

Music (BM) Performance with an Emphasis in Jazz

This program is offered by the Leigh Gerding College of Fine Arts/ Department of Music and is only available at the St. Louis main campus.

Program Description

The bachelor of music in performance is a pre-professional degree designed to prepare students who wish to pursue a future in the professional music world as a performing artist or studio teacher. This degree requires an emphasis in orchestral instruments, jazz, piano or voice.

The jazz emphasis equips students who wish to pursue a future in the professional music world as a performer, as a jazz soloist, in jazz ensembles, or building an independent multi-faceted career. The Webster jazz studies program is based around the small group performing experience. Students participate in jazz combos, Jazz Collective or Jazz Singers in addition to an academic curriculum that balances courses in jazz and classical music instruction. Students who wish to pursue a music technology curriculum should complete the minor in sound recording and engineering in the Department of Audio Aesthetics and Technology.

The bachelor of music in performance conforms to the guidelines specified by the National Association of Schools of Music for accreditation. Webster University is a full member of the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM).

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the jazz emphasis, the student will:

- Consistently produce a beautiful, resonant, and stylistically characteristic range of timbres throughout all registers on the instrument with precise intonation.
- Demonstrate mastery of jazz rhythms, articulations, and phrasing within a limited context through performance of a range of historical styles.
- Showcase the ability to learn a range of melodies and chord progressions by ear and perform with precision from memory.
- Demonstrate mastery of jazz harmony within a limited context through performance of a range of harmonic progressions on a primary and secondary instrument.
- Apply skills in jazz composition and arrangement, utilizing critical and aesthetic judgment, and effectively employing contemporary notational software for varied jazz ensembles.
- Showcase the ability to effectively perform in a jazz ensemble, understanding and executing the roles and dynamics necessary for cohesive and sensitive group performance.
- Trace the emergence and evolution of jazz within a historical context, identifying major performers and composers and enumerating the specific properties that make their output extraordinary.
- Develop and implement effective pedagogical strategies for jazz education, focusing on nurturing the conceptual and technical growth of students new to the jazz experience.

Admission and Audition Requirements

To be admitted as an undergraduate music major or music minor, applicants must complete an in-person audition/interview with the music faculty and complete various diagnostic examinations. Auditions are arranged through the Office of Undergraduate Admission. Specific information on the audition requirements for each music degree program is available from the department's website. Priority consideration for performance scholarship is

given to students who complete all admission requirements before February 28 of the application year.

Performance Requirements

Much of the music that we make is collaborative in nature, with a mix of keyboard, wind, brass, string and percussion instruments and voices. So that performance majors develop an ability to work with others beyond an accompanist, all performance majors presenting junior and senior recitals will include on each recital or in a Thursday student recital at least one 3-minute work that includes collaboration with a performer other than or in addition to piano. Works longer than 3 minutes are encouraged.

Degree Requirements

For information on the general requirements for a degree, see Baccalaureate Degree Requirements under the Academic Policies and Information section of this catalog.

- 91-92 required credit hours
- Applicable University Global Citizenship Program hours, with accommodations for the bachelor of music
- Electives

Global Citizenship Program for Bachelor of Music

- GLBC 1200 Global Cornerstone Seminar
- 6 credit hours from courses designated 'Roots of Cultures' (One course with the MUSC prefix can fulfill GCP and major requirements simultaneously.)
- 3 credit hours from courses designated 'Social Systems & Human Behavior'
- 3 credit hours from courses designated 'Global Understanding'
- 3 credit hours from courses designated 'Physical & Natural World' or 'Quantitative Literacy'
- KEYS 4XXX Global Keystone Seminar

NOTE: Except where specified otherwise, the above courses must not also satisfy major requirements. GCP skills requirements may be fulfilled with the courses above, courses in the major, or electives. 'Arts Appreciation' is satisfied in meeting the requirements for the major.

Required Courses

Core Music Courses

- MUSC 1010 Music Theory and Aural Skills I (4 hours)
- MUSC 1020 Music Theory II (3 hours)
- MUSC 1820 Aural Skills II (2 hours)
- A minimum of 6 credit hours chosen from the following:
 - MUSC 2050 Songwriting Theory (3 hours)
 - MUSC 3060 Topics in Music Analysis (2-3 hours)
 - MUSC 3065 Topics in Music Analysis (2-3 hours)
 - MUSC 4030 Eighteenth-Century Counterpoint (3 hours)
- MUSC 2060 Social and Cultural Approaches to Music (3 hours)
- MUSC 2070 Music in Western Culture (3 hours)
- A minimum of 4 credit hours chosen from the following:
 - MUSC 3160 Topics of Musicology (1-3 hours)
 - MUSC 3165 Topics in Musicology (1-3 hours)
 - MUSC 3520 History of Popular Styles (3 hours)
 - MUSC 4040 Music in the Twentieth Century (3 hours)
- MUSC 4700 Advanced Topics in Music (*taken in junior or senior year only*) (2-3 hours)
- MUSC 0200 Candidacy Examination (0 hours)
- MUSC 0500 Senior Overview (0 hours)

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- MUSC 2603, MUSC 3003, MUSC 4003 Applied Music (*major instrument*) (*eight semesters required*) (16 hours)
- MUSC 2300, MUSC 2305 Jazz Improvisation I, II (6 hours)
- MUSC 3300 Advanced Jazz Improvisation (9 hours)
- MUSC 0890 Recital Attendance (*six semesters required*) (0 hours)
- MUSC 0990 Music Seminar (*taken every semester*) (0 hours)
- MUSC 0300 Junior Recital (0 hours)
- MUSC 0400 Senior Recital (0 hours)

Major Ensemble

8 hours over 8 semesters, as approved by advisor, to be selected from:

- MUSC 4955 Webster University Jazz Singers (1 hour per semester)
- MUSC 4960 Webster University Jazz Combos (1-2 hours per semester)
- MUSC 4970 Webster University Jazz Collective (1 hour per semester)

Supportive Courses

- MUSC 1080, MUSC 1085 Class Piano I and II (4 hours) (may be waived on the basis of placement exam results)
- MUSC 2001, MUSC 2002, MUSC 2003, MUSC 2004, MUSC 2005, MUSC 2501, MUSC 2502, MUSC 2503, MUSC 2504, MUSC 2505 Applied Music: Secondary Instrument (*four semesters required; secondary instrument as approved by advisor*) (2 hours)
- MUSC 1370, MUSC 1380 Jazz Keyboard Theory I, II (6 hours)
- MUSC 3170 Jazz History (3 hours)
- MUSC 3410 Conducting I (3 hours)
- MUSC 4320 Jazz Education Methods (2 hours)
- MUSC 4340, MUSC 4350 Jazz Scoring and Arranging I, II (5 hours)