

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

Music has the power to evoke emotions and to connect us to our past, to each other, and to the world. At the New Zealand School of Music—Te Kōkī (NZSM), you'll build on your knowledge of music and be elevated and inspired by studying for the Tohu Paetahi Puoro—Bachelor of Music (BMus). Whether you want to perform, compose, produce, teach, become a music therapist or technologist, get involved in music research, or just study music for the love of it, your talent will be nurtured in a creative and collaborative environment at Victoria University of Wellington.

We offer musical opportunities unparalleled in our country. Staff and artist-teachers are internationally recognised performers, composers, and researchers, and include members of the New Zealand String Quartet, the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, and the Rodger Fox Big Band.

At the NZSM, you'll attend masterclasses and workshops given by leading international artists. You'll learn from visiting composers featured at weekly composer workshops and you'll connect with leaders in a variety of fields of musical research at our music forum presentations.

Our facilities include outstanding Steinway pianos, a fine collection of historical instruments, excellent concert rooms, Balinese and Javanese gamelan instruments, a rich array of Māori and Pasifika instruments, a Chinese instrument collection, and our well-equipped electronic and recording studios. Students choose to study at the NZSM because of the quality of its teaching staff and the learning experience. There are opportunities to create, discover, and experience music of all kinds.

FIND OUT MORE

✉ info@vuw.ac.nz

📄 www.wgtn.ac.nz/music

📄 www.wgtn.ac.nz/nzsm

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A BMus can lead to many careers, including as a composer, music therapist, professional musician, music teacher, or sound engineer. You can work in a range of fields—in the music, film, or theatre industries, or in arts and culture administration, communications, events management, and social research.

📄 www.wgtn.ac.nz/careers



POSTGRADUATE STUDY

Graduates of the BMus can go on to postgraduate study in Honours, Master's, diploma, and doctoral programmes. You may also apply for the Master of Music Therapy, a two-year full-time programme that trains graduates to become professional music therapists.

📄 www.wgtn.ac.nz/nzsm-postgraduate

SCHOOL SUBJECTS

Some courses require prior knowledge of music theory. Pathways that do not require prior knowledge or learning in music theory are also available.

PROGRAMME INFORMATION

For most BMus programmes, a good background in music theory is recommended. You can take a number of courses without that background, such as MUSC 160 Introduction to Music Theory and Musicianship, as well as many Music Studies and Composition courses.

For the Music Studies and the Sonic Arts and Music Technology majors, you do not need to have studied music before.

Places in Classical Performance and Jazz Performance programmes are by audition. As a guideline, you should have reached the equivalent of Grade 8 in Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music examinations by the time of the audition. Jazz students should show technical and musical competence in a jazz style on their instrument or with their voice. Audition applications for Classical Performance and Jazz Performance are due mid-July each year, with opportunities for late applications advertised on the website.

📄 www.wgtn.ac.nz/nzsm-audition

MAJORS

Classical Performance: You can receive tuition in all the standard orchestral instruments, as well as baroque cello and flute, fortepiano, guitar, harpsichord, organ, piano, recorder, saxophone, and voice. A minor in Performance can also be included in the BMus.

Instrumental/Vocal Composition: You will develop your creative abilities by completing a range of courses that give you the opportunity to compose for everyone from soloists to orchestras using music notation or score. Students also have the option to specialise in film scoring and to focus on jazz composition. A minor in Composition can also be included in the BMus.

Jazz Performance: You can receive instruction in all standard jazz instruments or in voice. A minor in Performance can also be included in the BMus.

Music Studies: You can engage in interdisciplinary study in the areas of popular music and jazz studies, ethnomusicology, musicology, performance, theory, and analysis. Music Studies is a wide-ranging degree that covers musical practices from many genres, cultures, and eras. A number of courses require no formal musical training. A minor in Popular Music Studies can also be included in the BMus.

Sonic Arts and Music Technology: You will explore sound and music through technology. Subject areas include electronic music, audio recording and production, film sound, and interactive music technologies. A minor in Music Technology can also be included in the BMus.

Major	Code
Classical Performance	PERF
Instrumental/Vocal Composition	INVC
Jazz Performance	JAZZ
Music Studies (Ethnomusicology)	MUST (ETHM)*
Music Studies (Jazz Studies)	MUST (JZST)*
Music Studies (Musicology)	MUST (MUMU)*
Music Studies (without specialisation)	MUST
Sonic Arts and Music Technology	SAMT

*When you enrol, you will need to add the code shown in brackets to indicate which specialisation you are choosing within the major.

MINORS

- ▶ Composition
- ▶ Music Technology
- ▶ Performance
- ▶ Popular Music Studies

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Three years of full-time study.

A total of 360 points is required:

- ▶ a maximum of 180 points can be from 100-level courses
- ▶ at least 180 points from 200- and 300-level courses

- ▶ at least 75 points must be from courses at 300 level in CMPO, MUSC, or PERF
- ▶ the requirements for at least one major (from the list left) must be satisfied (courses at 300 level may be counted towards only one major).

You must complete sufficient elective courses to meet the minimum requirement of 360 points for the BMus.

Study for the BMus in Classical Performance, Instrumental/Vocal Composition, Jazz Performance, or Sonic Arts and Music Technology is intensive and you will study primarily Music courses.

If you want a broader degree, the Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Music may be more suitable (see page 56 for BA in Music requirements). Minors in Composition, Music Technology, Performance, and Popular Music Studies are also available within the BA. If you wish to expand your study, it is possible to take a conjoint degree combining a BMus and a BA.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

It is recommended that you apply for admission as soon as possible (see page 22 for details).

The requirements listed below are the requirements to complete a major; degree regulations are listed in the University's *Calendar*.

The courses listed in (a) of the major requirements on this and the following page are what you need to take in your first year. To find out details of what a particular course is about and when it is taught, look in the subjects and courses pages (from page 137).

Classical Performance (PERF)

- Complete seven courses at 100 level:
 - ▶ PERF 101, PERF 102, PERF 105, PERF 106
 - ▶ MUSC 130, MUSC 166, MUSC 167.
- Complete six courses at 200 level:
 - ▶ PERF 201, PERF 202, PERF 205, PERF 206
 - ▶ MUSC 266
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 230–245.
- Complete five courses at 300 level:
 - ▶ PERF 301, PERF 302, PERF 305, PERF 306
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 330–347.

Instrumental/Vocal Composition (INVC)

- Complete five courses at 100 level:
 - ▶ CMPO 101, CMPO 130
 - ▶ MUSC 166, MUSC 167
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 100–159.
- Complete five courses at 200 level:
 - ▶ CMPO 201, CMPO 232
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 220–259
 - ▶ two courses from MUSC 260–269.

- c. Complete four courses at 300 level:
 - ▶ CMPO 301
 - ▶ two courses from CMPO 302–389
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 320–359.
- d. Complete one course in PERF at any level.

For a specialisation in Film Scoring (FLMS), you must include the following courses: CMPO 186, MUSC 247, MUSC 268, CMPO 305, CMPO 332, and one from FILM 100–399.

Jazz Performance (JAZZ)

- a. Complete seven courses at 100 level:
 - ▶ PERF 101, PERF 102, PERF 105, PERF 106
 - ▶ MUSC 125, MUSC 164, MUSC 165.
- b. Complete six courses at 200 level:
 - ▶ PERF 205, PERF 206, PERF 211, PERF 212
 - ▶ MUSC 264
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 220–259.
- c. Complete five courses at 300 level:
 - ▶ PERF 305, PERF 306, PERF 311, PERF 312
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 320–359.

Music Studies (MUST)

Without specialisation:

- a. Complete five courses at 100 level:
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 164–166
 - ▶ two courses from MUSC 100–159
 - ▶ one further course from MUSC 120–174
 - ▶ and any 100-level PERF or CMPO course.
- b. Complete courses worth 80 points from CMPO, MUSC, or PERF 200–299, including at least two courses from MUSC 220–259.
- c. Complete courses worth 80 points from CMPO, MUSC, or PERF 300–399, including at least one course from MUSC 320–359.

With specialisation:

Musicology (MUST (MUMU))

- a. Complete five courses at 100 level:
 - ▶ MUSC 130, MUSC 166, MUSC 167
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 100–159
 - ▶ and any 100-level PERF or CMPO course.
- b. Complete four courses at 200 level:
 - ▶ MUSC 266
 - ▶ two courses from MUSC 230–239
 - ▶ one further course from MUSC 220–259.
- c. Complete courses worth 75 points, with 60 points from CMPO, MUSC, or PERF 300–399, including:
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 320–359
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 330–339
 - ▶ one further course from MUSC, PERF, or CMPO at 300 level.

Ethnomusicology (MUST (ETHM))

- a. Complete four courses at 100 level:
 - ▶ MUSC 150
 - ▶ two courses from MUSC 100–159
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 164–166.
- b. Complete courses at 200 level, including:
 - ▶ either MUSC 264 or MUSC 266
 - ▶ PERF 255
 - ▶ one course from PERF 250–259
 - ▶ further courses worth 60 points from CMPO, MUSC, or PERF 200–299, including at least two courses from MUSC 220–269, of which one must be from MUSC 248–259.
- c. Complete courses worth 75 points, with 60 points from CMPO, MUSC, or PERF 300–399, including:
 - ▶ at least three courses from MUSC 320–369, including two courses from MUSC 349–359.

Jazz Studies (MUST (JZST))

- a. Complete five courses at 100 level:
 - ▶ MUSC 125 and MUSC 164
 - ▶ one course from PERF 101–169
 - ▶ two courses from MUSC 100–159.
- b. Complete courses worth 80 points from CMPO, MUSC, or PERF 200–299, including:
 - ▶ MUSC 264 and CMPO 232
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 225–229.
- c. Complete courses worth 75 points, with 60 points from CMPO, MUSC, or PERF 300–399, including:
 - ▶ at least one course from MUSC 325–329
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 320–324 or MUSC 330–359.

Sonic Arts and Music Technology (SAMT)

- a. Complete five courses at 100 level:
 - ▶ CMPO 101
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 100–159
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 164–169
 - ▶ two courses from CMPO 180–189.
- b. Complete four courses at 200 level:
 - ▶ CMPO 210
 - ▶ two courses from CMPO 280–289
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 220–259.
- c. Complete four courses at 300 level:
 - ▶ CMPO 310
 - ▶ two courses from CMPO 305–389
 - ▶ one course from MUSC 320–359.
- d. Complete one course in PERF at any level.

You may use courses from CMPO 305–309 and MUSC 320–359 to satisfy the requirements of both the Instrumental/Vocal Composition and the Sonic Arts and Music Technology majors, provided at least 40 points at 300 level are credited solely to each major.

MINOR REQUIREMENTS

Composition (CMPM)

Complete the following courses: CMPO 201, CMPO 232, CMPO 301, and one of CMPO 302–389

Music Technology (MUTC)

Complete two courses from (CMPO 210, CMPO 285, CMPO 286) and two courses from (CMPO 310, CMPO 385, CMPO 386)*.

Note: The Music Technology minor is not available to a BMus student majoring in Sonic Arts and Music Technology.

Performance (PFRM)

Complete 60 points from PERF 200–399, including at least 15 points from PERF 300–399.

Popular Music Studies (POPS)

Complete the following courses:

- ▶ MDIA 205
- ▶ either MUSC 247 or MUSC 248
- ▶ one course from MDIA 305, MUSC 343, or MUSC 349.

*Subject to regulatory approval.

DEGREE EXAMPLES

BMus majoring in Classical Performance

YEAR 1		YEAR 2		YEAR 3	
1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3
PERF 101 20 points	PERF 102 20 points	PERF 201 20 points	PERF 202 20 points	PERF 301 20 points	PERF 302 20 points
PERF 105 10 points	PERF 106 10 points	PERF 205 15 points	PERF 206 15 points	PERF 305 15 points	PERF 306 15 points
MUSC 166 20 points	MUSC 167 20 points	PERF 233 15 points		PERF 333 15 points	
	MUSC 130 20 points	MUSC 266 20 points	MUSC 237 20 points	MUSC 330–347 20 points	Elective 20 points
120 points		125 points		125 points	

Total points required: 360
Total points completed: 370

BMus majoring in Sonic Arts and Music Technology

YEAR 1		YEAR 2		YEAR 3	
1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3
MUSC 105 20 points	CMPO 101 15 points	CMPO 210 15 points	CMPO 286 15 points	CMPO 386 20 points	CMPO 310 20 points
CMPO 186 15 points	CMPO 185 15 points	CMPO 285 15 points	MUSC 247 20 points	MUSC 351 20 points	CMPO 385 20 points
MUSC 166 20 points	Elective 100 level 15 or 20 points	PERF 250 15 points	Elective 200–300 level 20 points	Elective 100–300 level 15 or 20 points	Elective 100–300 level 20 points
	Elective 100 level 15 or 20 points	Elective 200–300 level 15 points	Elective 100–300 level 15 points		
115, 120, or 125 points		130 points		115 or 120 points	

Total points required: 360
Total points completed: 360–375

Key: Core Elective

BMus majoring in Instrumental/Vocal Composition

YEAR 1		YEAR 2		YEAR 3	
1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3
CMPO 130 15 points	CMPO 101 15 points	CMPO 201 15 points	MUSC 268 20 points	CMPO 301 20 points	CMPO 300 level 20 points
MUSC 166 20 points	MUSC 167 20 points	CMPO 230 15 points	MUSC 237 20 points	CMPO 300 level 20 points	MUSC 347 20 points
Elective 100 level 15 or 20 points	MUSC 125 20 points	MUSC 266 20 points	Elective 100–300 level 20 points	PERF 250 15 points	Elective 100–300 level 20 points
	Elective 100 level 15 or 20 points	Elective 200–300 level 15 points			
120, 125, or 130 points		125 points		115 points	

Total points required: 360
Total points completed: 360–370

BMus majoring in Instrumental/Vocal Composition with a specialisation in Film Scoring

YEAR 1		YEAR 2		YEAR 3	
1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3
MUSC 105 20 points	CMPO 101 15 points	CMPO 201 15 points	MUSC 268 20 points	CMPO 301 20 points	CMPO 330 20 points
CMPO 130 15 points	MUSC 167 20 points	CMPO 230 15 points	MUSC 247 20 points	CMPO 305 20 points	MUSC 349 20 points
MUSC 166 20 points	FILM 102 20 points	MUSC 266 20 points	Elective 100–300 level 20 points	PERF 250 15 points	Elective 100–300 level 20 points
CMPO 186 15 points		Elective 200–300 level 15 points			
125 points		125 points		115 points	

Total points required: 360
Total points completed: 365

BMus majoring in Jazz Performance

YEAR 1		YEAR 2		YEAR 3	
1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3
PERF 101 20 points	PERF 102 20 points	PERF 205 15 points	PERF 206 15 points	PERF 305 15 points	PERF 306 15 points
PERF 105 10 points	PERF 106 10 points	PERF 211 20 points	PERF 212 20 points	PERF 311 20 points	PERF 312 20 points
MUSC 164 20 points	MUSC 125 20 points	MUSC 229 20 points	MUSC 264 20 points	MUSC 329 20 points	Elective 100–300 level 20 points
	MUSC 165 20 points		Elective 20 points		
120 points		130 points		110 points	

Total points required: 360
Total points completed: 360

Key:

Core

Elective



“I came to the University’s Open Day and I fell in love with the film studios and the campus. I also love the comfortable culture of Wellington—I feel a lot more welcome here than in Auckland where I grew up.

“I came to university with pretty much no music knowledge except for a bit of experimenting, so don’t write yourself off if you haven’t explored something. If you enjoy it, then give it a go and you’ll likely have a great time studying. Just make as much music as you can.

“I love the instant nature of creating music. With music, you can just sit down and start playing and create something right then. I also love being able to do everything, from playing the instruments to the technical production side.”

JEREMY McLEAN

Graduate, Bachelor of Music in Sonic Arts and Music Technology

Graduate, Master of Fine Arts (Creative Practice)

Studio operator, Radio New Zealand