

Orchestral Instruments

Music performance is a degree program focused on the mastery of performance skills. Ohio State offers four tracks within the Bachelor of Music in Music Performance: orchestral instruments, piano, voice, and jazz studies.

Pursuing Music Performance — Orchestral Instruments at Ohio State

Students interested in music performance should develop performance skills in preparation for the entrance audition. Piano lessons are also recommended, if available.

All students planning to pursue a music major must complete an entrance audition and the Music Achievement Test (MAT). Normally students do this during the senior year in high school on a scheduled Audition Day. Transfer students and students already at Ohio State should also plan to complete an audition and the MAT.

For additional information about auditions, please contact Catherine Hope-Cunningham, School of Music, 1866 College Road, Columbus, Ohio 43210-1170, (614) 292-2870, music-ug@osu.edu.

Acceptance into a music performance degree program is contingent upon approval of the applied music faculty.

Music Performance — Orchestral Instruments Requirements

Core courses:

- Music theory
- Music aural training
- Music technology
- Music history and world music
- Large and small ensembles
- Minor applied music
- Conducting

Required major courses:

- Applied music
- Advanced theory courses
- Junior and senior recitals

Educational Objectives

Students majoring in music performance will achieve the following learning outcomes:

- Students must demonstrate achievement of professional, entry-level competence in the area of specialization, including significant technical mastery,

capability to produce work and solve professional problems independently, and a coherent set of artistic/intellectual goals that are evident in their work.

- Students will engage in applied studies each quarter that will provide appropriate skills, knowledge, and experience to prepare students for graduate programs and professional careers in the field. They will represent an understanding of a wide range of historical styles and periods.
- Students will complete courses in music theory, music history, and area-specific literature and pedagogy that will provide appropriate skills, knowledge, and experience to prepare them for professional careers in the field. These courses will represent an understanding of a wide range of historical styles and periods.
- Students must have the ability to communicate musical ideas, concepts, and requirements to professionals and lay persons related to the practice of the major field. Such communication may involve musical, oral, written, and visual media.
 - Students will complete curricular requirements that include courses designed to develop oral and written communication skills.
 - Students will gain knowledge and experience in pedagogical methodologies in their area of specialization.
- Students will gain an understanding of the nature of the music field in the professional world, particularly related to organizational structures, work ethics, technological resources, and entrepreneurial skills required for advancing their careers.
 - Students will complete a required course in music technology and will prepare numerous assignments in music theory and music history courses employing a wide range of software and web-based sources and skills covered in this course.
 - Students will build workplace skills through independent studies with applied faculty and ensemble directions.
- Students must gain experiences in general studies sufficient to prepare them for a range of career options.
 - Students will gain skills sufficient for clear and effective verbal and written communication.
 - Students will include a broad range of general studies courses in their curricula appropriate for complementing degree requirements that address their specific music concentrations.

For more information, check these web sites:

School of Music: music.osu.edu

Arts and Humanities: artsandhumanities.osu.edu

Ohio State: osu.edu

Admissions: undergrad.osu.edu

Multicultural Center: multiculturalcenter.osu.edu

First Year Experience Program: fye.osu.edu

Curriculum Sample

This is a sample list of classes a student will take to pursue a degree in Music Performance. Since university students need more than a specific education in a narrow field, they also will take classes to complete the General Education Curriculum (GEC). The GEC will allow students to develop the fundamental skills essential to collegiate success across major programs. Course work options satisfying the GEC often come from a variety of academic areas of study allowing students to tailor their GEC toward their interests.

Note: This sample represents one of several possible paths to a degree in Music Performance. Consult the school web site, music.osu.edu, for details on each specific track.

Freshman Year	
Music History	1
Music Theory I-III	9
Music Aural Training I-III	6
Music Technology	3
Large Ensembles	3
Lessons on principal instrument	6
Secondary Piano	6
GEC (English composition)	5
GEC (mathematics)	5
GEC (social sciences)	5
Arts Survey	1
Freshman Seminar	1
Total hours	51

Sophomore Year	
Music Theory IV-VI	9
Music Aural Training IV-VI	6
Music History I-III	9
Large Ensembles	3
Small Ensembles	3
Lessons on principal instrument	12
Secondary Piano	3
GEC (second writing course)	5
GEC (quantitative skills)	5
Total hours	55

Junior Year	
Conducting	7
Large Ensembles	3
Small Ensembles	3
Lessons on principal instrument	12
Junior Recital	2
World Music courses	6
GEC (historical survey)	5
GEC (integrated arts or studio)	5
GEC (natural sciences)	5
Total hours	48

Senior Year	
Lessons on principal instrument	12
Senior Recital	2
Orchestration & Counterpoint	6
Composition	3
Large Ensembles	3
GEC (literature)	5
GEC (social sciences)	10
GEC (natural sciences)	10
Total hours	51

Co-Curricular Opportunities

Ohio State offers many opportunities for students to learn and grow outside of the classroom. These range from cooperative education (co-op) and internships to study abroad programs to student organizations. Co-ops and internships place students in professional environments while they are Ohio State students. Ohio State offers more than 100 study abroad programs in 40 countries around the world. In addition, there are hundreds of student organizations on campus to meet the interests of a diverse student population.

These opportunities enable students to gain valuable work experience, learn about other cultures, and take on leadership roles before they enter the workforce. All of these experiences enhance learning and may provide an advantage in the job market.

Honors & Scholars Programs

Ohio State offers the Honors and Scholars programs to create an environment of intellectual support and stimulation within a close-knit community of high-ability undergraduate students. Through these programs, students have access to smaller classes, undergraduate research opportunities, close working relationships with faculty, priority scheduling, and unique housing options.

Honors and Scholars programs represent great opportunities to be part of a smaller community within a large university. Good candidates for these programs will receive additional information after admission to the university. Learn more about the Honors and Scholars program at honors-scholars.osu.edu.

Career Prospects in Music Performance — Orchestral Instruments

Students in music performance have a variety of career opportunities. Some graduates establish private studios for giving music lessons or perform professionally either as soloists or in groups as opportunities arise. Some take professional auditions or participate in performance competitions. Others pursue musical performance opportunities in armed forces bands, orchestras, or choirs. Some graduates move into business and industry careers or other music-related careers, such as arts management.

Those interested in pursuing a professional career as a performer in a symphony, chamber orchestra, or on the stage often continue directly into graduate study upon completion of the undergraduate degree. The same is true of students interested in securing a position as an applied music teacher at a college or university. In addition, some music performance majors continue into graduate school in another music field, such as conducting, music history, or music theory.

Revised August 2009. For the most up-to-date information on the orchestral performance program, please visit music.osu.edu.

Contact information:

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