Music, BA

The Bachelor of Arts in Music at Northeastern University engages students in the study of how music works and the many contexts in which it is created and received. The foundation of the major is a unique introductory course, Music in Everyday Life (MUSC 1001), that investigates many dimensions of the musical experience and music's contributions to society.

Students encounter a wide range of musical repertoires, theoretical approaches, and research strategies. While many students opt to major in music alone, many others enroll as part of a double major. This is especially true of young scholars who are aiming for careers in engineering, sciences, business, and fields in the humanities and social sciences who still want to pursue their interests in music. Students in the BA degree program take a variety of classes in history, theory, and ethnomusicology, and they may be active performers, participating in our many ensembles and taking private lessons. Students also participate in a wide array of co-ops and are encouraged to explore opportunities that conform to their interests.

Program Requirements

Complete all courses listed below unless otherwise indicated. Also complete any corequisite labs, recitations, clinicals, or tools courses where specified and complete any additional courses needed beyond specific college and major requirements to satisfy graduation credit requirements.

Universitywide Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the Universitywide Requirements (http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/university-wide-requirements/).

BA Language Requirements

All BA students are required to complete the BA degree language requirements, for a total of 12 semester hours of language study or demonstrated equivalent proficiency, as described in Additional Requirements for BA students (http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/ba-requirements/). Successful demonstration of proficiency does not reduce total minimum semester hours of study required to earn the BA degree.

NUpath Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the NUpath Requirements (http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/).

- NUpath requirements Creative Expression/Innovation (EI) and Interpreting Culture (IC) are met through the major course requirements.
- NUpath requirements Formal and Quantitative Reasoning (FQ), Natural and Designed World (ND), Societies and Institutions (SI), Analyzing and Using Data (AD), Differences and Diversity (DD), and Ethical Reasoning (ER) may be met through electives in the major.

Introduction to College

Code	Title	Hours
MUSC 1000	Music at Northeastern	1

Music Theory and Musicianship

Code	Title	Hours
Music Theory Placement		
All students must take a music theory placement exam. Students who do not place into MUSC 1201 must first take the following course:		
MUSC 1119	Fundamentals of Western Music Theory	
Required Music Theory		
A grade of C or higher is required in each course.		
MUSC 1201	Music Theory 1	4
Complete two of the following:		8
MUSC 1119	Fundamentals of Western Music Theory	
MUSC 1202	Music Theory 2	
MUSC 2111	Algebra and Geometry of Music	
MUSC 2208	Jazz Improvisation	
MUSC 2350	Acoustics and Psychoacoustics of Music	
MUSC 3300	Music Perception and Cognition	
MUSC 3541	Music Analysis Seminar	
MUSI 1204	Analyzing Popular Genres	

Music in Context

Complete one course from each category below. From the categories Western Art Music, Global Music/Ethnomusicology, and Contemporary/Popular Music, at least two must be at the 2000 level or higher. Courses may not double count across the five areas. Many, but not all, Music in Context courses at the 2000 level or higher fulfill the writing-intensive in the discipline requirement. Please check the writing-intensive status of courses as needed.

Code	Title	Hours
Introductory Class		
Select from the following:		4
MUSC 1001	Music in Everyday Life	
MUSC 1002 and MUSC 1003	Music in Everyday Life and Lab for MUSC 1002	
Western Art Music		
Complete one of the following:		4
MUSC 1100	Topics in Western Music	
MUSC 1116	Beethoven	
MUSC 1144	Music and Technology: Stone Age to Digital Age	
MUSC 2105	Songs That Made History	
MUSC 2312	Topics in Western Art Music	
MUSC 2320	40,000 Years of Music Technology	
MUSC 2340	Divas, DJs, and Double Standards	
MUSC 2380	The World of Choral Music	
MUSC 3352	Sounding Human	
Global Music/Ethnomusicology		
Complete one of the following:		4
MUSC 1129	Music of the Middle East	
MUSC 1137	Topics in Diverse Musical Cultures	
MUSC 2101	Black Popular Music	
MUSC 2313	Topics in Global Music Cultures	
MUSC 2330	Musical Communities of Boston	
MUSC 2331	Topics in Musical Communities	
MUSC 2336	The Festival Experience	
MUSC 3353	Music and the Racial Imagination	
MUSC 3354	Sound and the Sacred	
MUSC 3360	Ethnography and the Arts	
MUSI 3351	Music and Social Justice	
MUSI 3360	Global Music Industries in Context	
MUSI 3401	Hip Hop in the Music Industry	
Contemporary/Popular Music		
Complete one of the following:		4
MUSC 1112	Jazz	
MUSC 1113	Film Music	
MUSC 1141	Wired for Sound	
MUSC 2101	Black Popular Music	
MUSC 2150	Making a Musical: Analysis, Craft, and Creation	
MUSC 2310	Popular Music Since 1945	
MUSC 2311	Topics in American Music	
MUSC 2317	Punk Rock	
MUSC 2320	40,000 Years of Music Technology	
MUSC 2336	The Festival Experience	
MUSC 2340	Divas, DJs, and Double Standards	
MUSC 2351	Music, Sound, and the Screen	
MUSC 2380	The World of Choral Music	
MUSC 3352	Sounding Human	
MUSC 3353	Music and the Racial Imagination	

MUSC 3354	Sound and the Sacred
MUSI 3360	Global Music Industries in Context
MUSI 3401	Hip Hop in the Music Industry

Creative

Complete one of the following 4-semester-hour courses or complete four 1-semester-hour ensembles and/or lessons from the list below:		4
MUSC 2150	Making a Musical: Analysis, Craft, and Creation	
MUSC 2208	Jazz Improvisation	
MUSC 2209	Conducting	
MUSC 2210	Introduction to Songwriting	
MUSI 2232	Music Recording 1	
MUST 1220	Introduction to Music Technology	
MUST 1301	Introduction to Composition	
MUST 2320	Sound Design	
Ensembles and Lessons		
MUSC 1901	Music Lessons 1	
MUSC 1902	Music Lessons 2	
MUSC 1904	Chorus	
MUSC 1905	Concert Band	
MUSC 1906	Orchestra	
MUSC 1907	Wind Ensemble	
MUSC 1911	Jazz Ensemble	
MUSC 1912	Rock Ensemble	
MUSC 1913	Blues/Rock Ensemble	
MUSC 1914	Create Your Own Music	
MUSC 1915	Chamber Ensemble	
MUSC 1917	Jazz Choir and Combo	
MUSC 1918	World Music Ensemble	
MUSC 1919	Fusion Ensemble	
MUSC 1920	Pep Band	

Capstone

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one of the following:		4
MUSC 4651	Music Research Capstone	
MUSI 4601	Seminar in Music Industry	
MUST 4611	Music Technology Capstone/Senior Recital	

Music Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Complete three additional courses in music (MUSC, MUSI, or MUST). At least two must be at the 2000 level or higher.		12

Major Credit Requirement

Complete 48 semester hours in the major.

Major GPA Requirement

Students must maintain at least a 2.667 GPA (B− average) in the requirements of the major and also complete all required music courses with grades of at least C. Students who fail to meet the above standards will be placed on departmental probation; those who remain on probation for two consecutive semesters will be dropped from the major.

Program Requirement

128 total semester hours required

Plan of Study
Sample Plan of Study: Four Years, No Co-op

Year 1

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
ENGW 1111	4	Music in context course	4	Vacation		Vacation	
MUSC 1000	1	Music theory course	4				
MUSC 1001 or 1002 *and* 1003	4	Music elective	4				
MUSC 1201	4	Elective	4				
Elective	4						
	17		**16**		**0**		**0**

Year 2

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
Music in context course	4	Music in context course	4	Vacation		Vacation	
Music elective	4	Music elective	4				
Elective	4	Elective	4				
Elective	4	Elective	4				
	16		**16**		**0**		**0**

Year 3

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
Music in context course	4	Elective	4	Vacation		Vacation	
Music theory course	4	Elective	4				
Elective	4	Elective	4				
Elective	4	Elective	4				
	16		**16**		**0**		**0**

Year 4

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Elective	4	Capstone course	4
Elective	4	Elective	4
Elective	4	Elective	4
Elective	4	Elective	4
	16		**16**

Total Hours: 129

Sample Plan of Study: Four Years, Two Co-ops

Year 1

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
ENGW 1111	4	MUSC 1201	4	Elective	4	Vacation	
MUSC 1000	1	Music in context elective (1)	4	Elective	4		
MUSC 1002 and MUSC 1003	4	Language (2)	4				
MUSC 1119	4	Elective	4				
Language 1	4						
	17		**16**		**8**		**0**

Year 2

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
EEAM 2000	1	Co-op 1		Co-op 1		Elective	4
Music in context course (2)	4			Elective (online)	4	Elective	4
Music theory course	4					or Dialogue	
Music elective (1)	4						

	Hours		Hours		Hours		Hours
Language elective (3)	4						
	17		**0**		**4**		**8**

Year 3

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
ENGW 3314	4	Co-op 2		Co-op 2		Elective	4
Music in context course (3)	4			Elective (online)	4	Elective	4
Music elective (2)	4					or Dialogue	
Elective	4						
	16		**0**		**4**		**8**

Year 4

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Music in context course (4)	4	Music capstone	4
Music theory course	4	Elective	4
Music elective (3)	4	Elective	4
Elective	4	Elective	4
	16		**16**

Total Hours: 130