The Academic Minor

Many departments have designed academic minors for the convenience of undergraduate students.

A minor is a structured group of courses that leads to considerable knowledge and understanding of a subject, although with less depth than a major. Some employers consider minors desirable, and the corresponding major requirements at the University may stipulate a minor. Some students choose to complement their major program with a minor in a related field or even in an entirely different field of interest. Students interested in pursuing an academic minor should contact their college dean’s office and the department responsible for the minor program for guidance and advising.

Please note that undergraduate students can only complete a minor in addition to and as a complement to a major. The University does not award stand-alone minors.

Minor in Music

Students from any college may complete a minor in music, selecting either an emphasis in theory/history or performance. Such a minor consists of at least 18 hours of course work in music. In the theory/history emphasis, six to nine hours of music theory, six to nine hours of music history, and three hours of music performance are required. In the performance emphasis, eight hours of performance instruction, four hours of appropriate ensemble, and six hours of music history or theory are required. A successful audition is required for private performance study in the designated area (level of performance expectation is that of entering freshman music major). The course requirements are as follows:

Minor in Music: Music Theory and History

1. Music Theory (six to nine hours)
   Students should choose from:
   - MUS 174 Theory for Non-Music Majors .................................................. 3
   - MUS 170/171 Theory I: Elementary Aural and Written Theory ........... 4
     (Theory placement examination or MUS 174 is a prerequisite)
   - MUS 172/173 Theory I: Elementary Aural and Written Theory ....... 4
     (MUS 170/171 are prerequisites)

2. Music History (six to nine hours)
   Students should choose from:
   - MUS 100 Introduction to Music .............................................................. 3
   - MUS 201 Music in Western Culture to 1700 ........................................... 3
   - MUS 202 Music in Western Culture, 1700 to Present .......................... 3
   - MUS 203 History of Music I ................................................................. 3
   - MUS 206 American Music ................................................................. 3
   - MUS 220 Symphonic Music ................................................................. 3
   - MUS 221 Survey of Vocal Music:
     - Opera, Art Song, Choral Music ......................................................... 3
   - MUS 300 History of Jazz ................................................................. 3
   - MUS 301 Appalachian Music .............................................................. 3
   - MUS 302 History of Music II ........................................................... 3
   - MUS 303 History of Music III ......................................................... 3
   - MUS 330 Music in the World (Subtitle required) ............................ 3

3. Performance (three hours)
   Students may choose class or private performance instruction (one to two hours) or ensemble (one to two hours).

Minor in Music: Performance

1. Performance Study (12 hours)
   Performance instruction (eight hours) – four semesters, sequential enrollment in MUP courses at appropriate level; two hours per semester.
   Ensemble (four hours) in appropriate ensemble.

2. Music History and Theory (six hours)
   Courses to be chosen from the following:
   - MUS 174 Theory for Non-Music Majors .................................................. 3
   - MUS 170/171 Theory I: Elementary Aural and Written Theory ........... 4
     (Theory placement examination or MUS 174 is a prerequisite)
   - MUS 172/173 Theory I: Elementary Aural and Written Theory ....... 4
     (MUS 170/171 are prerequisites)
   - MUS 100 Introduction to Music .............................................................. 3
   - MUS 201 Music in Western Culture to 1700 ........................................... 3
   - MUS 202 Music in Western Culture, 1700 to Present .......................... 3
   - MUS 203 History of Music I ................................................................. 3
   - MUS 206 American Music ................................................................. 3
   - MUS 220 Symphonic Music ................................................................. 3
   - MUS 221 Survey of Vocal Music:
     - Opera, Art Song, Choral Music ......................................................... 3
   - MUS 300 History of Jazz ................................................................. 3
   - MUS 301 Appalachian Music .............................................................. 3
   - MUS 302 History of Music II ........................................................... 3
   - MUS 303 History of Music III ......................................................... 3
   - MUS 330 Music in the World (Subtitle required) ............................ 3

Note: Some variation in the above courses is possible, with written approval from the Director of Undergraduate Studies, School of Music. The availability of the minor in music performance is dependent on sufficient time within the appropriate instructor’s designated teaching load.