

Academic Program for a Music Major with a Focus on Performance or Conducting

Undergraduate music majors focusing on performance or conducting who intend to pursue a professional performing career, and who may wish to attend graduate school at a conservatory, should consider several factors when choosing electives and when choosing subjects that satisfying the seven-course Letters and Science breadth requirement.

An intellectually well-rounded Liberal Arts education is an essential component in the development of a professional musician. Entrance to most graduate schools and professional ensembles, however, is usually based exclusively on an audition that will demonstrate skill level on the performer's instrument. Students graduating from UC Berkeley often find it helpful to spend at least one extra outside year of practice and study to prepare for auditions. The Hertz Traveling Award can facilitate a year's study after graduation.

Upon admission to a graduate level program, most schools will require diagnostic testing in the areas of musicianship, harmony and counterpoint. It is not uncommon for entering graduate students to be required to satisfy deficiencies in the areas mentioned.

YEAR 1

Required courses for the major: 49A, 49B, 49C, 50, 60, and one course from the series Music 74-77, Music 405A and B

Required university-wide: English 1A and 1B and one course in American History and Institutions (if not taken elsewhere or exempted by exam).

Note that besides the English department, English 1A and 1B courses are offered by departments such as Art History, Comparative Literature, History, German, History, etc. The list below may be of special interest to composers.

Film Studies R1A-R1B (satisfies 1A or 1B)
Theater R1A-R1B (satisfies 1A or 1B)
History of Art R1B (satisfies 1B only)
L&S R44 (Western Civilization) (satisfies 1A or 1B)
German R5A-R5B (satisfies 1A or 1B)

For a complete list of courses that will satisfy the English 1A and 1B requirement, visit: <http://ls-advise.berkeley.edu/requirements/rc.html>

Breadth Courses: pick from the list below

Performance Courses: It is extremely important for students interested in performance to participate each semester in at least one performing ensemble (from the series Music 140-45, 148, 149) and to take private lessons on your instrument (Music 41/150). Entrance to performing ensembles is by audition. Private lessons in Music 41 (one half hour per week) are

open to everyone for two years; an audition is required for private lessons in Music 150 (one hour per week; jury required at the end of each semester).

Seminars: We strongly recommend that students seek out a Freshman Seminar or a Sophomore Seminar in any topic/department. These are one-unit courses that provide the opportunity to work closely with a faculty member and a small group of students on a focused topic for one hour a week.

YEAR 2

Required courses for the major: 51, 61, a further two courses from the series Music 74-77, a large performing ensemble (Music 140-45, 148, 149) for both fall and spring semesters, Music 405C and D

Music of the 18th and 19th Centuries (Music 76) and Music of the 20th Century (Music 77) are recommended for satisfying the music history requirement.

Performance Courses: At least one performing ensemble (from the series Music 140-45, 148, 149) and private lessons on your instrument (Music 41/150). One large ensemble and one small ensemble is recommended for each semester. Performers who are interested in a conducting career should plan to take four semesters of conducting classes (Music 160, 161, 162).

If room in the schedule:

Music Perception and Cognition (Music 108)
Jazz theory and musicianship (Music 116M)
Introduction to composition (Music 117M)
Musical Applications of Computers (Music 158)

Breadth Courses: pick from the list below

YEAR 3

Required courses for the major: An upper-level seminar in music history (= any course from the series Music 170-79 or Music 189)

Music Department course offerings vary from semester to semester. Ask ahead and plan accordingly to find a 170 series that fits your interests.

Debussy and Mahler (Music 174A)
Stravinsky (Music 174C)
Studies in African American Music (Music 174F)

Performance Courses: At least one performing ensemble (from the series Music 140-45, 148, 149) and private lessons on your instrument (Music 41/150). One large ensemble and one small

ensemble is recommended for each semester. Performers who are interested in a conducting career should plan to take four semesters of conducting classes (Music 160, 161, 162).

Recommended Music Electives:

- 20th century harmony (Music 151)
- Advanced musicianship (Music 152)
- Counterpoint (Music 154A-154B)
- Music Composition (Music 155)
- Studies in Musical Analysis (Music 156)
- Orchestration (Music 157)
- Musical Applications of Computers and Related Technologies (Music 158)
- Intro to conducting (Music 160)
- Instrumental conducting (Music 161)
- Choral conducting (Music 162)
- Jazz improvisation (Music 164A-164B)
- Music perception and cognition (Music 108M)
- Jazz Theory and musicianship (Music 116M)
- Introduction to composition (Music 117M)
- Non-European music (from the Music 130-139 series)

Foreign language studies (German, French, or Italian are particularly useful for performers)

Breadth courses: pick from the list below

This is the time to begin thinking about taking courses and cementing relationships with professors that reflect your interests most closely, and to take some steps that will smooth the way towards doing an honors project in music performance during the senior year.

YEAR 4

Recommended music electives: Anything from the courses listed under year 3, plus:

Honors project in music performance (Music 195)

Performance courses: At least one performing ensemble (from the series Music 140-45, 148, 149) and private lessons on your instrument (Music 41/150). One large ensemble and one small ensemble is recommended for each semester. Performers who are interested in a conducting career should plan to take four semesters of conducting classes (Music 160, 161, 162).

SELECTED BREADTH COURSES RELATED TO A FOCUS ON MUSIC PERFORMANCE

(for a complete list of breadth courses go to:

<http://ls-advise.berkeley.edu/requirements/lreq.html#7breadth>)

Music majors are required to take one course from each of the following categories.

American Cultures:

(for a complete list of American Culture courses go to: <http://amercult.berkeley.edu/>)

Art, Technology and Culture (Art 160)

Contemporary Literature (English 134)

Film Seminar in American Cultures (Film 40)

Special Topics in Film Genre (Film 108)

American Art (1800-Present) (HISTART) 185A

Autobiography and American Individualism (Rhetoric 139AC)

Philosophy and Values:

Challenge of Cognitive Science to Western Philosophy C108

The Mind and Language (COG SCI) C101

Metaphor -- Linguistics (LINGUIS) 106

Mathematical Logic -- Mathematics (MATH 125A)

Introduction to the Theory of Sets -- (MATH 135)

Buddhist Psychology -- Psychology (PSYCH)

Western Mysticism: Religion, Art, and Literature -- Religious Studies (RELIGST) C118

The Classic Myths (Classics 28, Greek Philosophy (Classics 36)

Literature and Philosophy (English 177)

Social and Behavioral Sciences:

Basic Issues in Cognitive Science(COG SCI C100)

The Mind and Language (COG SCI C101)

Scientific Approaches to Consciousness (COG SCI C102)

The Mind and Mathematics(COG SCI C107)

General Psychology -- Psychology (PSYCH 1)

Principles of Psychology -- Psychology (PSYCH 2)

Western Civilization (L&S R44)

Historical Studies:

Western Civilization (L&S R44)

History of Art (any, except R1B, N142)

Biological Science:

Scientific Approaches to Consciousness(COG SCI C102)

Perception -- Cognitive Science (COG SCI C126)

Physical Science:

The Physics of Music (Physics 21)