

MUSIC, BACHELOR OF (B.M.) WITH A CONCENTRATION IN PERFORMANCE/PIANO

The Bachelor of Music is the initial professional degree in music. Its primary emphasis is on development of the skills, concepts and sensitivities essential to the professional life of the musician. At the center of the instructional program for this degree is the music core curriculum, comprising 27 credits of instruction in aspects of musicianship fundamental to all music degree programs. Included are courses in music theory, aural skills, music history and conducting.

Student learning outcomes

Upon completing this program, students will know and know how to do the following.

Students will:

- Demonstrate professional performance skills
- Demonstrate comprehensive musicianship
- Acquire supporting competencies
- Develop artistic/intellectual mission

Degree requirements for Music, Bachelor of (B.M.) with a concentration in performance/piano

Course	Title	Hours
General education (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/undergraduate-study/general-education-curriculum/)		
Select 12-13 credits from general education foundations and 17-18 credits from areas of inquiry.		30
Major requirements		
• Major core requirements		
APPL 311	Applied Lessons (principal performing medium)	2
APPL 312	Applied Lessons (principal performing medium)	2
APPL 313	Applied Lessons (principal performing medium)	2
APPL 314	Applied Lessons (principal performing medium)	2
APPL 415	Applied Lessons (principal performing medium)	2
APPL 416	Applied Lessons and Junior Recital	2
APPM 199	Recital/Convocation Attendance (four semesters)	0
APPM 299	Master Class (eight semesters)	0
APPM 381	Conducting	2
MHIS 120	Music in Culture	2
MHIS 145	Theory and Aural Skills I	4
MHIS 146	Theory and Aural Skills II	4
MHIS 245	Theory and Aural Skills III	4
• Additional major requirements		

APPL 320	Applied Lessons Secondary Instrument (three semesters)	3
APPL 417	Applied Lessons	2
APPL 418	Applied Lessons and Senior Recital (principal performing medium)	2
APPM 362	Accompanying: Piano (two semesters)	2
APPM 367	Piano Ensemble (complete four semesters)	4
APPM 373	Advanced Keyboard Skills I	1
APPM 374	Advanced Keyboard Skills II	1
APPM 463	Pedagogy (piano)	2
APPM 492	Senior Project: Portfolio Review	1
MHIS 256	Musicianship Practicum	2
MHIS 303	Piano Literature Through 1828	2
MHIS 304	Piano Literature Since 1828	2
MHIS 305	Form and Analysis I	2
MHIS 321	Classical Music Survey I	2
MHIS 322	Classical Music Survey II	2
Ensemble: Select two credits from the following.		2
APPM 358	Commonwealth Singers	
APPM 359	Choral Arts Society	
APPM 378	Vox Concordia	
• Music electives		12
Select from any AMPT, APPL, APPM, ARTS, MHIS or MUED courses not otherwise required for the degree.		

Ancillary requirements	
Open electives	
Select any course.	18
Total Hours	120

The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 120.

What follows is a sample plan that meets the prescribed requirements within a four-year course of study at VCU. Please contact your adviser before beginning course work toward a degree.

Freshman year		
Fall semester		Hours
APPL 311	Applied Lessons (piano)	2
APPM 199	Recital/Convocation Attendance	0
APPM 299	Master Class (piano)	0
APPM 373	Advanced Keyboard Skills I	1
APPM 3XX ensemble requirement		1
MHIS 145	Theory and Aural Skills I	4
UNIV 111	Focused Inquiry I (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
Play course video for Focused Inquiry I		
General education course		3
Term Hours:		14
Spring semester		
APPL 312	Applied Lessons (piano)	2
APPM 199	Recital/Convocation Attendance	0
APPM 299	Master Class (piano)	0

APPM 3XX ensemble requirement	1
MHIS 146 Theory and Aural Skills II	4
UNIV 112 Focused Inquiry II (satisfies general education UNIV foundations) video for Focused Inquiry II	3
General education course	3
General education course	3
Term Hours:	16

Sophomore year**Fall semester**

APPL 313 Applied Lessons (piano)	2
APPM 199 Recital/Convocation Attendance	0
APPM 299 Master Class (piano)	0
MHIS 120 Music in Culture	2
MHIS 245 Theory and Aural Skills III	4
UNIV 200 Inquiry and the Craft of Argument (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
General education course	3
Open elective	3
Term Hours:	17

Spring semester

APPL 314 Applied Lessons (piano)	2
APPM 199 Recital/Convocation Attendance	0
APPM 299 Master Class (piano)	0
APPM 374 Advanced Keyboard Skills II	1
MHIS 256 Musicianship Practicum	2
General education course	3
Open elective	6
Term Hours:	14

Junior year**Fall semester**

APPL 320 Applied Lessons Secondary Instrument	1
APPL 415 Applied Lessons (piano)	2
APPM 299 Master Class (piano)	0
APPM 362 Accompanying: Piano	1
APPM 367 Piano Ensemble	1
APPM 381 Conducting	2
MHIS 303 Piano Literature Through 1828 (piano) or APPM 463 or Pedagogy	2
MHIS 305 Form and Analysis I	2
MHIS 321 Classical Music Survey I	2
General education course	3
Term Hours:	16

Spring semester

APPL 320 Applied Lessons Secondary Instrument	1
APPL 416 Applied Lessons and Junior Recital (piano)	2
APPM 299 Master Class (piano)	0
APPM 362 Accompanying: Piano	1
APPM 367 Piano Ensemble	1
MHIS 304 Piano Literature Since 1828	2

MHIS 322 Classical Music Survey II	2
Music electives	6
Term Hours:	15

Senior year**Fall semester**

APPL 320 Applied Lessons Secondary Instrument	1
APPL 417 Applied Lessons (piano)	2
APPM 299 Master Class (piano)	0
APPM 367 Piano Ensemble	1
MHIS 303 Piano Literature Through 1828 (piano) or APPM 463 or Pedagogy	2
General education course	3
Open electives	6
Term Hours:	15

Spring semester

APPL 418 Applied Lessons and Senior Recital (piano)	2
APPM 299 Master Class (piano)	0
APPM 367 Piano Ensemble	1
APPM 492 Senior Project: Portfolio Review	1
Music electives	6
Open electives	3
Term Hours:	13
Total Hours:	120

The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 120.

- Applied lessons (p. 2)
- Applied music (p. 3)
- Music composition (p. 6)
- Music education (p. 6)
- History, literature and theory (p. 7)

Applied lessons**APPL 200. Applied Lessons. 1 Hour.**

Semester course; half-hour weekly private lesson plus daily practice. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 8 credits. Previous experience and ability to read music required. Additional fee for course required. Private applied lessons for musical instruments. Consult the music department for appropriate section.

APPL 310. Applied Lessons. 2 Hours.

Semester course; one-hour weekly private lesson plus daily practice. 2 credits. May be repeated for a total of 8 credits. For music majors only. Permission of chair required. Applied lessons for principal performing medium. Consult the music department for appropriate section.

APPL 311. Applied Lessons. 2 Hours.

Semester course; one-hour weekly private lesson plus daily practice. 2 credits. For music majors only. Corequisite: APPM 299 (except jazz studies majors). Applied lessons for principal performing medium proficiency Level I. Jury required. Consult adviser for appropriate course and section.

APPL 312. Applied Lessons. 2 Hours.

Semester course; one-hour weekly private lesson plus daily practice. 2 credits. For music majors only. Prerequisite: APPL 311 with a minimum grade of C. Corequisite: APPM 299 (except jazz studies majors). Applied lessons for principal performing medium proficiency Level II. Jury required. Consult adviser for appropriate course and section.

APPL 313. Applied Lessons. 2 Hours.

Semester course; one-hour weekly private lesson plus daily practice. 2 credits. For music majors only. Prerequisite: APPL 312 with a minimum grade of C. Corequisite: APPM 299 (except jazz studies majors). Applied lessons for principal performing medium proficiency Level III. Jury required. Consult adviser for appropriate course and section.

APPL 314. Applied Lessons. 2 Hours.

Semester course; one-hour weekly private lesson plus daily practice. 2 credits. For music majors only. Prerequisite: APPL 313 with a minimum grade of C. Corequisite: APPM 299 (except jazz studies majors). Applied lessons for principal performing medium proficiency Level IV. Jury required. Consult adviser for appropriate course and section.

APPL 320. Applied Lessons Secondary Instrument. 1 Hour.

Semester course; half-hour weekly private lesson plus daily practice. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 4 credits. Open to music majors only. Private applied lessons for secondary instrument requirement. Consult music department for appropriate section.

APPL 321. Applied Lessons Secondary Instrument. 2 Hours.

Semester course; one-hour weekly private lesson plus daily practice. 2 credits. Open to music majors only. Corequisite: APPM 299. Applied lessons for secondary performing medium proficiency Level I. Jury required. Consult adviser for appropriate course and section.

APPL 322. Applied Lessons Secondary Instrument. 2 Hours.

Semester course; one-hour weekly private lesson plus daily practice. 2 credits. Open to music majors only. Prerequisite: APPL 321 with a minimum grade of C. Corequisite: APPM 299. Applied lessons for secondary performing medium proficiency Level II. Jury required. Consult adviser for appropriate course and section.

APPL 323. Applied Lessons Secondary Instrument. 2 Hours.

Semester course; one-hour weekly private lesson plus daily practice. 2 credits. Open to music majors only. Prerequisite: APPL 322 with a minimum grade of C. Corequisite: APPM 299. Applied lessons for secondary performing medium proficiency Level III. Jury required. Consult adviser for appropriate course and section.

APPL 324. Applied Lessons Secondary Instrument. 2 Hours.

Semester course; one-hour weekly private lesson plus daily practice. 2 credits. Open to music majors only. Prerequisite: APPL 323 with a minimum grade of C. Corequisite: APPM 299. Applied lessons for secondary performing medium proficiency Level IV. Jury required. Must earn a minimum grade of C. Consult adviser for appropriate course and section.

APPL 330. Secondary Applied Instrument Lessons for Music Education. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 1 laboratory hour (half-hour weekly applied lesson plus daily practice). 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 4 credits. Enrollment is restricted to music education concentration students. Applied lesson for secondary instrument requirement. Must receive permission from director of music education for specific instrument(s) of study. Consult music department Schedule of Classes for appropriate section.

APPL 415. Applied Lessons. 2 Hours.

Semester course; one-hour weekly private lesson plus daily practice. 2 credits. Enrollment is restricted to music majors. Prerequisite: APPL 314 with a minimum grade of C. Corequisite: APPM 299 or APPM 399. Applied lessons for principal performing medium proficiency Level V. Jury required. Consult adviser for appropriate course and section.

APPL 416. Applied Lessons and Junior Recital. 2 Hours.

Semester course; one-hour weekly private lesson plus daily practice. 2 credits. Enrollment is restricted to music majors. Prerequisite: APPL 415 with a minimum grade of C. Corequisite: APPM 299 or APPM 399. Applied lessons for principal performing medium proficiency Level VI. Recital required. Consult adviser for appropriate course and section.

APPL 417. Applied Lessons. 2 Hours.

Semester course; one-hour weekly private lesson plus daily practice. 2 credits. Enrollment is restricted to music majors. Prerequisite: APPL 416 with a minimum grade of C. Corequisite: APPM 299 or APPM 399. Applied lessons for principal performing medium proficiency Level VII. Jury required. Consult adviser for appropriate course and section.

APPL 418. Applied Lessons and Senior Recital. 2 Hours.

Semester course; one-hour weekly private lesson plus daily practice. 2 credits. Enrollment is restricted to music majors. Prerequisite: APPL 417 with a minimum grade of C. Corequisite: APPM 299 or APPM 399. Applied lessons for principal performing medium proficiency Level VIII. Recital required. Must earn a minimum grade of C. Consult adviser for appropriate course and section.

Applied music

APPM 126. Keyboard Fundamentals. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. Reading, technical study, chording, playing by ear and improvisation in classical and non-classical styles. This course is for beginners.

APPM 161. Lyric Diction I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Enrollment is restricted to VCU music majors and music minors. A study of stage diction with practical experience in singing and phonetic transcription using the International Phonetic Alphabet. Languages studied will include English and Italian.

APPM 162. Lyric Diction II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: APPM 161. Enrollment is restricted to VCU music majors and music minors. A study of stage diction with practical experience in singing and phonetic transcription using the International Phonetic Alphabet. Languages studied include French and German.

APPM 173. Keyboard Skills I. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. Open only to music majors. Initial placement in course sequence determined by proficiency audition. Acquisition of keyboard performance skills with emphasis on sight reading, keyboard harmony and improvisation.

APPM 174. Keyboard Skills II. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. Prerequisite: APPM 173. Open only to music majors. Initial placement in course sequence determined by proficiency audition. Acquisition of keyboard performance skills with emphasis on sight reading, keyboard harmony and improvisation.

APPM 199. Recital/Convocation Attendance. 0 Hours.

Semester course; no credit. Course may be repeated without limit. Music majors only. Attendance at weekly departmental convocations and a minimum of 10 additional concerts or recitals each semester.

APPM 251. Jazz Improvisation I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 147. A study of basic compositional techniques that can be used in creating a musically effective improvised solo in the jazz medium.

APPM 252. Jazz Improvisation II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: APPM 251. Advanced melodic, harmonic and rhythmic improvisational techniques as applied to contemporary jazz compositions.

APPM 272. Jazz Piano for the Non-keyboard Player. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. Prerequisites: APPM 174 and MHIS 147. Acquisition of jazz keyboard performance skills with emphasis on reading, harmonization and improvisation.

APPM 273. Keyboard Skills III. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. Prerequisite: APPM 174. Open only to music majors. Initial placement in course sequence determined by proficiency audition. Acquisition of keyboard performance skills with emphasis on sight reading, keyboard harmony and improvisation.

APPM 291. Topics in Applied Music. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 1-3 laboratory hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of six credits. Enrollment requires permission of the instructor. Flexible semester courses in selected aspects of music performance. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered.

APPM 299. Master Class. 0 Hours.

Semester course; no credit. Course may be repeated without limit. Participation in weekly master classes in student's applied major area.

APPM 309. Applied Composition. 1 Hour.

Semester course; one-hour weekly private lesson. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 4 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 245. For music majors only. A structured approach to composing music from exercises and studies to complex large forms.

APPM 310. Applied Jazz Composition. 1 Hour.

Semester course; one-hour weekly private lesson. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 4 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 245. For music majors only. A structured approach to composing music in the jazz idiom, including small and large ensemble formats.

APPM 350. Vocal Coaching. 1,2 Hour.

Semester course; one-half- or one-hour weekly private lessons plus daily practice. 1 or 2 credits. May be repeated for a total of 12 credits. Restricted to music majors. Corequisite: applied voice. Detailed exploration of historical musical style; diction skills for Italian, French, German, Spanish and English; audition techniques; and dramatic interpretation.

APPM 355. Orchestra. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 3 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 8 credits. Open to music majors or by permission; audition required. Provides an opportunity to rehearse and perform works from the symphonic repertoire while improving ensemble skills.

APPM 356. Symphonic Wind Ensemble. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 3 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 8 credits. Open to music majors or by permission; audition required. Ensemble performs a variety of contemporary wind ensemble repertoire as well as standards. Ensemble performs multiple times throughout the semester and at off-campus events. In addition to rehearsals, weekly one-hour sectionals are required.

APPM 357. University Band. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 8 credits. Open to all students who play wind or percussion instruments. The class does not require an audition for participation. Ensemble preparation intended for a single performance each semester.

APPM 358. Commonwealth Singers. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 8 credits. Open to music majors or by permission; audition required. Rehearsals focus on the development of individual and group vocal technique, musicianship and communication relevant to repertoire prepared.

APPM 359. Choral Arts Society. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 8 credits. A large, nonauditioned chorale open to all university students with choral experience. Ensemble will prepare and perform a variety of choral literature each semester.

APPM 360. Jazz Orchestra I. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 3 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of eight credits. Enrollment is restricted to music majors or by permission; audition required. Ensemble performs a range of contemporary and historical styles and performs multiple times throughout the semester. In addition to rehearsals, weekly one-hour sectionals are required.

APPM 361. Small Jazz Ensemble. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 8 credits. Open to music majors or by permission; audition required. Jazz ensembles of typically five to nine players rehearse and prepare existing repertoire and student compositions. Independent problem-solving and ensemble-playing skills developed through weekly rehearsals and coaching.

APPM 362. Accompanying: Piano. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 2 credits. For piano majors only. The development of skills in piano accompaniment of vocal and instrumental performance. Coaching and guidance will include harmonic voicing, sound coloring, balance issues, pedaling and score reduction.

APPM 363. Flute Choir. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 8 credits. Open to music majors or by permission. Conducted ensemble rehearses and prepares repertoire.

APPM 364. Guitar Ensemble. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2.5 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 8 credits. Open to guitar music majors or by permission; audition required. Biweekly rehearsals prepare this ensemble of 20-25 guitarists for performances of repertoire from the Renaissance to newly composed and arranged works.

APPM 365. Advanced Aural Skills I. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 2 credits. Prerequisites: MHIS 245. Open to music majors only. Advanced development of skills in melodic and rhythmic dictation, harmonic identification and sight singing.

APPM 366. Aural Skills VI. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. Prerequisites: MHIS 246. Open to music majors only. Advanced development of skills in melodic and rhythmic dictation, harmonic identification and sight singing.

APPM 367. Piano Ensemble. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 8 credits. Open to music majors or by permission; audition required. Small chamber ensemble in which piano shares leading or equal role rehearses and prepares repertoire. Groups will rehearse weekly and receive at least three or four coaching sessions per semester.

APPM 368. Woodwind Ensemble. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 8 credits. Open to music majors or by permission; audition required. Chamber ensembles of two to 13 players, involving woodwinds and often other instruments. Coached by various music faculty on a weekly basis.

APPM 369. Percussion Ensemble. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 8 credits. Open to music majors or by permission; audition required. Small ensembles of three to six players rehearse primarily non-conducted repertoire for semester performances. Weekly rehearsals with coaching from instructor designed to address musicianship, chamber ensemble skills, rehearsal technique and familiarity with contemporary performance practices.

APPM 371. String Chamber Music. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 8 credits. Open to music majors or by permission; audition required. String chamber involving two to five players rehearse and prepare repertoire. Independent problem-solving and ensemble-playing skills are developed through weekly rehearsals and coaching.

APPM 372. Brass Ensemble. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 8 credits. Open to music majors or by permission; audition required. Chamber ensembles of three to five players, involving various combinations of brass instruments. Coached by various music faculty on a weekly basis.

APPM 373. Advanced Keyboard Skills I. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. For piano majors only. Emphasis is on harmonization with correct style and voice-leading, reading figured bass and lead sheets, improvisation and reducing scores at the keyboard.

APPM 374. Advanced Keyboard Skills II. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. Prerequisites: APPM 373 and MHIS 146. Enrollment restricted to piano majors. Emphasis is on harmonization with correct style and voice-leading, reading figured bass and lead sheets, improvisation and reducing scores at the keyboard.

APPM 377. Vocal Chamber Ensemble. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 3 credits. Open to music majors or by permission; audition required. Variable sized non-conducted ensembles receive weekly coaching in preparation for performances. Ensembles will seek to build proficiency in musicianship skills, reading ability, performance practices and interpretative technique in a variety of styles.

APPM 378. Vox Concordia. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. Repeatable to fulfill degree requirements. Enrollment is restricted to music majors or by permission of the instructor; an audition is required. Ensemble rehearses and prepares repertoire for performance. Vox Concordia is open to university students who sing soprano, mezzo-soprano or alto and have previous choral experience.

APPM 381. Conducting. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 245. Development of fundamental gestural skills for conducting instrumental and choral ensembles including simple and compound meters, multimetric music and aleatoric music. Introduces basic score reading, aural analysis skills and terminology.

APPM 385. Opera Theatre. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 2 credits. May be repeated for a total of 16 credits. Permission of instructor required. Explores aspects of opera through study, written research and fully staged public performances of operatic scenes and/or one-act operas.

APPM 386. Opera Ensemble. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 5 credits. Enrollment is restricted to music majors; selected by audition. Explores aspects of operatic chorus singing, acting craft, period and stage movement, stage makeup and technical theatre through fully staged performances.

APPM 395. Opera Orchestra. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2.5 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of 5 credits. Corequisite: APPM 355. Enrollment is restricted to music majors. Through an intense series of rehearsals and performances of fully staged works from the operatic repertoire, students experience the art of accompanying singers, improve ensemble and listening skills, and develop their sense of balance and their understanding of operatic styles.

APPM 396. Jazz Orchestra II. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 3 laboratory hours. 1 credit. May be repeated for a total of eight credits. Enrollment is restricted to music majors or by permission; audition required. Ensemble performs a range of contemporary and historical styles and performs multiple times throughout the semester. In addition to rehearsals, weekly one-hour sectionals are required.

APPM 399. Jazz Master Class. 0 Hours.

Semester course; 1 laboratory hour. 0 credits. Prerequisites: APPL 314 and APPM 252. Weekly classes of mixed instrumentation prepare the student with the performance skills for entry into the jazz field. Instructor and peer critique, transcription and analysis, exposure to improvisatory issues.

APPM 463. Pedagogy. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. A study of the musical, physiological and psychological aspects of teaching instruments or voice.

APPM 464. Piano Pedagogy Practicum. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 1 laboratory hour. 2 credits. Prerequisites: MHIS 304 and APPM 463 (piano). An advanced study of piano pedagogy with a supervised teaching component.

APPM 491. Topics in Applied Music. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 1-3 laboratory hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of six credits. Enrollment requires permission of the instructor. Flexible semester courses in selected aspects of music performance. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered.

APPM 492. Senior Project: Portfolio Review. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 1 lecture hour. 1 credit. Prerequisites: APPL 416 for performance majors or APPL 314 for B.A. degree students. Enrollment restricted to students with senior standing and a minimum of 18 credits in 300- or 400-level courses. A capstone experience integrating resume preparation and professional development within the field of music. Documentation of creative activities and achievements accumulated during music studies is compiled for a portfolio review. Graded as Pass/Fail.

APPM 493. Music Internship. 1-4 Hours.

Semester course; Variable hours. 1-4 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 4 credits. Prerequisites: open to music majors with junior standing, 3.0 GPA in major course work and minimum of 2.5 overall GPA, plus consent of coordinator and department chair. Provides full- or part-time professional field experience with approved organizations/ individuals. Areas for the internship include (but are not limited to) music publication and production, arts administration and promotion, arts management, entertainment law, presentations and research, instrument repair, recording techniques, composition and arranging, and/or performance opportunities. Graded as S/U.

Music composition

MUSC 110. Music Notation Software. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 1 lecture hour. 1 credit. Prerequisite: MHIS 145. Enrollment is restricted to VCU music majors and minors. This course focuses on principles and techniques of music notation using computer software.

MUSC 200. Introduction to Composition. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 1 laboratory hour. 2 credits. Prerequisites: MHIS 146, MUSC 110 and APPM 174. Enrollment is restricted to VCU music majors and minors. This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to the compositional process as well as the basics of instrumentation and orchestration. In collaboration with the instructor, students are guided through exercises and lessons designed to hone their compositional craft.

MUSC 210. Digital Music Production. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 1 laboratory hours. 3 credits. This course will cover contemporary music production techniques applied to music creation using digital audio workstations. Students will learn about virtual instruments, loops, recording and manipulating audio and MIDI, signal processing, plug-ins, and mixing in a DAW environment. It is highly recommended that students have a basic understanding of music principles and concepts similar to those presented in MHIS 115; however, MHIS 115 is not a prerequisite for this class.

MUSC 220. Orchestration. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: MHIS 245 and MUSC 110. Enrollment is restricted to VCU music majors and minors or by permission of the instructor. This course focuses on the techniques of combining different instruments for effect and mood. Students will learn the characteristics of various instruments and apply that knowledge to create a full score orchestration.

MUSC 300. MIDI Orchestration. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: MUSC 210 and MUSC 220. Enrollment is restricted to VCU music majors and minors or by permission of the instructor. This course focuses on advanced techniques in creating realistic orchestral mockups with high-quality industry-standard virtual instruments. Course work includes creating mockups of classical scores and modern film scores, as well as scores of the student's own composition and/or choice. Particular emphasis is placed on technical considerations as they apply to MIDI programming, sample selection and mixing.

MUSC 340. Film and Media Scoring. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: MUSC 300 and MUSC 310. Enrollment is restricted to VCU music majors and minors or by permission of the instructor. Project-based course designed to provide students the opportunity to compose and realize a varied array of music for motion picture including film, television and ads. Aesthetics and psychology of mood music, sound-film synchronization, timing techniques and scoring procedures will be covered, and practical methods of scoring will be demonstrated. Analysis and performance of student projects is included.

MUSC 406. Orchestration. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. No degree credit for graduate composition majors. Prerequisite: MHIS 245. Application of idiomatic scoring devices for orchestral instruments and voices in both large and small combinations.

Music education

MUED 230. Psychology of Music. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Survey course of the literature in psychology of music with applications to music teaching, learning and performing, as well as its therapeutic uses in clinical and educational settings.

MUED 260. Introduction to Music Therapy. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Provide a historical, theoretical and clinical basis for defining and understanding music therapy. As a survey course to give historical background to the development of the profession, as well as basic understanding of techniques and populations now served by music therapists.

MUED 274. Functional Keyboarding for the Music Classroom. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. Prerequisite: APPM 273. Enrollment is restricted to VCU music education majors. The focus of this course is the development of essential keyboard competencies needed to effectively teach and guide individual musical growth of students in elementary and secondary choral music classrooms. Emphasis will be placed on developing the competencies and skills needed to employ effective pedagogical techniques for choral teaching in beginning and intermediate instruction in the public schools. Students will be asked to demonstrate teaching skills that use keyboard support to effectively teach the Virginia Standards of Learning in music.

MUED 301. Methods and Techniques: Guitar. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. For music education majors only. Achievement of basic performance competencies and teaching knowledge on the guitar including chording, single-string technique, plectrum and finger styles.

MUED 302. Methods and Techniques: Voice. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. For music education majors only. Achievement of performance competencies in voice including vocal production, diction and solo and group performance.

MUED 303. Methods and Techniques: Woodwinds. 1 Hour.

Continuous courses; 2 laboratory hours. 1-1 credit. Prerequisite: completion of MUED 303 to enroll in MUED 304. For music education majors only. Achievement of performance competencies and teaching knowledge on flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon and saxophone.

MUED 304. Methods and Techniques: Woodwinds. 1 Hour.

Continuous courses; 2 laboratory hours. 1-1 credit. Prerequisite: completion of MUED 303 to enroll in MUED 304. For music education majors only. Achievement of performance competencies and teaching knowledge on flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon and saxophone.

MUED 305. Methods and Techniques: Brass. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. For music education majors only. Achievement of performance competencies and teaching knowledge on trumpet, baritone, tuba, trombone and French horn.

MUED 306. Methods and Techniques: Strings. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. For music education majors only. Achievement of performance competencies and teaching knowledge on violin, viola, cello or bass.

MUED 307. Methods and Techniques: Percussion. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 1 credit. For music education majors only. Achievement of performance competencies and teaching knowledge on snare drum. Introduction to basic techniques of other percussion instruments.

MUED 350. Music and Social Justice. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1.5 lecture and 1.5 field experience hours. 3 credits. This course will introduce students to social justice issues in a local context with a focus on expanding and deepening their knowledge and skills to effect change through active engagement in the community. The course will comprise a 75-minute weekly lecture on VCU's campus and performances in conjunction with the RVA Street Singers. This course will promote an understanding and critical analysis of factors which impact those experiencing homelessness. Guest lecturers will present on such topics as diverse populations, mental health, chronic illness, food insecurity, housing instability and other social justice issues. The rehearsals with RVA Street Singers will promote skillful physical activities, musical development, mental engagement and aesthetic sensitivity to benefit personal well-being. Students from various disciplines across the university will exchange skill sets, work together to develop their cultural sensitivity with specific insights to the homeless population, interact with and provide support for the RVA Street Singers, and come to understand the effect of community singing in a highly diverse adult population.

MUED 380. Introduction to Music Education. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 2 credits. Enrollment is restricted to students admitted to music education candidacy by the Department of Music. An introduction to the profession of music education. Emphasis on the study of the historical development of music education in the U.S. along with current thinking, trends, practices and approaches in the profession, and the formation of a personal philosophy of music education. Substantial practicum experience is a fundamental aspect of this course.

MUED 381. Methods and Practicum in Elementary Music Education. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MUED 380. Study of current methods and materials of music education at the elementary level. Orff, Dalcroze, Kodaly, Gordon and other current music education approaches for the young child will be discussed, observed and demonstrated. An intensive directed practicum is a fundamental aspect of this course.

MUED 382. Secondary Methods/Practicum and Rehearsal Techniques. 4 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 4 credits. Prerequisites: APPM 381, MUED 274, MUED 381 and a passing score on the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment. Development of the varied skills required to successfully administer a secondary music education program. Emphasis on understanding program structure, development and methodologies; and development of conducting technique, rehearsal strategies and selecting/arranging literature appropriate for musical growth of students.

MUED 384. Marching Band Techniques. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 1 laboratory hour. 2 credits. Prerequisite: MUED 380. Discussion of marching band techniques that address the different components of preparation, rehearsal and presentation of events. The application of topics and discussions are presented with marching band choreography using computer software simulation.

MUED 385. Music Education Technology and Arranging. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 1 laboratory hour. 2 credits. Prerequisite: MUED 380. Basic understanding of current technology in the field of music education. Specific skills developed for arranging school-aged ensembles with CAI, sequencing, productivity software and basic sound reinforcement will be the primary focus.

MUED 483. Special Workshop in Music Education. 0.5-3 Hours.

Semester course; 0.5-3 credits. Flexible semester courses on selected aspects of music education. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.

MUED 485. Music Education Student Teaching I: Elementary. 6 Hours.

Semester course; 6 field experience hours. 6 credits. Prerequisites: MUED 382, APPL 416 and a passing score on the Praxis II Music Content Knowledge. Corequisite: MUED 486. Enrollment is restricted to students with a 3.0 overall GPA. The culminating field experience for music education students. An eight-week directed internship at the elementary general music education level. This course and its corequisite provide sequential experience and responsibilities for planning and instruction of music education for children in the P-12 setting.

MUED 486. Music Education Student Teaching II: Secondary. 6 Hours.

Semester course; 6 field experience hours. 6 credits. Prerequisites: MUED 382, APPL 416 and a passing score on the Praxis II Music Content Knowledge. Corequisite: MUED 485. Enrollment is restricted to students with a 3.0 overall GPA. The culminating field experience for music education students. An eight-week directed internship at the secondary instrumental or choral music education level. This course and its corequisite provide sequential experience and responsibilities for planning and instruction of music education for children in the P-12 setting.

History, literature and theory

MHIS 110. Elements of Music. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. No degree credit for music majors. A study of music notation, scale and triad forms. Aural skill development will parallel the theoretical studies. Intended to prepare music majors for core curriculum study.

MHIS 115. Fundamental Musicianship. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Enrollment is restricted to music majors, music minors and students pursuing a concentration or minor in musical theatre. Study of fundamental written music notation, tone (harmonic series, timbre, instruments in the orchestra) and structure. Aural skill development parallels theoretical studies for integrated learning of notation and sound.

MHIS 120. Music in Culture. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Enrollment is restricted to students majoring or minoring in music. This class focuses on studying music within its own cultural context, and will explore the countless ways that music can sound, look and be meaningful. Much of the music in the world looks and sounds very different from music typically studied in U.S. university programs. This music often involves different instruments, scales, rhythms, ways of participating and ways of thinking.

MHIS 145. Theory and Aural Skills I. 4 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 3 laboratory hours. 4 credits. Open to music majors and minors only. The application of music theory, aural skills and keyboard knowledge are combined in the study of harmonic and melodic structure. Activity begins with rudiments and progresses to diatonic harmony. Emphasis is placed upon the development of aural skills as applied to the presented material.

MHIS 146. Theory and Aural Skills II. 4 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 3 laboratory hours. 4 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 145. Open to music majors and minors only. The application of music theory, aural skills and keyboard knowledge are combined in the study of harmonic and melodic structure. Activity begins with harmonic voicing and progresses to secondary harmony as applied to phrase structure in music. Emphasis is placed upon the development of aural skills as applied to the presented material.

MHIS 147. Jazz Theory and Aural Skills. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 145. Theoretical and aural recognition of established melodic, harmonic and rhythmic traditions within jazz so as to apply successfully to creative performance-practice and composition-arranging pursuits.

MHIS 243. Music Appreciation. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Not open to music majors. Designed to encourage understanding of music from selected periods. Development of active cognitive listening skills through guided listening to selected recorded music.

MHIS 244. Experiencing Music. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 3 credits. Designed for the purpose of developing familiarity with the elements of music that are part of a successful performance and listening experience. Weekly attendance at both VCU and external events is part of the criteria to develop students' awareness of the creative process in shaping a musical performance.

MHIS 245. Theory and Aural Skills III. 4 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 3 laboratory hours. 4 credits. Prerequisites: MHIS 146. Open to music majors. The application of music theory, aural skills and keyboard knowledge are combined in the study of harmonic and melodic structure. Second year studies continue with chromatic harmony and modulations. Emphasis is placed upon the development of aural skills as applied to the presented material.

MHIS 246. Theory and Aural Skills IV. 4 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 3 laboratory hours. 4 credits. Prerequisites: MHIS 245. Open to music majors. The application of music theory, aural skills and keyboard knowledge are combined in the study of harmonic and melodic structure. Final semester of study continues with chromatic harmony and concludes with modern techniques as applied to form in music. Elements of popular styles and jazz are incorporated as appropriate. Emphasis is placed upon the development of aural skills as applied to the presented material.

MHIS 251. American Popular Music. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A music course with a full survey of American popular music as its subject matter. The primary objectives for students in this class are to gain comprehensive knowledge of American popular music from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries, distinguish related musical styles that influenced the development of the genre and be able to properly recognize American popular musical styles aurally.

MHIS 252. Soundscapes. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. This class will serve as an introduction to music from around the world. Students will learn to identify musical genres and their instruments. In addition to covering the musical characteristics of each geographical area students will take an ethnomusicological approach and explore the social, political and cultural context within which each genre is played.

MHIS 256. Musicianship Practicum. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 1 laboratory hour. 2 credits. Prerequisites: APPM 174 or APPM 374; and MHIS 245. Application of musical analysis, composition, keyboard and ear training in holistic and integrated assignments and projects. Group assignments will lead to development of self-directed project.

MHIS 291. Topics in Music. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 1-3 lecture hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of six credits. Flexible semester courses in selected aspects of music theory, literature or history. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered.

MHIS 303. Piano Literature Through 1828. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. A survey of stringed keyboard literature. Historical, formal and stylistic considerations of the various periods and composers of keyboard music from 1600-1828 (Baroque and Classical eras). Listening and reading assignments included.

MHIS 304. Piano Literature Since 1828. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. A survey of stringed keyboard literature. Historical, formal and stylistic considerations of the various periods and composers of keyboard music from 1828 to the present (Romantic, 20th century, Modern eras). Listening and reading assignments included.

MHIS 305. Form and Analysis I. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 245. An analytical study of musical forms and salient features of melody, harmony, rhythm and timbre of late Baroque, Classical, early and late Romantic compositions.

MHIS 306. Form and Analysis II. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 245. Study of traditional and new approaches to form in the music of the 20th century. Examination of post-tonal harmony as a determinant of form, formal aspects of motivicism, contour, rhythm, register, timbre and texture.

MHIS 307. The Physics of Sound and Music. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: A 100- or 200-level physics course or equivalent and the ability to read music or sing or play a musical instrument, or permission of instructor. Basics of the physics of waves and sound. Fourier synthesis, tone quality, human ear and voice, musical temperament and pitch, physics of musical instruments, electronic synthesizers, sound recording and reproduction, room and auditorium acoustics. Not applicable toward the physics major. Crosslisted as: PHYS 307.

MHIS 311. Jazz Arranging I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: MHIS 245 and APPM 272, or permission of instructor. A study of the basic harmonic, melodic, notational and orchestrational techniques needed to draft a successful jazz arrangement. The final project will be to write an arrangement for a 12-piece jazz ensemble.

MHIS 312. Jazz Arranging II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 311. Advanced harmonic, melodic and orchestrational techniques applied to writing for the small jazz ensemble, vocal group and large jazz orchestra.

MHIS 321. Classical Music Survey I. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200. A study of classical music from antiquity through the Classical Era. Students will learn correlations between musical works, composers and the cultures/societies in which the works were composed. Students will read about, listen to, review and write about a diverse and inclusive variety of works by a similarly diverse and inclusive pool of compositional and performing artists, including under-represented artists of African descent and figures in the LGBTQ+ community. Students will learn a diverse array of musical terminology including, but not limited to, genres, terms, forms and directives, and will discover ways to apply such terminology in their current music-making activities.

MHIS 322. Classical Music Survey II. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200. A study of classical music from the Romantic Era through present day. Students will learn correlations between musical works, composers and the cultures/societies in which the works were composed. Students will read about, listen to, review and write about a diverse and inclusive variety of works by a similarly diverse and inclusive pool of compositional and performing artists, including under-represented artists of African descent and figures in the LGBTQ+ community. Students will learn a diverse array of musical terminology including, but not limited to, genres, terms, forms and directives, and will discover ways to apply such terminology in their current music-making activities.

MHIS 324. Jazz History. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 120. Study of jazz in a historical context from pre-jazz roots to contemporary styles.

MHIS 350. Studies in the Music of the African Continent and Diaspora. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 243 or MHIS/AFAM 250. An in-depth examination of selected topics and issues in African-derived musical and cultural traditions. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester. Crosslisted as: AFAM 350/INTL 370.

MHIS 373. Beethoven and Brahms Symphonies. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 305. An overview of all symphonies will be the basis for an in-depth analysis of selected movements.

MHIS 380. Survey of the Music Industry. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Topics include copyright, business organization, music production, management, recording, freelancing, grants, taxation and careers allied with music.

MHIS 392. Independent Study. 1-6 Hours.

Semester courses; variable hours. 1-6 credits per semester. Maximum total of 6 credits. Determination of the amount of credit and permission of the instructor and department chair must be obtained prior to registration for the course. Open generally only to students of junior and senior standing who have individual interests in areas not otherwise available to the student.

MHIS 405. Jazz Form and Analysis I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 312. Arranging and performance-practice techniques across selected jazz styles.

MHIS 422. The History of the Symphony. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 321 or 322. Historical and analytical study of selected symphonies from the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th centuries.

MHIS 424. History of American Musical Theatre. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 321 or 322. Historical and analytical study of selected musical theatre productions from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries.

MHIS 465. History of the Art Song. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Enrollment is restricted to music majors and music minors. A survey of western classical art song repertoire from 1760-1950 with emphasis on German lieder, French melodies (diacritical accent), and Spanish, British and American songs. A diverse array of composers from the following style periods will be studied: Rococo, Classical, Romantic, Post-Romantic, Impressionism, atonality and serialism, and other 20th-century styles.

MHIS 476. Duke Ellington. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. An overview of the music of Duke Ellington. Lectures and presentations on Ellington recordings, writings and sources of his influences will serve as content for overview.

MHIS 491. Topics in Music. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 1-3 lecture hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of nine credits. Flexible semester courses in selected aspects of music theory, literature or history. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.

MHIS 492. Independent Study. 1-6 Hours.

Semester courses; variable hours. 1-6 credits per semester. Maximum total of 6 credits. Determination of the amount of credit and permission of the instructor and department chair must be obtained prior to registration for the course. Open generally only to students of junior and senior standing who have individual interests in areas not otherwise available to the student.