Popular Music (BA/BS)

A Bachelor of Arts or Science degree with a Popular Music provides students with a comprehensive course of study focused on songwriting, music production, music performance, music theory, and popular music history and culture. It can also include preparation for music entrepreneurship through coursework in marketing, business, and law. Students choose from a variety of performance ensembles, including gospel choirs, a hip hop ensemble, and popular music combos, among others.

Students can use elective requirements to deepen their engagement with a variety of subjects, including music production, jazz, electronic music, and the history and culture of popular music. A degree in Popular Music requires approximately two years of music coursework with no audition or portfolio needed. Students can elect to take more music coursework to complete general elective requirements, and can take music courses for four years should they choose to.

Program's Admission Requirements

Please visit the program's website (https://musicanddance.uoregon.edu/apply/).

Popular Music majors may apply for admission to the Music Production concentration during their second year of study. Admission to the program is contingent upon a cumulative UO GPA of 2.7 or higher, completion of MUS 151 Popular Songwriting, MUS 131 Music Theory I, and MUS 134 Aural Skills I with grades of C- or better. Admission to the concentration is determined by the Popular Music faculty.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Have an understanding of, and skill with, musicianship, defined as the fundamental comprehension of and ability to work with the elements of music.
- Have knowledge of the history of popular music and an understanding of the historical function of the music in relation to culture.
- Compose and produce popular music.
- Understand the financial and legal practices of the music industry.
- Perform music with an instrument and/or voice.
- Perform popular music in an ensemble with a group of people.

- Music Production Concentration (p. 2)

Popular Music Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Theory and Musicianship		
MUS 131	Music Theory I	2
MUS 134	Aural Skills I	2
MUS 249	Popular Music Analysis	3
Theory and Musicianship Electives - Select courses from the following to reach at least 6 credits:		6-8
MUS 132	Music Theory II	
MUS 133	Music Theory III	
MUS 135	Aural Skills II	
MUS 136	Aural Skills III	
MUS 141	Popular Piano and Musicianship I	
MUS 142	Popular Piano and Musicianship II	
MUS 143	Popular Piano and Musicianship III	
MUJ 180	Jazz Performance Laboratory	
MUJ 181	Jazz Performance Laboratory	
MUJ 182	Jazz Performance Laboratory	
History and Culture		
MUS 263	US Popular Music 1800 to 1930	4
MUS 358	Music in World Cultures	4
History and Culture Electives - Select one course from the following:		3-4
MUS 227	Elements of Electronic Music	
MUS 264	US Popular Music 1930 to 1965	
MUS 265	US Popular Music 1965 to 2000	
MUS 360	Hip-Hop History, Culture, Aesthetics	
MUS 363	The Beatles and Their Times	
MUS 382		
MUS 428	Cultures of Musical Celebrity	
MUS 462	Popular Musics in the African Diaspora	
MUS 463	Popular Music Studies	
MUS 487	Music and Emotion	
Songwriting and Music Production		
MUS 151	Popular Songwriting	4
Select courses from the following to reach at least 6 credits:		6
MUS 476	Digital Audio Workstation Techniques I	
MUS 477	Digital Audio Workstation Techniques II	
MUS 478	Digital Audio Workstation Techniques III	
MUS 480	Audio Production Techniques I	
MUS 481	Audio Recording Techniques II	
Additional Theory & Musicianship Elective courses		
Additional History & Culture Elective courses		
Music Industry		
MUS 346	Music, Money, and the Law	4
Select one course from the following:		4
CINE 230	Remix Cultures	
J 340		
LAW 101	Introduction to United States law	
LAW 104	Introduction to Business Law	
MGMT 225	Introduction to Entrepreneurship	
MGMT 335	Launching New Ventures	
Music Performance		**6**
Three MUP courses on one or more instruments [1]		
Music Ensembles		**3-6**
Select three ensembles courses, including at least one of the following: [2]		
MUS 394	Chamber Ensemble: [Topic] ((Hip Hop Ensemble))	
MUS 397	Chorus: [Topic] ((Gospel Singers, University Gospel Choir, University Gospel Ensemble))	
Additional Music Coursework		**9**

Select at least 9 credits of additional MUJ, MUP, and/or MUS credits from the categories above and/or from the following list, including any upper division credits necessary to reach 24 total upper division credits in music:		
MUJ 270	Jazz Theory	
MUJ 273	Jazz Improvisation I	
MUJ 274	Jazz Improvisation II	
MUJ 275	Jazz Composition 1	
MUJ 276	Jazz Composition II	
MUS 432	Tonal Analysis: Analysis of Popular Music	
MUS 447	Digital Audio and Sound Design	
MUS 499	Senior Project	
Total Credits		**60-66**

[1] See also, General Limitations in the Registration and Academic Policies (http://catalog.uoregon.edu/admissiontograduation/registration_policies/) section of this catalog.

[2] Ensemble Courses: Collegium Musicum (MUS 391), Oregon Electronic Device Orchestra (MUS 393), Chamber Ensemble: [Topic] (MUS 394), Band: [Topic] (MUS 395), Orchestra: [Topic] (MUS 396), Chorus: [Topic] (MUS 397), Opera Workshop (MUS 398), Jazz Laboratory Band III (MUJ 390), Jazz Laboratory Band II (MUJ 391), Oregon Jazz Ensemble (MUJ 392), Small Jazz Ensemble: [Topic] (MUJ 395)

Popular Music Major - Music Production Concentration

Code	Title	Credits
Theory and Musicianship		
MUS 131	Music Theory I	2
MUS 134	Aural Skills I	2
MUS 249	Popular Music Analysis	3
Select courses from the following to reach at least 6 credits:		6-8
MUS 132	Music Theory II	
MUS 133	Music Theory III	
MUS 135	Aural Skills II	
MUS 136	Aural Skills III	
MUS 141	Popular Piano and Musicianship I	
MUS 142	Popular Piano and Musicianship II	
MUS 143	Popular Piano and Musicianship III	
MUJ 180	Jazz Performance Laboratory	
MUJ 181	Jazz Performance Laboratory	
MUJ 182	Jazz Performance Laboratory	
History and Culture		
MUS 263	US Popular Music 1800 to 1930	4
MUS 358	Music in World Cultures	4
Select one course from the following:		3-4
MUS 227	Elements of Electronic Music	
MUS 264	US Popular Music 1930 to 1965	
MUS 265	US Popular Music 1965 to 2000	
MUS 360	Hip-Hop History, Culture, Aesthetics	
MUS 363	The Beatles and Their Times	
MUS 382		
MUS 428	Cultures of Musical Celebrity	
MUS 462	Popular Musics in the African Diaspora	
MUS 463	Popular Music Studies	
MUS 487	Music and Emotion	
Songwriting and Music Production		
MUS 151	Popular Songwriting	4
MUS 476	Digital Audio Workstation Techniques I	3
MUS 477	Digital Audio Workstation Techniques II	3
MUS 478	Digital Audio Workstation Techniques III	3
MUS 480	Audio Production Techniques I	3
MUS 481	Audio Recording Techniques II	3
MUS 482	Audio Recording Techniques III	3
MUS 483	Audio Effects Theory and Design	4
MUS 488	Analog Recording Techniques	3
Music Industry		
MUS 346	Music, Money, and the Law	4
Select one course from the following:		4
CINE 230	Remix Cultures	
J 340		
LAW 101	Introduction to United States law	
LAW 104	Introduction to Business Law	
LAW 305		
MGMT 225	Introduction to Entrepreneurship	
MGMT 335	Launching New Ventures	
Music Performance		**6**
Three MUP courses on one or more instruments [1]		
Music Ensembles		**3-6**
Select three ensembles courses, including at least one of the following: [2]		
MUS 394	Chamber Ensemble: [Topic] ((Hip Hop Ensemble))	
MUS 397	Chorus: [Topic] ((Gospel Singers, University Gospel Choir, University Gospel Ensemble))	
Additional Music Coursework		**9**
Select at least 9 credits of additional MUJ, MUP, and/or MUS credits from the categories above and/or from the following list, including any upper division credits necessary to reach 24 total upper division credits in music:		
MUJ 270	Jazz Theory	
MUJ 273	Jazz Improvisation I	
MUJ 274	Jazz Improvisation II	
MUJ 275	Jazz Composition 1	
MUJ 276	Jazz Composition II	
MUS 432	Tonal Analysis: Analysis of Popular Music	
MUS 447	Digital Audio and Sound Design	
MUS 499	Senior Project	
Total Credits		**79-85**

[1] See also, General Limitations in the Registration and Academic Policies (http://catalog.uoregon.edu/admissiontograduation/registration_policies/) section of this catalog.

[2] Ensemble Courses: Collegium Musicum (MUS 391), Oregon Electronic Device Orchestra (MUS 393), Chamber Ensemble: [Topic] (MUS 394), Band: [Topic] (MUS 395), Orchestra: [Topic] (MUS 396), Chorus: [Topic] (MUS 397), Opera Workshop (MUS 398), Jazz Laboratory Band III (MUJ 390), Jazz Laboratory Band II (MUJ 391), Oregon Jazz Ensemble (MUJ 392), Small Jazz Ensemble: [Topic] (MUJ 395)

Four-Year Degree Plan

The degree plan shown is only a sample of how students may complete their degrees in four years. There are alternative ways. Students should consult their advisor to determine the best path for them.

- Bachelor of Arts in Popular Music (p. 3)
- Bachelor of Science in Popular Music (p. 4)
- Bachelor of Arts in Popular Music (Music Production Concentration) (p. 4)
- Bachelor of Science in Popular Music (Music Production Concentration) (p. 5)

Bachelor of Arts in Popular Music

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
First Year			
Fall			
WR 121Z	Composition I	4	
MUS 263	US Popular Music 1800 to 1930	4	
MUP 1xxx	Performance Studies	2	
Ensemble course		2	
Elective course(s)		3	
	Credits	**15**	
Winter			
WR 122Z or WR 123	Composition II or College Composition III	4	
MUS 151	Popular Songwriting	4	
MUP 1xxx	Performance Studies	2	
Ensemble course		2	
Elective course(s)		3	
	Credits	**15**	
Spring			
MUS 358	Music in World Cultures	4	
Non-music arts and letters course		4	
MUP 1xxx	Performance Studies	2	
Ensemble course		2	
Elective course(s)		3	
	Credits	**15**	
Second Year			
Fall			
First term of 1st-year second-language sequence		5	
MUS 131	Music Theory I	2	
MUS 134	Aural Skills I	2	
Non-music arts and letters course		4	
Elective course(s)		2	
	Credits	**15**	
Winter			
Second term of 1st-year second-language sequence		5	
MUS 132	Music Theory II	2	
Musicianship course(s)		3	
Area of inquiry course		4	
Elective course		1	
	Credits	**15**	
Spring			
Third term of 1st-year second-language sequence		5	
MUS 249	Popular Music Analysis	3	
Musicianship course(s)		3	
Elective course(s)		4	
	Credits	**15**	
Third Year			
Fall			
First term of 2nd-year second-language sequence		5	
MUS 476	Digital Audio Workstation Techniques I	3	
MUS 480	Audio Production Techniques I	3	
Elective course(s)		4	
	Credits	**15**	
Winter			
Second term of 2nd-year second-language sequence		5	
Music history and culture course		4	
Music industry course		4	
Elective course(s)		2	
	Credits	**15**	
Spring			
Third term of 2nd-year second-language sequence		5	
MUS 346	Music, Money, and the Law	4	
Area of inquiry course		4	
Elective course(s)		2	
	Credits	**15**	
Fourth Year			
Fall			
Music elective course(s)		3	
Area of inquiry courses		8	
Elective course(s)		4	
	Credits	**15**	
Winter			
Music elective course(s)		3	
Area of inquiry courses		8	
Elective course(s)		4	
	Credits	**15**	
Spring			
Music elective course(s)		3	
Area of inquiry courses		8	
Elective course(s)		4	
	Credits	**15**	
	Total Credits	**180**	

Bachelor of Science in Popular Music

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
First Year			
Fall			
WR 121Z	Composition I	4	
MUS 263	US Popular Music 1800 to 1930	4	
MUP 1xxx	Performance Studies	2	
Ensemble course		2	
Elective course(s)		3	
	Credits	**15**	
Winter			
WR 122Z or WR 123	Composition II or College Composition III	4	
MUS 151	Popular Songwriting	4	
MUP 1xxx	Performance Studies	2	
Ensemble course		2	
Elective course(s)		3	
	Credits	**15**	
Spring			
MUS 358	Music in World Cultures	4	
Non-music arts and letters course		4	
MUP 1xxx	Performance Studies	2	
Ensemble course		2	
Elective course(s)		3	
	Credits	**15**	
Second Year			
Fall			
MUS 131	Music Theory I	2	
MUS 134	Aural Skills I	2	
Non-music arts and letters course		4	
Bachelor of science MATH/CS course		4	
Elective course(s)		3	
	Credits	**15**	
Winter			
MUS 132	Music Theory II	2	
Musicianship course(s)		3	
Bachelor of sceince MATH/CS course		4	
Area of inquiry course		4	
Elective course(s)		2	
	Credits	**15**	
Spring			
MUS 249	Popular Music Analysis	3	
Musicianship course(s)		3	
Bachelor of science MATH/CS course		4	
Elective course(s)		5	
	Credits	**15**	
Third Year			
Fall			
MUS 476	Digital Audio Workstation Techniques I	3	
MUS 480	Audio Production Techniques I	3	
Elective course(s)		9	
	Credits	**15**	
Winter			
Music history and culture course		4	
Music industry course		4	
Elective course(s)		7	
	Credits	**15**	
Spring			
MUS 346	Music, Money, and the Law	4	
Area of inquiry course		4	
Elective course(s)		7	
	Credits	**15**	
Fourth Year			
Fall			
Music elective course(s)		3	
Area of inquiry courses		8	
Elective course(s)		4	
	Credits	**15**	
Winter			
Music elective course(s)		3	
Area of inquiry courses		8	
Elective course(s)		4	
	Credits	**15**	
Spring			
Music elective course(s)		3	
Area of inquiry courses		8	
Elective course(s)		4	
	Credits	**15**	
	Total Credits	**180**	

Bachelor of Arts in Popular Music (Music Production Concentration)

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
First Year			
Fall			
WR 121Z	Composition I	4	
MUS 263	US Popular Music 1800 to 1930	4	
MUP 1xxx	Performance Studies	2	
Ensemble course		2	
Elective course(s)		3	
	Credits	**15**	
Winter			
WR 122Z or WR 123	Composition II or College Composition III	4	
MUS 151	Popular Songwriting	4	
MUP 1xxx	Performance Studies	2	
Ensemble course		2	
Elective course(s)		3	
	Credits	**15**	
Spring			
MUS 358	Music in World Cultures	4	
Non-music arts and letters course		4	
MUP 1xxx	Performance Studies	2	
Ensemble course		2	

Elective course(s)		3
	Credits	**15**
Second Year		
Fall		
First term of 1st-year second-language sequence		5
MUS 131	Music Theory I	2
MUS 134	Aural Skills I	2
Non-music arts and letters course		4
Elective course(s)		2
	Credits	**15**
Winter		
Second term of 1st-year second-language sequence		5
MUS 132	Music Theory II	2
Musicianship course(s)		3
Area of inquiry course		4
Elective course		1
	Credits	**15**
Spring		
Third term of 1st-year second-language sequence		5
MUS 249	Popular Music Analysis	3
Musicianship course(s)		3
Elective course(s)		4
	Credits	**15**
Third Year		
Fall		
First term of 2nd-year second-language sequence		5
MUS 476	Digital Audio Workstation Techniques I	3
MUS 480	Audio Production Techniques I	3
MUS 483	Audio Effects Theory and Design	4
	Credits	**15**
Winter		
Second term of 2nd-year second-language sequence		5
MUS 477	Digital Audio Workstation Techniques II	3
MUS 481	Audio Recording Techniques II	3
MUS 488	Analog Recording Techniques	3
Elective course		1
	Credits	**15**
Spring		
Third term of 2nd-year second-language sequence		5
MUS 346	Music, Money, and the Law	4
MUS 478	Digital Audio Workstation Techniques III	3
MUS 482	Audio Recording Techniques III	3
	Credits	**15**
Fourth Year		
Fall		
Music elective course(s)		3
Area of inquiry courses		8
Elective course(s)		4
	Credits	**15**
Winter		
Music elective course(s)		3
Area of inquiry courses		8
Elective course(s)		4
	Credits	**15**
Spring		
Music elective course(s)		3
Area of inquiry courses		8
Elective course(s)		4
	Credits	**15**
	Total Credits	**180**

Bachelor of Science in Popular Music (Music Production Concentration)

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
First Year			
Fall			
WR 121Z	Composition I	4	
MUS 263	US Popular Music 1800 to 1930	4	
MUP 1xxx	Performance Studies	2	
Ensemble course		2	
Elective course(s)		3	
	Credits	**15**	
Winter			
WR 122Z or WR 123	Composition II or College Composition III	4	
MUS 151	Popular Songwriting	4	
MUP 1xxx	Performance Studies	2	
Ensemble course		2	
Elective course(s)		3	
	Credits	**15**	
Spring			
MUS 358	Music in World Cultures	4	
Non-music arts and letters course		4	
MUP 1xxx	Performance Studies	2	
Ensemble course		2	
Elective course(s)		3	
	Credits	**15**	
Second Year			
Fall			
Bachelor of science MATH/CS course		4	
MUS 131	Music Theory I	2	
MUS 134	Aural Skills I	2	
Non-music arts and letters course		4	
Elective course(s)		3	
	Credits	**15**	
Winter			
Bachelor of science MATH/CS cours		4	
MUS 132	Music Theory II	2	
Musicianship course(s)		3	
Area of inquiry course		4	
Elective course(s)		2	
	Credits	**15**	

Spring		
Bachelor of science MATH/CS course		4
MUS 249	Popular Music Analysis	3
Musicianship course(s)		3
Music industry course		4
Elective course		1
	Credits	**15**
Third Year		
Fall		
MUS 476	Digital Audio Workstation Techniques I	3
MUS 480	Audio Production Techniques I	3
MUS 483	Audio Effects Theory and Design	4
Area of inquiry course		4
Elective course		1
	Credits	**15**
Winter		
MUS 477	Digital Audio Workstation Techniques II	3
MUS 481	Audio Recording Techniques II	3
MUS 488	Analog Recording Techniques	3
Music history and culture course		4
Elective course(s)		2
	Credits	**15**
Spring		
MUS 346	Music, Money, and the Law	4
MUS 478	Digital Audio Workstation Techniques III	3
MUS 482	Audio Recording Techniques III	3
Elective course(s)		5
	Credits	**15**
Fourth Year		
Fall		
Music elective course(s)		3
Area of inquiry courses		8
Elective course(s)		4
	Credits	**15**
Winter		
Music elective course(s)		3
Area of inquiry courses		8
Elective course(s)		4
	Credits	**15**
Spring		
Music elective course(s)		3
Area of inquiry courses		8
Elective course(s)		4
	Credits	**15**
	Total Credits	**180**