Music (Music and Culture), BA

From the mainstream to the alternative, this program lets your imagination shape your degree.

Program Description

The BA in music with a concentration in music and culture is a broadly based liberal-arts degree offering the most elective flexibility of any ASU music major.

The program provides skills applicable to careers in music and many other fields (e.g., librarianship, arts festival management or production, criticism, audience educator, recruitment, artist representation, publishing, creative writing). Students may develop mainstream competencies such as performing or writing about Western European music, conducting and teaching about music. They may also pursue coursework in popular song writing, beat-making, acoustics, advocacy of wellness through music, dance as musical embodiment and selected musical competencies of Asia, Latin America and other areas.

Students explore music as human history, cultural artifact and social behavior, and engage in interdisciplinary thinking and academic research and writing. Because of the high percentage of elective courses, students may tailor both the General Studies courses and the music electives to suit their career goals.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** [Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts](#)
- **Location:** [Tempe campus](#)
- **Additional Program Fee:** Yes
- **Second Language Requirement:** Yes
- **First Required Math Course:** MAT 117 - College Algebra
  Or MAT 119 or MAT 142
- **Math Intensity:** Moderate

Required Courses (Major Map)
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, Dance and Theatre application. Students should visit https://music.asu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-steps-to-apply for details. Admission to the School of Music, Dance and Theatre 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. Review audition information at http://music.asu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-auditions.

Admission to the music program 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, Dance and Theatre, 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, Dance and Theatre 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.

Audition process for admittance to music and culture concentration:

1. Submit a writing sample, which will be evaluated by all musicology faculty members.
2. Submit evidence of musicianship broadly defined (basic notational literacy plus live audition on, for example, didgeridoo or gospel-style composition, or documented transdisciplinary installation including music), which will be evaluated by all musicology faculty.
3. Attend an interview with at least three musicology faculty members.
4. Each student will be matched with a musicology advisor at the time of acceptance. The advisor will assist students in the choice of ensembles (as qualified) and electives to support their programs of study. Students must audition and be accepted into large ensembles following established procedures.
5. Students who wish to take studio lessons as part of the degree must audition for the appropriate performance faculty members. Students should follow the BA in music audition requirements.

Application Deadlines: Students should visit https://music.asu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-deadlines-fees for complete music deadlines.

Spring 2020: The deadline to apply for admission to this program is Oct. 15, 2019.
Fall 2020: The deadline to apply for admission to this program is Jan. 5, 2020.

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.

Application Deadlines: Students should visit https://music.asu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-deadlines-fees for complete music deadlines.

Spring 2020: The deadline to apply for admission to this program is Oct. 15, 2019.

Fall 2020: The deadline to apply for admission to this program is Jan. 5, 2020.

Change of Major Requirements

An ASU student who would like to change majors to one offered by the Herberger Institute or one of its programs must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 (scale is 4.00 = "A").

Students should refer to https://changemajor.apps.asu.edu for information about how to change a major to this program.

Transfer Options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use MyPath2ASU™ 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. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/pathway-programs.

Global Opportunities

Global Experience
With over 250 programs in more than 65 countries (ranging from one week to one year), music and culture students have the opportunity to experience music of their area of focus in the music capitals of the world. Students gain global skills and knowledge in preparation for a 21st-century career while earning ASU credit for completed courses and staying on track for graduation. https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/

Career Opportunities

The program prepares students for potential careers in fields that require skilled written communication, the ability to conduct research both in electronic and print media, critical and logical thinking, the dissection of an argument, and careful time management.

In addition to the careers listed below, graduates may pursue jobs in music and medical humanities or copyright and entertainment law. Graduates are prepared to work in various professional capacities, including:

- music criticism and research, ethnomusicology and musicology
- music entrepreneurship, concert management and promotion
- music in culture, music blogging
- music publishing, program annotation
- performer in community and professional ensembles in a variety of styles and traditions
- private studio or community program teaching
- music librarian
- music-related fields

Contact Information

School of Music, Dance and Theatre | MUSIC E167
MusicAdmissions@asu.edu | 480-965-5069