

Bachelor of Music - Composition*Advising Worksheet*

Students in the Bachelor of Music - Composition degree may use this checklist to complete a self-assessment of their degree progress. A student can log into UR Student and access their academic history in order to fill this document out to determine if they're on track to graduate or see what remaining requirements they have left. Students can schedule a degree audit appointment with an advisor in the Office of Academic Affairs at any time to verify their degree progress and address any concerns or questions.

In order to graduate from the Eastman School of Music and the University of Rochester a student must complete a minimum of 120 credits. Specific degree program requirements may require more than 120 credits total, but a student must earn a minimum of 120. For the **Composition** degree, students should expect to earn 150 credits. Additionally, students are required to take a minimum of 12 credits each semester for a full-time status.

The following checklist lists out all of the requirements needed for earn a Bachelor of Music in Composition. For more details on each requirement, please click on the associated link in each category. Go to the end of this document for a [sample schedule](#).

Applied Music Lessons & Studio**Class**

- Semester 1 (4 units)
- Semester 2 (4 units)
- Semester 3 (4 units)
- Semester 4 (4 units)
- Semester 5 (4 units)
- Semester 6 (4 units)
- Semester 7 (4 units)
- Semester 8 (4 units)

Large Ensemble

- Semester 1 (1 or 2 units)
- Semester 2 (1 or 2 units)
- Semester 3 (1 or 2 units)
- Semester 4 (1 or 2 units)
- Semester 5 (1 or 2 units)
- Semester 6 (1 or 2 units)

Piano Class

- PCL 101 (2 units)
- PCL 102 (2 units)
- PCL 103 (2 units)
- PCL 104 (2 units)
- PCL 105 (2 units)
- PCL 106 (2 units)

Eastman Colloquium

- EIC 101 (1 unit)

Music Theory Core

- TH 100 (1.5 units)*
- TH 105 (1.5 units)*
- TH 110 (2.5 units)
- TH 115 (1.5 units)
- TH 120 (2.5 units)
- TH 125 (1.5 units)
- TH 210 (2.5 units)
- TH 215 (1.5 units)
- TH 220 (4 units)
- TH 230 (3 units)*

Music History Core

- MHS 121 (3 units)
- MHS 122 (3 units)
- MHS 123 (3 units)

Counterpoint

- TH 251 (3 units)
- TH 252 (3 units)

Humanities/Sciences Electives

- First Year Writing (4 units)
- History, non-music 1* (4 units)
- History, non-music 2* (4 units)
- Course 3 _____ (4 units)
- Course 4 _____ (4 units)
- Course 5 _____ (4 units)

Composition Lessons

- CMP 101 (3 units)
- CMP 102 (3 units)
- CMP 160 (3 units)
- CMP 160 (3 units)
- CMP 160 (3 units)
- CMP 160 (3 units)
- CMP 160 (3 units)
- CMP 160 (3 units)

Composition Symposium

- CMP 265 (1 unit)
- CMP 265 (1 unit)
- CMP 265 (1 unit)
- CMP 265 (1 unit)
- CMP 265 (1 unit)
- CMP 265 (1 unit)
- CMP 265 (1 unit)
- CMP 265 (1 unit)
- CMP 265 (1 unit)

Composition Courses

- CMP 240 (2 units)
- CMP 251 (2 units)
- CMP 252 (2 units)
- CMP 225 (3 units)

Eastman Colloquium – EIC 101 (1 unit required)

Eastman Colloquium (EIC 101) provides first-year and new transfer students the opportunity to gather and learn more about the practical aspects of music and musical institutions as they begin their journey as students at the Eastman School of Music. The class format consists of presentations by a diverse array of guests, including Eastman faculty, staff, students, and members of the community. This is a required 1 unit course in the first semester of study.

Applied Music Study (32 units required)

All undergraduate students in the Bachelor of Music – Composition program will be assigned to a faculty studio for their applied music lessons. Every student receives 14 one-hour private lessons per semester in their area of applied study. In addition to weekly private instruction, students are required to attend and participate in weekly studio class every semester they are enrolled in lessons. Studios are comprised of all the students of a single instructor, inclusive of both undergraduate and graduate.

The course registration code for one-hour lessons is made up of the instrument code, the number 160, and the section number assigned for a faculty studio (i.e., VLN 160-1). Applied music study is worth 4 credits and students must register for applied lessons every semester for a total of 8 semesters and earn a total of 32 credits in order to graduate. Composition majors are expected to complete a first-year, sophomore, junior, and senior jury.

Instrument Codes: Bassoon = BSN, Clarinet = CL, Double Bass = DBL, Cello = VCL, Euphonium = EUP, Flute = FL, Guitar = GTR, Harpsichord = HPC, Oboe = OB, Organ = ORG, Piano = PA, Percussion = PRC, Saxophone = SAX, Trombone = TBN, Trumpet = TPT, Voice = VCE, Viola = VLA, Violin = VLN

Large Ensemble – 6 Semesters (6-12 units required)

Students in Composition are required to participate in 6 semesters of large ensemble, a critical component in their musical professional development. Composition majors will register for a large ensemble usually depending on their primary instrument, with the number of credits varying based on the ensemble. Students may satisfy this requirement from the following ensembles: ENS 100: Large Instrumental Ensemble, ENS 200: Advanced Instrumental Ensemble, ENS 120: Chorale, ENS 120A: Rep Singers, ENS 120B: Eastman Rochester Chorus, and ENS 120C: Treble Chorus.

Composition students may enroll in the following ensembles for up to 2 units to count towards the Large Ensemble requirement: ENS 207: Collegium Musicum I, ENS 208: Collegium Musicum II, ENS 215: Sansifanyi Ensemble, ENS 216: Introductory Mbira Ensemble, and ENS 217: Advanced Mbira Ensemble.

Piano Class – PCL 101-106 (12 units required)

All undergraduate students are expected to develop functional keyboard skills. The piano class requirement for composition majors can either be satisfied by successfully passing a piano proficiency examination or by completing PCL 106. Students with prior piano experience will be invited to take a piano placement exam in the summer before their first year and will be placed into the appropriate course (PCL 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, or 106).

Students who place into a higher level do not earn any credit towards their degree for the level(s) they placed out of. If they will not earn the full 12 units for this requirement, their unit total will be adjusted on their degree audit; however, all students are still held to the 120 unit minimum for a Bachelor of Music degree and may need additional elective coursework to meet this threshold.

Composition majors who are piano primaries do not need to complete this requirement but will still be responsible for completing the 120 unit minimum.

Music Theory Core – 5 semesters of theory based on placement exam (19 units required*)

As part of the core curriculum for a bachelor of music degree, all students must complete their music theory core requirement. Students are expected to complete 5 semesters of written and aural music theory courses in an order determined by the music theory placement exam results they take prior to their first semester of study. A student may place into one of three tracks: Regular – Fundamentals, Regular – No Fundamentals, and Honors Theory. The requirements for each track are listed below:

1. **Regular – Fundamentals Track:** Students require five semesters of written and aural music theory classes beginning with a fundamentals course sequence in the fall semester of their first year and ending with an integrated written and aural theory class (TH 220) in the fall semester of their third year. This track requires a total of 19 credits.

Fall Semester 1	Spring Semester 2	Fall Semester 3	Spring Semester 4	Fall Semester 5
TH 100 TH 105	TH 110 TH 115	TH 120 TH 125	TH 210 TH 215	TH 220

2. **Regular – No Fundamentals Track:** Students require five semesters of written and aural music theory classes beginning with courses in the spring semester of their first year and ending with a topical theory elective course (TH 230) in any semester after they have completed the integrated written and aural theory class (TH 220) in the fall semester of their third year. This track requires a total of 19 credits.

Fall Semester 1	Spring Semester 2	Fall Semester 3	Spring Semester 4	Fall Semester 5	Semester 6 or later
No Theory	TH 110 TH 115	TH 120 TH 125	TH 210 TH 215	TH 220	TH 230

3. **Honors Theory Track:** Students with advanced music theory knowledge may place into an accelerated music theory course sequence, requiring four semesters of written and aural music theory classes beginning in the fall semester of their first year through the spring semester of their second year. This track requires a total of 16 credits* instead of 19. Students must maintain a minimum course grade of B, or they will be reassigned to the regular theory core.

Fall Semester 1	Spring Semester 2	Fall Semester 3	Spring Semester 4
TH 101H TH 161H	TH 102H TH 162H	TH 201H TH 261H	TH 202H TH 262H

A student's theory placement is noted in their academic record and a student may not take these courses out of order or advance to the next semester of courses without successfully earning a passing grade in the previous semester courses. Any deviation or variation to the music theory core will be determined by the music theory department and noted in a student's academic record.

Music History Core – MHS 121/122/123 (9 units required)

Three music history survey courses that trace the development of music from the ninth century to the present are required of all undergraduate students. These courses (MHS 121, 122, and 123) can be taken in any order for a total of 9 credits. Students may not take MHS in their first year.

Counterpoint (6 units required)

In addition to the core music theory courses, Composition majors are required to complete a two-semester sequence in Counterpoint. TH 251: Counterpoint I (3 units) and TH 252: Counterpoint II (3 units). TH 251 and TH 252 may not be used to count towards the music theory core curriculum for Composition majors.

Humanities/Sciences Electives (24 units required)

Students are expected to explore a diverse range of academic disciplines, develop strong intellectual perspectives, and be able to voice these convincingly through completion of the humanities and sciences elective requirement. For Composition majors this 24 credit requirement has three components:

1. **First Year Writing (FWS 121, 4 units):** Every entering student is required to complete a first year writing seminar in their first year of study. The first year writing seminar introduces students to college-level inquiry and analysis by focusing on critical thinking and academic writing. In individual sections, the discussion of literary, historical, philosophical, or art historical topics will serve as the basis for writing assignments.

English for Academic Purposes Course Sequence (EAP 101 and 102, 8 units): Students whose native language is not English may be required to complete a two-semester course sequence in order to fulfill their first year writing requirement. These two courses are structured to assist non-native English learners with collegiate academic writing and speaking skills, while also counting towards their overall humanities and sciences elective requirement. EAP 101 and 102 are each 4-credits and will count as 8 credits towards the total 24-credit overall humanities/science requirement and will fulfill the first year writing requirement.

2. **History, Non-music Courses (8 units):** Composition students are required to take 2 courses, each worth 4 units, in history, unrelated to music. These history courses may be taken through the Eastman Humanities Department or in the School of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering, but must not have a primary listing associated with the Arthur Satz College Music Department.
3. **Elective Courses (12 units):** Composition majors are expected to take a minimum of 12 additional credits of courses offered through the Eastman Humanities Department or in the School of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering. Each course must carry at least 4 credits and must not have a primary listing associated with the Departments of Music Teaching and Learning, Music Theory, Musicology, Institute for Music Leadership, or the Arthur Satz College Music Department.

Composition Lessons – 8 Semesters (24 units required)

In addition to applied music lessons, Composition students are required to take eight semesters of composition lessons with the faculty in the Composition Department. In the first year, students will register for CMP 101: First Year Composition Seminar I and CMP 102: First Year Composition Seminar II. Starting in the second year, students will continue to register for CMP 160: Undergraduate Composition Lessons with their assigned teacher for the remaining six semesters.

Composition Symposium – 8 Semesters (8 units required)

Students in the Composition program must register for CMP 265: Composition Symposium each semester for eight semesters. Composition Symposium is a forum for presentations by guest composers and other speakers as well as a time for presentations and discussions by the students enrolled in the class. In a student's senior year, they are expected to present a major chamber work on the annual senior forum.

Composition Courses (9 units required)

Composition majors must complete four composition-specific courses as listed below:

CMP 240: Computer Engraving (2 units)

CMP 251: Intermediate Orchestration (2 units)

CMP 252: Advanced Orchestration (2 units)

CMP 225: Introduction to Computer Music (3 units)

SAMPLE SCHEDULE – Regular Theory Fundamentals Track (Total Units Required: 150)

YEAR 1 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 1 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons 160	4	Applied Music Lessons 160	4
Large Ensemble	1	Large Ensemble	1
CMP 101: First Year Comp. Seminar I	3	CMP 104: First Year Comp. Seminar II	3
CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1	CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1
PCL 101: Piano Class 1	2	PCL 102: Piano Class 2	2
TH 100: Fundamentals of Music Theory	1.5	TH 110: Music Analysis & Style Composition 1	2.5
TH 105: Fundamentals of Aural Musicianship	1.5	TH 115: Aural Musicianship 1	1.5
FWS 121: First Year Writing Seminar	4	Humanities/Sciences Elective 1	4
CMP 240: Computer Engraving	2		
EIC 101: Eastman Colloquium	1		
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	21	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	19
YEAR 2 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 2 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons 160	4	Applied Music Lessons 160	4
Large Ensemble	1	Large Ensemble	1
CMP 160: Composition Lessons	3	CMP 160: Composition Lessons	3
CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1	CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1
PCL 103: Piano Class 3	2	PCL 104: Piano Class 4	2
TH 120: Music Analysis & Style Composition 2	2.5	TH 210: Music Analysis & Style Composition 3	2.5
TH 125: Aural Musicianship 2	1.5	TH 215: Aural Musicianship 3	1.5
CMP 251: Intermediate Orchestration	2	CMP 252: Advanced Orchestration	2
		Humanities/Sciences Elective 2	4
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	17	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	21
YEAR 3 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 3 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons 160	4	Applied Music Lessons 160	4
Large Ensemble	1	Large Ensemble	1
CMP 160: Composition Lessons	3	CMP 160: Composition Lessons	3
CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1	CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1
PCL 105: Piano Class 5	2	PCL 106: Piano Class 6	2
TH 220: Musicianship and Analysis 4	4	Music History Core: MHS 121, 122, or 123	3
TH 251: Counterpoint I	3	TH 252: Counterpoint II	3
Music History Core: MHS 121, 122, or 123	3	Humanities/Sciences Elective 3	4
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	21	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	21
YEAR 4 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 4 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons 160	4	Applied Music Lessons 160	4
CMP 160: Composition Lessons	3	CMP 160: Composition Lessons	3
CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1	CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1
History, non-music Elective 1	4	Music History Core: MHS 121, 122, or 123	3
CMP 225: Intro to Computer Music	3	History, non-music Elective 2	4
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	15	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	15

SAMPLE SCHEDULE – Regular Theory No Fundamentals Track (Total Units Required: 150)

YEAR 1 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 1 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons 160	4	Applied Music Lessons 160	4
Large Ensemble	1	Large Ensemble	1
CMP 101: First Year Comp. Seminar I	3	CMP 104: First Year Comp. Seminar II	3
CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1	CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1
PCL 101: Piano Class 1	2	PCL 102: Piano Class 2	2
FWS 121: First Year Writing Seminar	4	TH 110: Music Analysis & Style Composition 1	2.5
CMP 240: Computer Engraving	2	TH 115: Aural Musicianship 1	1.5
EIC 101: Eastman Colloquium	1	Humanities/Sciences Elective 1	4
<i>Total Units</i>	18	<i>Total Units</i>	19
YEAR 2 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 2 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons 160	4	Applied Music Lessons 160	4
Large Ensemble	1	Large Ensemble	1
CMP 160: Composition Lessons	3	CMP 160: Composition Lessons	3
CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1	CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1
PCL 103: Piano Class 3	2	PCL 104: Piano Class 4	2
TH 120: Music Analysis & Style Composition 2	2.5	TH 210: Music Analysis & Style Composition 3	2.5
TH 125: Aural Musicianship 2	1.5	TH 215: Aural Musicianship 3	1.5
CMP 251: Intermediate Orchestration	2	CMP 252: Advanced Orchestration	2
Humanities/Sciences Elective 2	4	Humanities/Sciences Elective 3	4
<i>Total Units</i>	21	<i>Total Units</i>	21
YEAR 3 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 3 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons 160	4	Applied Music Lessons 160	4
Large Ensemble	1	Large Ensemble	1
CMP 160: Composition Lessons	3	CMP 160: Composition Lessons	3
CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1	CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1
PCL 105: Piano Class 5	2	PCL 106: Piano Class 6	2
TH 220: Musicianship and Analysis 4	4	TH 230: Music Theory Core Elective	3
TH 251: Counterpoint I	3	TH 252: Counterpoint II	3
Music History Core: MHS 121, 122, or 123	3		
<i>Total Units</i>	21	<i>Total Units</i>	17
YEAR 4 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 4 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons 160	4	Applied Music Lessons 160	4
CMP 160: Composition Lessons	3	CMP 160: Composition Lessons	3
CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1	CMP 265: Composition Symposium	1
Music History Core: MHS 121, 122, or 123	3	Music History Core: MHS 121, 122, or 123	3
History, non-music Elective 1	4	History, non-music Elective 2	4
CMP 225: Intro to Computer Music	3		
<i>Total Units</i>	18	<i>Total Units</i>	15