

# MUSIC COMPOSITION, B.M.

## Degree Program

The Bachelor of Music degrees are offered upon completion of the University baccalaureate and major requirements. The major requirements include completing a basic core of 30 credits of music and specific degree requirements of an additional 50 credits for Composition. Total credits: 80.

Students interested in pursuing this degree must demonstrate a high level of performance potential and commitment to music as a profession.

## Special Programs/Opportunities

### Ensembles

The Conservatory provides opportunities for experience in several types of vocal and instrumental ensembles, including the Biola Chorale, Symphony Orchestra, Symphonic Winds, Jazz Ensemble, Women's Chorus, Men's Chorus, Vocal Jazz Ensemble and Chamber Music Ensembles. All are open to non-music majors as well as music majors by audition.

### Concert Series

The Conservatory concert series features outstanding guest artists and student ensembles.

### Masterclasses and Artist-in-Residence Program

Opportunities for participating in masterclasses with guest artists are available annually. Of special note is the ongoing series of masterclasses and recitals by world-renowned artists, including Menahem Pressler, pianist, Artist-in-Residence.

### Local Opportunities

The Southern California area provides exceptional opportunities for hearing the world's leading artists, as well as outstanding college and church music performances.

### Service Opportunities

The Los Angeles metropolitan area offers many opportunities for remunerative service in music. There are frequent openings for competent church choir directors, soloists, accompanists, instrumentalists, and organists.

### Scholarships

Music awards in varying amounts are available to qualified students. Complete information is available by emailing [music@biola.edu](mailto:music@biola.edu) or by writing:

Director, Conservatory of Music  
Biola University  
13800 Biola Avenue  
La Mirada, CA 90639-0001

## Learning Outcomes

### Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Bachelor of Music in Composition, students will be able to:

1. Apply historical and theoretical understanding to the analysis of musical forms, processes, and structures found in masterpieces from the western art music tradition (ULO 1).
2. Describe how they intend to integrate their faith in their anticipated future professional activities (ULO 2).
3. Demonstrate basic musicianship skills in sight-singing, dictation, conducting, voice and piano (ULO 3).
4. Evaluate basic form, harmony, meter, rhythm, voice-leading and developmental techniques found in excerpts and entire pieces from the Western art music tradition, and will experiment with writing music in the same styles (ULO 3).
5. Apply their knowledge of compositional techniques and the musical elements (form, melody, harmony, etc.) to write original compositions (ULO 2).
6. Demonstrate artistic maturity in terms of their craft creativity, clarity of expression on the written page, and efficiency in writing for established deadlines (ULO 3).

Each Program Learning Outcome (PLO) listed above references at least one of the University Learning Outcomes (ULO 1, 2, 3), which may be found in the General Information (<http://catalog.biola.edu/general-information>) section of this catalog.

## Requirements

### Admission Requirements

All students seeking admission must demonstrate musical background and performance strengths necessary for successful completion of the stated curriculum. Admission into Biola University does not guarantee admission into the Conservatory as a music major. A student will be admitted to the Conservatory of Music after:

1. Meeting requirements for University admission.
2. Completing a Conservatory application with the required number of references.
3. Completing a Conservatory audition, including a basic musicianship examination designed to demonstrate university level music study readiness.

After acceptance and upon entrance, students will be given placement examinations and auditions in music dictation, keyboard skills and performance. These examinations are given for the purpose of validating prior study and determining proper placement in music courses. Specific information concerning the content of these examinations and suggestions for preparation are available by contacting the Conservatory Office.

### Transfer of Credit/Advanced Standing

With the exception of courses in music theory, sight-singing and dictation, keyboard skills, and individual performance, courses taken at other regionally accredited colleges and universities in the United States will be accepted on a comparable course basis.

Prior study in the areas of music theory, sight-singing and dictation, keyboard skills, and individual performance will be validated through placement examinations.

Advanced standing may be gained through placement examinations in the areas of music theory, sight-singing and dictation, keyboard skills, and individual performance; however, no credit(s) will be given for waived courses. Waiver of courses on the basis of placement examinations

without comparable prior course credit will increase elective credits required.

Credit for courses taken at a non-accredited college or university will be granted only through placement or challenge examinations.

## Applied Music

In order to graduate, music students must reach primary applied proficiency level standards designated for each degree program. Applied Music lessons are guided by faculty or studio artists who have expertise and professional experience in the voice or instrument under study. Studio artists are affiliated with Biola via independent contracts and thus do not undergo the same process for hire as do faculty. The studio artists are all highly competent individuals who appreciate Biola and endorse the goals of the Conservatory, but their theological conceptualization has not undergone the same close review as that of the faculty. For more information, see the Conservatory Office.

## GPA Requirements

Students in the degree program must maintain a 2.0 GPA in the major and receive a minimum grade of "C" in each required course.

## Integration Seminar Requirement

Students enrolled in the Bachelor of Music degree program are required to take BBST 465 as "Redeeming Culture through Music" (this course fulfills the integration seminar Bible requirement).

## Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Program-Specific Core Curriculum (GE) Courses</b>		
Candidates for the Bachelor of Music degree are exempt from the Core Curriculum (GE) requirement in foreign language, literature, and fine arts.		
<b>Program Courses</b>		
MUSC 102	Voice Class	1
MUSC 118	Keyboard II	1
MUSC 119	Keyboard III	1
MUSC 120	Keyboard IV	1
MUSC 145	Applied Music (Primary Instrument) <sup>1</sup>	4
MUSC 145	Applied Music (Composition) <sup>2</sup>	6
MUSC 153	Sight-Singing and Dictation I	2
MUSC 154	Music Theory I	2
MUSC 163	Sight-Singing and Dictation II	2
MUSC 164	Music Theory II	2
MUSC 181	Introduction to Composition <sup>3</sup>	2
MUSC 200	Concert Music <sup>4</sup>	0
MUSC 300	Concert Music <sup>5</sup>	0
MUSC 307	Music History and Literature: Medieval Through Early Baroque	2
MUSC 308	Music History and Literature: Mid-Baroque Through Classic	2
MUSC 309	Music History and Literature: Late Romantic Through Early 20th Century	2
MUSC 312	Music Theory/History and Literature of the 20th Century	3
MUSC 323	Basic Conducting	2

MUSC 340	Special Studies: Theory/Composition	2
MUSC 341	Counterpoint	2
MUSC 342	Orchestration	2
MUSC 343	Form and Analysis I	2
MUSC 344	Analysis of 20th Century Music	2
MUSC 347	Music Technology and Production	2
MUSC 353	Sight-Singing and Dictation III	1
MUSC 354	Music Theory III	2
MUSC 363	Sight-Singing and Dictation IV	1
MUSC 364	Music Theory IV	2
MUSC 410	Music Cultures of the World	3
MUSC 445	Applied Music (Composition) <sup>6</sup>	8
MUSC 490	Senior Recital	2
MUSC 211	Improvisation for Non Keyboardists: Concepts/Practices	2

or MUSC 217 Improvisation for Keyboardists: Concepts/Practices

Select 6 credits from the following courses. 2 credits must be from Music Education (356-359), 2 credits must be from Composing for New Media (371-374), and the remaining 2 credits may be from either category:

MUSC 356	Music Education: Brass	6
MUSC 357	Music Education: Percussion	
MUSC 358	Music Education: Strings	
MUSC 359	Music Education: Woodwinds	
MUSC 371	Composing for New Media I: Film, TV, and Audio Production	
MUSC 372	Composing for New Media II: Sound Design, Recording Techniques	
MUSC 373	Composing for New Media III: Advanced Orchestration, Score Preparation	
MUSC 374	Composing for New Media IV: Scoring for Film and Video Games, Audio Production	

### Ensemble Courses

Select 6 credits from the following: 6

MUSC 001	Biola Chorale	
MUSC 002	Chamber Music Ensemble	
MUSC 003	Symphony Orchestra	
MUSC 005	Chamber Choir	
MUSC 007	Jazz Ensemble	
MUSC 008	Symphonic Winds	
MUSC 009	Handbell Choir	
MUSC 010	Vocal Jazz Ensemble	
MUSC 012	Women's Chorus	
MUSC 014	Men's Chorus	

Total Credits 80

<sup>1</sup> Must be taken for a total of 4 credits through proficiency level: 224.

<sup>2</sup> Must be taken for a total of 6 credits through proficiency level: 234.

<sup>3</sup> MUSC 181 covers proficiency: level 131.

<sup>4</sup> Must be taken for a total of four semesters.

<sup>5</sup> Must be taken for a total of three semesters.

<sup>6</sup> Must be taken for a total of 8 credits through proficiency: level 438.

## Concentration

### New Media (Pending NASM approval)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Program-Specific Core Curriculum (GE) Courses</b>		
Candidates for the Bachelor of Music degree are exempt from the Core Curriculum (GE) requirement in foreign language, literature, and fine arts.		
Program Courses		
CNMA 101	Introduction to Visual Storytelling	3
CNMA 251	Sound Design	2
MUSC 118	Keyboard II	1
MUSC 119	Keyboard III	1
MUSC 120	Keyboard IV	1
MUSC 145	Applied Music (Piano) <sup>1</sup>	4
MUSC 145	Applied Music (Composition) <sup>2</sup>	6
MUSC 153	Sight-Singing and Dictation I	2
MUSC 154	Music Theory I	2
MUSC 163	Sight-Singing and Dictation II	2
MUSC 164	Music Theory II	2
MUSC 181	Introduction to Composition <sup>3</sup>	2
MUSC 200	Concert Music <sup>4</sup>	0
MUSC 300	Concert Music <sup>5</sup>	0
MUSC 307	Music History and Literature: Medieval Through Early Baroque	2
MUSC 308	Music History and Literature: Mid-Baroque Through Classic	2
MUSC 309	Music History and Literature: Late Romantic Through Early 20th Century	2
MUSC 314	History of Film Music	3
MUSC 323	Basic Conducting	2
MUSC 340	Special Studies: Theory/Composition	2
MUSC 341	Counterpoint	2
MUSC 342	Orchestration	2
MUSC 343	Form and Analysis I	2
MUSC 344	Analysis of 20th Century Music	2
MUSC 347	Music Technology and Production	2
MUSC 353	Sight-Singing and Dictation III	1
MUSC 354	Music Theory III	2
MUSC 363	Sight-Singing and Dictation IV	1
MUSC 364	Music Theory IV	2
MUSC 371	Composing for New Media I: Film, TV, and Audio Production	1
MUSC 372	Composing for New Media II: Sound Design, Recording Techniques	1
MUSC 373	Composing for New Media III: Advanced Orchestration, Score Preparation	1
MUSC 374	Composing for New Media IV: Scoring for Film and Video Games, Audio Production	1
MUSC 410	Music Cultures of the World	3
MUSC 445	Applied Music (Composition) <sup>6</sup>	8
MUSC 490	Senior Recital	2
<b>Ensemble Courses</b>		
Select 6 credits from the following:		6

MUSC 001	Biola Chorale	
MUSC 002	Chamber Music Ensemble	
MUSC 003	Symphony Orchestra	
MUSC 007	Jazz Ensemble	
MUSC 008	Symphonic Winds	
MUSC 009	Handbell Choir	
MUSC 010	Vocal Jazz Ensemble	
MUSC 012	Women's Chorus	
MUSC 014	Men's Chorus	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>80</b>

<sup>1</sup> Must be taken for a total of 4 credits through proficiency: level 224.

<sup>2</sup> Must be taken for a total of 6 credits through proficiency: level 234.

<sup>3</sup> MUSC 181 covers proficiency: level 131.

<sup>4</sup> Must be taken for a total of four semesters.

<sup>5</sup> Must be taken for a total of three semesters.

<sup>6</sup> Must be taken for a total of 8 credits through proficiency: level 438.