

BACHELOR OF MUSIC AND HONOURS BACHELOR OF SCIENCE WITH MAJOR

Music

The School of Music at the University of Ottawa is one of the country's leading music schools. It is the ideal place to nurture your passion for all things musical and to pursue the rigorous training needed for an active and successful career in the field. We maintain close ties with renowned institutions such as the National Arts Centre (NAC) and the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra. Our program boasts state-of-the-art music facilities and internationally recognized professors who perform around the globe and publish in leading academic journals. We are a full-service music school offering programs in performance, composition, music education, theory and musicology.

Although any of our programs can pave the way for a career in education, musicology, music journalism or arts administration, the Bachelor of Music (BMus) is designed specifically for students wishing to become career musicians. Admission to the BMus therefore requires that you audition on your main instrument and demonstrate an intermediate or advanced level. In addition, the University of Ottawa is one of the only institutions in the country to offer the possibility of combining the BMus program in performance with a major in science.

Science

This program lets you explore different scientific disciplines and thus acquire a broad background in all the sciences. If along the way you develop an interest in a particular field, you can transfer to the program in question.

This program is offered in English and in French.

Program Requirements

To be admitted to the program, students must be accepted into the Bachelor of Music, successfully complete an instrument or voice audition, demonstrating outstanding abilities, and meet the Bachelor of Science admission criteria.

Requirements for this program have been modified. Please consult the 2025-2026 calendars (<http://catalogue.uottawa.ca/en/archives/>) for the previous requirements.

Bachelor of Music (BMus) (90 units)

Basic Skills

3 course units from: 3 Units

ENG 1100 Workshop in Essay Writing

ENG 1120 Selected Topics in Literature and Composition

Compulsory courses at the 1000 level

MUS 1031 Applied Music I: Performance BMUS/BSC² 6 Units

3 course units from: 3 Units

MUS 1191 Sight-Singing and Dictation I: General³

MUS 1194 Sight-Singing and Dictation I: Enriched

Compulsory courses at the 2000 level

MUS 2031 BSC/Applied Music II: Performance BMUS/BSC² 6 Units

MUS 2306 Theory and Analysis I³ 3 Units

MUS 2307 Theory and Analysis II 3 Units

MUS 2365 Music: The Big Questions I 3 Units

MUS 2366 Music: The Big Questions II 3 Units

3 course units from: 3 Units

MUS 2191 Sight-Singing and Dictation II: General

MUS 2194 Sight-Singing and Dictation II: Enriched

Compulsory courses at the 3000 level

MUS 3031 Applied Music III: Performance BMUS/BSC² 6 Units

MUS 3306 Theory and Analysis III 3 Units

MUS 3307 Theory and Analysis IV 3 Units

MUS 3365 Music and Genre 3 Units

MUS 3366 Music and Text 3 Units

Optional courses

9 course units of ensembles from:⁴ 9 Units

MUS 3901 Orchestra⁶

MUS 3902 Wind Ensemble⁷

MUS 3903 Opera Production⁸

MUS 3904 Choral Ensemble⁹

MUS 3907 Guitar Ensemble¹⁰

MUS 3916 Piano Ensemble¹¹

MUS 3917 Accompaniment¹¹

6 course units from: 6 Units

MUS 4301 Selected Topics in Musicology⁴

MUS 4310 Selected Topics in Music Theory and Analysis⁴

21 optional course units in music (MUS) with the possibility of taking 9 course units of ensemble courses from the list of optional ensemble courses⁴ 21 Units

3 course units in French as a second language (FLS)¹ 3 Units

Honours Bachelor of Science with Major (BSc) (60 units)

60 course units from any already existing science major leading to the Bachelor of Science⁵ 60 Units

Total: 150 Units

All non-keyboard majors must submit to a proficiency exam at a Grade VI RCMT set by the School of Music at the end of the second year. This exam must be completed successfully by the end of the fifth year to obtain the BMus/BSc degree.

Courses are selected through tutorial consultation. The Department determines the order in which some courses must be taken and can impose any courses deemed necessary for the musical development of the student: these courses may be chosen in departments other than music.

Note(s)

¹ An exemption for this requirement is given to students who obtain an equivalency for the language-proficiency test (FLS 3500) or who take a MUS course offered in French.

² Student failing an applied music course (MUS 1031, MUS 2031, MUS 3031) will be asked by the department to withdraw from BMus/BSc.

This is a copy of the 2026-2027 catalog.

³ A written test at the beginning of MUS 1191 will determine placement in an additional weekly lab. For MUS 2306, a written test at the beginning of the course will determine if the student must also enrol for MUS 1303.

⁴ Students may repeat the same course code more than once.

⁵ For more details, check the calendars of the Faculty of Science or Engineering.

⁶ Compulsory for string students.

⁷ Compulsory for winds, brass, and percussion students.

⁸ Compulsory for voice students.

⁹ Compulsory for voice, guitar, harp, percussion, piano, winds, and brass students.

¹⁰ Compulsory for guitar students.

¹¹ Compulsory for piano students.

List of optional ensemble courses

MUS 3901	Orchestra	3 Units
MUS 3902	Wind Ensemble	3 Units
MUS 3903	Opera Production	3 Units
MUS 3904	Choral Ensemble	3 Units
MUS 3905	Calixa-Lavallée Choir	3 Units
MUS 3907	Guitar Ensemble	3 Units
MUS 3908	Jazz Ensemble	3 Units
MUS 3909	Brass Choir	3 Units
MUS 3910	Brass Ensemble	3 Units
MUS 3911	Woodwind Ensemble	3 Units
MUS 3913	Percussion Ensemble	3 Units
MUS 3914	Contemporary Music Ensemble	3 Units
MUS 3915	Mixed Ensemble	3 Units
MUS 3916	Piano Ensemble	3 Units
MUS 3917	Accompaniment	3 Units
MUS 3930	Improvisation	3 Units