen Ed. hours.
- The Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Science degree require a minimum of 120 hours. See the General Education Core Guide for additional course requirements.
- A student may complete more than one major as long as each major has at least 24 discrete hours. Please see the Academic Catalog for additional details.

REMEMBER: If you have any questions about the Music/Composition Concentration and its requirements, contact the Music Department Chair; 317-788-3255, Christel DeHaan Fine Arts Center, Room 103B or your academic advisor. Courses and requirements sometimes change, so keep in contact with your advisor.