Theory and Composition (Composition), BMus

Program Description

Students pursuing the BMus in theory and composition must choose a concentration in either theory or composition, and completion of the requirements for this concentration result in the award of one degree in either theory or composition.

Students who select the concentration in composition focus on developing techniques for writing music. The School of Music offers students the opportunity to study with composers who have established national and international reputations.

This program may be used as the first step toward a master's degree or doctorate in music composition or another graduate academic music degree.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts
- **Location:** Tempe campus
- **Additional Program Fee:** Yes
- **Second Language Requirement:** No
- **First Required Math Course:** MAT 142 - College Mathematics
  OR MAT 117 OR MAT 119
- **Math Intensity:** General

Required Courses (Major Map)

2019 - 2020 Major Map
Major Map (Archives)
Admission Requirements

General University Admission Requirements:

All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

Freshman | Transfer | International | Readmission

Additional Requirements:

Important: Applicants must submit an ASU application for undergraduate admission in addition to a separate School of Music application. Students should visit https://music.asu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-steps-to-apply for details. Admission to the School of Music is based on an audition. Live auditions take place on campus in November (spring admission) and in January and February (fall admission) of each year. Applicants may review audition information at http://music.asu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-auditions.

Admission to the School of Music is highly selective and based on an audition process. Students are admitted as music audition students and must successfully complete the audition before enrolling in music major courses. Upon admission to both ASU and the School of Music, the applicant's major will be changed to music. In the event a student is admitted to ASU but not to the School of Music or misses the audition deadline, the student will remain as a music audition major and will need to successfully pass the music audition milestone in the first semester in order to gain admission into the program.


Spring 2018: The deadline to apply for admission to the Bachelor of Music in composition is Oct. 2, 2017. A prescreening portfolio is required, uploaded to the online School of Music Application.

Fall 2018: The deadline to apply for admission to the Bachelor of Music in composition is Dec. 1, 2017. A prescreening portfolio is required, uploaded to the online School of Music Application.

Transfer Admission Requirements

Transfer Applicants: Transfer of courses from other accredited institutions is subject to the existence of parallel and equal courses in the college's curriculum, and departmental or school evaluation of studio and class piano courses with respect to performance standards.

Every candidate for the bachelor's degree must earn a minimum of 30 credit hours in resident credit at ASU. Transfer students enrolled in the institute must complete a minimum of 15 resident credit hours in the major as approved by the faculty.
Change of Major Requirements

An ASU student who would like to change majors to one offered by the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 (scale is 4.00 = "A"). Students should refer to https://students.asu.edu/changingmajors for information about how to change a major to this program.

Transfer Options

ASU is committed to helping you thrive by offering tools that allow you to personalize your transfer path to ASU. Students may use the Transfer Map search to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools, and resources and help students save time and money in their college journey. Learn more about these programs by visiting the Admissions site.

Global Opportunities

PluS Alliance
Global Experience

With over 250 programs in more than 65 countries (ranging from one week to one year), study abroad is possible for all ASU students wishing to gain global skills and knowledge in preparation for a 21st-century career. Students earn ASU credit for completed courses, while staying on track for graduation, and may apply financial aid and scholarships toward program costs. https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/

Global Degree

Career Opportunities

Graduates are prepared to work in various professional or entrepreneurial capacities, including:
• arranging
• composing
• performing in community and professional ensembles in a variety of styles and traditions
• presenting school programs, or state or community arts councils as artist-in-residence
• teaching in a private studio and community program
• teaching theory and composition
• working in music-related fields such as media production, music business, publishing and marketing

Many graduates pursue a master's degree or a doctorate in music or in another professional field.

Career examples include but are not limited to those shown in the following list. Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Music Composer</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>$50,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Director</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>$50,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singer</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

☀ Bright Outlook  🌿 Green Occupation

**Contact Information**

Schedule an advisor appointment
School of Music | MUSIC E167
MusicAdmissions@asu.edu | 480-965-3371