

MUSIC, B.A.

Overview

Degree Program

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Music (<https://www.biola.edu/degrees/u/music-ba/>) is offered upon completion of the University baccalaureate and major requirements. Total credits: 56 (63 for Commercial Music concentration).

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, University 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 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 Arts in Music, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate competence in the foundation of musical knowledge related to musical theory, analysis, and history (ULO 1).

2. Demonstrate integration of faith in the musical disciplines and anticipated future professional activities (ULO 2).
3. Demonstrate synthesis of all degree-specific coursework and development of musicianship, knowledge, and skill expected in the professional field through expertise displayed in the degree capstone experience (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 section (<https://catalog.biola.edu/general-information/#UniversityLearningOutcomes>) of this catalog.

Admission Requirements

Admission Requirements

All students seeking admission must demonstrate musical background and the strengths in performance and/or composition 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.

After acceptance and upon entrance, students will be assessed with regard to their performance levels. They will also be given the option to take placement surveys in musicianship, written theory, and/or keyboard skills, or they may simply choose to begin their studies at the introductory level. Specific information concerning the content of these surveys and suggestions for preparation are available by contacting the Conservatory Office.

Program Requirements

Transfer of Credits

Most courses taken at other regionally accredited colleges and universities in the United States will be accepted on a comparable course basis. The following core courses will transfer directly:

- Theory I and II (MUSC 154 and MUSC 164)
- Musicianship I, II, III, and IV (MUSC 153, MUSC 163, MUSC 353, and MUSC 363)
- Introduction to Piano and Keyboard Skills I (MUSC 100 and MUSC 118)

In order to pass out of Theory III (MUSC 354) or Keyboard Skills II (MUSC 119), the student must display proficiency by achieving favorable scores on the Theory and Keyboard placement surveys.

No credit(s) will be given for waived courses. Waiver of courses on the basis of placement surveys 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 surveys.

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 either the voice or instrument under study, or in composition. Studio artists are affiliated with Biola via “special employee” 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. For more information, see the Conservatory Office.

GPA Requirements

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

Curriculum Requirements

Integration Seminar Requirement

All students enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts music degree program are required to take a Biblical Studies Integration Seminar. This requirement must be fulfilled by taking BBST 4658 Integration Seminar: Redeeming Culture Through Music.

Code	Title	Credits
MUSIC 118 or MUSIC 261	Keyboard Skills I ¹ Keyboard Sight Reading I	1
MUSIC 119 or MUSIC 262	Keyboard Skills II ¹ Keyboard Sight Reading II	1
MUSIC 1401-1433	Applied Music (Primary Instrument) ²	4
MUSIC 153	Musicianship I ³	1
MUSIC 154	Theory I ⁴	3
MUSIC 160	Essential Technologies for Musicians I	1
MUSIC 163	Musicianship II ³	1
MUSIC 164	Theory II ⁴	3
MUSIC 170	Essential Technologies for Musicians II	1
MUSIC 200	Performing Arts Forum ⁵	2
MUSIC 275	Music Area Seminar ⁶	0
MUSIC 315	History of Western Art Music I: Medieval through Baroque	3
MUSIC 316	History of Western Art Music II: Classical through Romantic	3
MUSIC 343	Form and Analysis	2
MUSIC 353	Musicianship III ³	1
MUSIC 354	Theory III ⁴	3
MUSIC 363	Musicianship IV ³	1
MUSIC 365	History and Analysis of 20th Century Music	3
MUSIC 4401-4433	Applied Music (Primary Instrument) ⁷	4
BBST 4658	Integration Seminar: Redeeming Culture Through Music ⁸	3

Ensemble Courses

Select 6 credits from the following:		6
MUSC 001	Biola Chorale	
MUSC 003	Symphony Orchestra	
MUSC 007	Jazz Ensemble	
MUSC 008	Symphonic Winds	
MUSC 009	Handbell Choir	
MUSC 010	Vocal Jazz Ensemble	
MUSC 011	University Chorus	
MUSC 012	Women's Chorus	
MUSC 013	Worship and Popular Music Ensemble	
MUSC 014	Men's Chorus	
MUSC 1201	Biola String Quartet	
MUSC 1202	Brass Ensemble	
MUSC 1203	Brass Quintet	
MUSC 1204	Chamber Music	
MUSC 1205	Secondary Chamber Music	
MUSC 1206	Guitar Ensemble	
MUSC 1208	Jazz Combo	
MUSC 1212	New Music Ensemble	
MUSC 1213	Percussion Ensemble	
MUSC 1304	Opera/Musical Scenes	

Elective Courses

Theory & Conducting - Select 3-4 credits from the following courses:		9
MUSC 181	Introduction to Composition	
MUSC 323	Basic Conducting	
MUSC 341	Modal and Tonal Counterpoint	
MUSC 342	Orchestration	
MUSC 344	Analysis of Post-Tonal Music	
MUSC 373	Composing for New Media: Advanced Orchestration, Score Preparation	
Career Development - Select 2-4 credits from the following courses:		
See Special Area Requirements ⁹		
MUSC 156	Lyric Diction I	
MUSC 157	Lyric Diction II	
MUSC 385	Piano Symposium	
MUSC 420	Music Literature: Major Performance Area	
MUSC 430	Pedagogy: Major Performance Area	
MUSC 435	Career Skills for the Entrepreneurial Musician	

Remaining credits may come from:

MUSC 001	Biola Chorale
or MUSC 003	Symphony Orchestra
or MUSC 007	Jazz Ensemble
or MUSC 008	Symphonic Winds
or MUSC 010	Vocal Jazz Ensemble
or MUSC 011	University Chorus
or MUSC 012	Women's Chorus

or MUSC 013	Worship and Popular Music Ensemble
or MUSC 014	Men's Chorus
or MUSC 1201	Biola String Quartet
or MUSC 1202	Brass Ensemble
or MUSC 1203	Brass Quintet
or MUSC 1204	Chamber Music
or MUSC 1205	Secondary Chamber Music
or MUSC 1206	Guitar Ensemble
or MUSC 1208	Jazz Combo
or MUSC 1212	New Music Ensemble
or MUSC 1213	Percussion Ensemble
or MUSC 1304	Opera/Musical Scenes
or MUSC 390	Opera and Musical Production
MUSC 126	Introduction to Music Technology
MUSC 127	Music Production I
MUSC 1401-1433	Applied Music (Elective)
MUSC 200	Performing Arts Forum (up to 2 credits)
MUSC 356	Music Education: Brass
MUSC 357	Music Education: Percussion
MUSC 358	Music Education: Strings
MUSC 359	Music Education: Woodwinds
MUSC 360	Collaborative Piano
MUSC 367	Pop Theory for Worship and Commercial Music
MUSC 368	Pop Theory II for Worship and Commercial Music
MUSC 371	Composing for New Media: Film, TV, and Audio Production
MUSC 372	Composing for New Media: Sound Design, Recording Techniques
MUSC 374	Composing for New Media: Scoring for Film and Video Games, Audio Production
MUSC 405	Special Studies in Music (Special Studies in Ethnomusicology; Performance Helath; Music History; or Preparation for Graduate Studies)
MUSC 410	Music Cultures of the World
Program Course Requirements: 56 credits	
Core Curriculum Requirements ¹⁰	68
Total Credits	124

¹ Keyboard principal students are exempt from MUSC 118 and MUSC 119. Keyboardists must take MUSC 261 and MUSC 262. Students may take the Keyboard Placement Survey to potentially pass out of some or all of the Keyboard requirements. Students who do not take the survey will automatically be placed in MUSC 100 Introduction to Piano.

² Must be taken for a total of 4 credits through proficiency: level 224.

³ Students may take the Musicianship Placement Survey to potentially pass out of some or all of the Musicianship requirements. Students who do not take the survey will automatically be placed

in MUSC 153 Musicianship I. Musicianship courses already taken at the college/university level will directly transfer for credit.

⁴ Students may take the Theory Placement Survey to potentially pass out of some or all of their Theory requirements. Students who do not take the survey will automatically be placed in MUSC 154 Theory I. The first two semesters of Written Theory courses already taken at the college/university level will directly transfer for credit.

⁵ 4 semesters of Performing Arts Forum required for graduation; at least 2 semesters must be taken for 1 credit.

⁶ Taken every semester in conjunction with Applied Music.

⁷ Must be taken for a total of 4 credits through proficiency: level 428.

⁸ Fulfills the BST 465 Biblical and Theological Studies Integration Seminar requirement.

⁹ Piano students must choose 3-4 credits from MUSC 385, MUSC 420, or MUSC 430. String students must take MUSC 430. Voice students must choose 4 credits from MUSC 156, MUSC 157, MUSC 420, or MUSC 430.

¹⁰ See Core Curriculum Program section (<https://catalog.biola.edu/academic-policies/undergraduate-core-curriculum-program/>) for details.

Concentration Commercial Music

Code	Title	Credits
Music majors in the Bachelor of Arts program meet the Core Curriculum requirement of 6 credits in fine arts and integration seminar within the major.		
Concentration Courses		
MUSC 102	Voice Class ¹	1
MUSC 115	History of Rock: A Social and Musical Revolution	3
MUSC 118	Keyboard Skills I ²	1
MUSC 119	Keyboard Skills II ²	1
MUSC 126	Introduction to Music Technology	2
MUSC 127	Music Production I	2
MUSC 1401-1433	Applied Music (Primary Instrument) ³	6
MUSC 153	Musicianship I ⁴	1
MUSC 154	Theory I ⁵	3
MUSC 160	Essential Technologies for Musicians I	1
MUSC 163	Musicianship II ⁴	1
MUSC 164	Theory II ⁵	3
MUSC 200	Performing Arts Forum ⁶	2
MUSC 275	Music Area Seminar ⁷	0
MUSC 316	History of Western Art Music II: Classical through Romantic	3
MUSC 347	Music Production II	2
MUSC 353	Musicianship III ⁴	1
MUSC 354	Theory III ⁵	3
MUSC 367	Pop Theory for Worship and Commercial Music	2
MUSC 368	Pop Theory II for Worship and Commercial Music	2

MUSC 435	Career Skills for the Entrepreneurial Musician	2
MUSC 4401-4433	Applied Music (Primary Instrument) ⁸	6
MUSC 4401-4433	Applied Music (Elective)	4
MUSC 490	Senior Recital	0
BBST 4658	Integration Seminar: Redeeming Culture Through Music ⁹	3

Ensemble Courses

Select 8 credits from the following: 8

MUSC 001	Biola Chorale	
MUSC 002	Music Ensemble	
MUSC 003	Symphony Orchestra	
MUSC 007	Jazz Ensemble	
MUSC 008	Symphonic Winds	
MUSC 009	Handbell Choir	
MUSC 010	Vocal Jazz Ensemble	
MUSC 011	University Chorus	
MUSC 012	Women's Chorus	
MUSC 013	Worship and Popular Music Ensemble	
MUSC 014	Men's Chorus	
MUSC 1201	Biola String Quartet	
MUSC 1202	Brass Ensemble	
MUSC 1203	Brass Quintet	
MUSC 1204	Chamber Music	
MUSC 1205	Secondary Chamber Music	
MUSC 1206	Guitar Ensemble	
MUSC 1208	Jazz Combo	
MUSC 1212	New Music Ensemble	
MUSC 1213	Percussion Ensemble	
MUSC 1304	Opera/Musical Scenes	

Concentration Course Requirements: 63 credits**Core Curriculum Requirements¹⁰ 68****Total Credits 131**

¹ Voice principal students are exempt from MUSC 102 and are required to complete 62 concentration course credits and a total of 130 credits for the degree.

² Students may take the Keyboard Placement Survey to potentially pass out of some or all of the Keyboard requirements. Students who do not take the survey will automatically be placed in MUSC 100 Introduction to Piano.

³ Must be taken for a total of 6 credits through proficiency: level 223.

⁴ Students may take the Musicianship Placement Survey to potentially pass out of some or all of the Musicianship requirements. Students who do not take the survey will automatically be placed in MUSC 153 Musicianship I. Musicianship courses already taken at the college/university level will directly transfer for credit.

⁵ Students may take the Theory Placement Survey to potentially pass out of some or all of their Theory requirements. Students who do not take the survey will automatically be placed in MUSC 154 Theory I. The first two semesters of Written Theory courses already taken at the college/university level will directly transfer for credit.

⁶ 4 semesters of Performing Arts Forum required for graduation; at least 2 semesters must be taken for 1 credit.

⁷ Taken every semester in conjunction with Applied Music.

⁸ Must be taken for a total of 6 credits through proficiency: level 428.

⁹ Fulfills the BBST 465 Biblical and Theological Studies Integration Seminar requirement.

¹⁰ See Core Curriculum Program section (<https://catalog.biola.edu/academic-policies/undergraduate-core-curriculum-program/>) for details.

Course Sequence

NOTE: The course sequence table is designed by the major department and is one way that the classes will work out properly in sequence for your major. However, there are alternative or flexible ways to rotate some of the classes within the same year/level and sometimes between year levels. Please contact your major department advisor to discuss flexible alternatives in scheduling the sequence of your classes.

Taking coursework during the summer session may also be an option to accelerate your degree path.

See Core Curriculum Program section (<https://catalog.biola.edu/academic-policies/undergraduate-core-curriculum-program/>) for a list of approved Core Curriculum courses.

- Music, B.A. (p. 4)
- Commercial Music (p. 5)

Music, B.A. (MUSC)

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BBST 103 or 165	3 BBST 103 or 165	3
ENGL 100 or 112	3 BBST 209 or 210	3
GNST 102	1 Music	7
Music	9 Foreign Language (see Core Curriculum)	4
	16	17

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BBST 251	3 BBST 209 or 210	3
KNES 107	1 Music	7
Music	6 Math (see Core Curriculum)	3
Foreign Language (see Core Curriculum)	4 Science (see Core Curriculum)	3
	14	16

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BBST 300/400 Bible Elective	3 BBST 354	3
HIST 100 or 101	3 ENGL 313	3
Music	7 Music	6
Behavioral Science (see Core Curriculum)	3 Communication (see Core Curriculum)	3
	KNES Activity (see Core Curriculum)	1
	Graduation Application due in Registrar's Office	
	16	16

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BBST 300/400 Bible Elective	3 BBST 365	3
HIST 200, 201, or POSC 225	3 BBST 4658 (fulfills BBST 465 Integration Seminar requirement)	3
Music	7 Music	4

Literature (see Core Curriculum)	3	Philosophy (see Core Curriculum)	3
16		13	

Total Credits 124

Music, B.A. Commercial Music (MUCC)

First Year			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
BBST 103 or 165	3	BBST 103 or 165	3
ENGL 100 or 112	3	BBST 209 or 210	3
GNST 102	1	Music	8
KNES 107	1	Foreign Language (see Core Curriculum)	4
Music	8		
16		18	

Second Year			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
BBST 251	3	BBST 209 or 210	3
HIST 100 or 101	3	Music	7
Music	7	Communication (see Core Curriculum)	3
Foreign Language (see Core Curriculum)	4	Science (see Core Curriculum)	3
17		16	

Third Year			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
BBST 300/400 Bible Elective	3	BBST 354	3
Music	11	ENGL 313	3
Behavioral Science (see Core Curriculum)	3	Music	6
KNES Activity (see Core Curriculum)	1	Math (see Core Curriculum)	3
		Graduation Application due in Registrar's Office	
18		15	

Fourth Year			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
HIST 200, 201, or POSC 225	3	BBST 300/400 Bible Elective	3
Music	6	BBST 365	3
Literature (see Core Curriculum)	3	BBST 4658 (fulfills BBST 465 Integration Seminar requirement)	3
Philosophy (see Core Curriculum)	3	Music	7
15		16	

Total Credits 131

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NOTE: The course sequence table is designed by the major department and is one way that the classes will work out properly in sequence for your major. However, there are alternative or flexible ways to rotate some of the classes within the same year/level and sometimes between year levels. Please contact your major department advisor to discuss flexible alternatives in scheduling the sequence of your classes.

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- Music, B.A. (p. 5)
- Commercial Music (p. 5)

Music, B.A. (MUSC)

First Year			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
HNRS 101	4	HNRS 105	4
HNRS 102	4	HNRS 106	4
GNST 102	1	Music	8
Music	8		
17		16	

Second Year			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
HNRS 210	4	HNRS 230	4
HNRS 215	4	HNRS 231	4
KNES 107	1	Music	6
Music	8	Math (see Core Curriculum)	3
17		17	

Third Year			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
HNRS 324	4	HNRS 337	4
HNRS 326	2	HNRS 339	2
Music	9	Music	5
		Foreign Language (see Core Curriculum)	
15		15	

Fourth Year			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
HNRS 443	4	HNRS 458	4
Music	5	HNRS 467	2
Foreign Language (see Core Curriculum)	4	BBST 4658 (fulfills BBST 465 Integration Seminar requirement)	3
Science (see Core Curriculum)	3	Music	4
		KNES Activity (see Core Curriculum)	
16		14	

Total Credits 127

Note: Certain Music courses are not offered every semester. Please check with the Music department for the most up-to-date schedule of required courses.

Music, B.A. Commercial Music (MUCC)

First Year			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
HNRS 101	4	HNRS 105	4
HNRS 102	4	HNRS 106	4
GNST 102	1	Music	8
Music	8		
17		16	

Second Year			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
HNRS 210	4	HNRS 230	4
HNRS 215	4	HNRS 231	4
Music	9	Music	6
		Math (see Core Curriculum)	
17		17	

Third Year			
Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
HNRS 324	4	HNRS 337	4

HNRS 326	2	HNRS 339	2
Music	10	Music	6
		Science (see Core Curriculum)	3
	16		15
Fourth Year			
Fall		Credits Spring	Credits
HNRS 443	4	HNRS 458	4
KNES 107	1	HNRS 467	2
Music	9	BBST 4658 (fulfills BBST 465 Integration Seminar requirement)	3
Foreign Language (see Core Curriculum)	4	Music	4
		Foreign Language (see Core Curriculum)	4
		KNES Activity (see Core Curriculum)	1
	18		18
Total Credits 134			

Note: Certain Music courses are not offered every semester. Please check with the Music department for the most up-to-date schedule of required courses.