



Music-related Questions for College Choice

This list is a sample of the kind of questions you might ask a college admissions counselor or faculty member in a music department. There are no single right answers. There are just answers. The responses you get should tell you the nature and shape and scope of the program as you consider your options.

You should feel comfortable asking a variety of people these questions to get the information you need. The choosing of a university and a music program should focus on one that will suit *your* needs best. Music programs in the United States combine applied lessons, academic studies in music theory and history, ensemble participation, and performance studies in one large, comprehensive major. These questions should help you tease out details about how a university manages all of these areas.

Have fun as you undertake this search!

Is the degree a BA, a BS, and/or a BM?

Do you have a graduate program?

What majors are offered?

How many majors in music?

How many resident students on campus? How many commuters?

How many full-time faculty members do you have?

How many teach history and theory?

How many teach performance?

How large will my freshman music theory class be?

Do you have a list of current activities of your alums?

May I talk with students in the department about the program?

What kind of non-departmental performance opportunities will I have?

Tell me about departmental performance ensembles.

How many semesters of applied lessons are required for my intended major?

How is required piano managed? Lessons? Class piano?

How many semesters of music theory and music history are required for my intended major?