MASTER OF MUSIC IN MUSIC COMPOSITION

Overview

Program Director
Dr. Joseph Carucci
Bliss Hall 3010
jwcarucci@ysu.edu
(330) 941-1439

Program Description

The Master of Music (M.M.) in Composition offers exceptional individualized instruction that focuses on the professional development and unique career goals of each student. Students work closely with the Composition faculty to develop skills they will use throughout their professional careers and that support their development as artists who communicate with their audiences with authenticity. They have the opportunity to take classes in music technology, music industry, and recording to ensure that they are prepared for the variety of media in which contemporary composers work (e.g., concert stage, film, musical theatre, video games, advertising, internet, arranging, orchestration, etc.). They also have numerous chances to have their music performed, compose for marquee ensembles (e.g., Dana Chorale, Jazz Ensemble, Wind Ensemble), and premiere their works in venues throughout the region.

M.M. in Composition students work closely with a world-class faculty of performers, composers, and scholars who hold advanced degrees from some of the world's finest institutions, including: Juilliard, Cincinnati Conservatory, Eastman, Cleveland Institute of Music, New England Conservatory, University of Southern California, Florida State University, and the University of Texas. Our faculty work with students to support their unique aspirations through the development of strategic experiences, thus enabling them to pursue a variety of professional opportunities in multiple contexts.

The M.M. in Composition prepares students with advanced training to develop careers in a myriad of fields. Our alumni are Grammy® Award winning composers, arrangers, and audio engineers and may be found recording in Hollywood and Nashville studios; touring with diverse acts; and working as academic faculty. Our degree helps students define future professional goals and equips them with exceptional skills for a successful career.

Admission Requirements

- Applicants for admission to graduate study in the Master of Music degree must present a baccalaureate degree in music from an accredited college or university. Admission requires a cumulative undergraduate grade point average of at least 2.7 (on a 4.0 scale).
- Evidence of analytical activities, or the sound files and scores for three original compositions are required for admission to the Music Composition degree program.

Degree Requirements

- Successful completion of 30 semester hours and all requirements specific to each degree.
- Students will take core courses in Music and Society (6980), Graduate Analysis (6922), and Research in Music (6960), 12 s.h. of advanced composition lessons and 9 s.h. of seminar electives.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze and work critically with historical information (MUHL). Assessment: MUHL course-based project
2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of specialized knowledge of at least one aspect of Music Theory (MUTC). Assessment: Final exam in MUTC 6922 Graduate Analysis II
3. Students will demonstrate the ability to write in a scholarly manner about their area of specialization within music. Assessment: Project MUHL 6960 Research in Music
4. Students will demonstrate research skills and techniques through the creation of an original scholarly project. Assessment: Thesis

MUTC 5821 Composition for Minors 2 s.h.
Composition in two- and three-part forms, and other compositions of small scope, such as variation and sonatina. Works are composed both for piano alone, and in combination with other instruments or voice. May be repeated by composition majors to meet requirements for freshman and sophomore composition for majors.
Prereq.: MUTC 2632 with a grade of "C" or better, or permission of instructor for composition majors.

MUTC 5822 Composition for Minors 2 s.h.
Composition in two- and three-part forms, and other compositions of small scope, such as variation and sonatina. Works are composed both for piano alone, and in combination with other instruments or voice. May be repeated by composition majors to meet requirements for freshman and sophomore composition for majors.
Prereq.: MUTC 2632 with a grade of "C" or better, or permission of instructor for composition majors.
MUTC 5828  Music Technology  3 s.h.
An exploration of the use of computers and technology in music. Applications related to composition, performance, analysis, teaching, and research.
Prereq.: MUTC 2632 with grade of "C" or better or permission of instructor.

MUTC 5830  Materials of 20th Century Music  3 s.h.
Study of the various elements of 20th century compositions, including melody, harmony, rhythm, texture, and form.
Prereq.: MUTC 2632 with a grade of "C" or better.

MUTC 5831  Modal Counterpoint  3 s.h.
Sixteenth century contrapuntal style including introduction of species technique; analysis of liturgical and secular repertoire; writing of imitative counterpoint with stylistic rhythms and cadences.
Prereq.: MUTC 2632 with a grade of "C" or better.

MUTC 5832  Tonal Counterpoint  3 s.h.
Contrapuntal style of baroque music including an analysis of examples in imitative and invertible counterpoint; writing two- and three-part inventions and three- and four-part fugal expositions.
Prereq.: MUTC 2632 with a grade of "C" or better.

MUTC 5833  Theory Seminar  3 s.h.
Topics in music theory not covered in regular upper-division offerings. May be repeated once with different topic.
Prereq.: MUTC 2632 with a grade of "C" or better.

MUTC 5834  Electronic Music  3 s.h.
Techniques of analog and digital synthesis including tape composition, musique concrete; advanced MIDI applications such as sequencing and sampling; and digital audio editing. Composition in electronic and mixed media.
Prereq.: For composition majors, COMP 1502 or equivalent; for non-composition majors, MUTC 2632 with a grade of "C" or better; for non-majors, permission of instructor.

MUTC 5840  Instrumentation  3 s.h.
Ranges, transposition, technical characteristics, and tonal features of the instruments. Scoring for large and small ensembles which are available as laboratory reading groups.
Prereq.: MUTC 2632 with a grade of "C" or better.

MUTC 6903  Advanced Composition  3 s.h.
Individual instruction in the composition of larger forms for chorus, orchestra, or chamber ensembles.
Prereq.: Permission of Instructor.

MUTC 6904  Advanced Composition  3 s.h.
Individual instruction in the composition of larger forms for chorus, orchestra, or chamber ensembles.
Prereq.: Permission of instructor.

MUTC 6913  Pedagogy of Theory  3 s.h.
The study and critical analysis of methods for teaching harmony, sightsinging, and ear training.

MUTC 6916  Fugue  3 s.h.
Analysis of the fugal style used in 17th-century trio sonatas and in both volumes of The Well-Tempered Clavier by J. S. Bach; writing three to four voice fugues employing imitative and invertible counterpoint.

MUTC 6921  Graduate Analysis 1  3 s.h.
Foundational graduate study of musical analysis. Includes basic techniques of harmonic, melodic, and rhythmic analysis applied to a selection of music literature from the seventeenth century through the present time.

MUTC 6922  Graduate Analysis  3 s.h.
A graduate study of musical analysis. Topics may include Schenker, Riemann, set theory, twelve-tone theory, analysis of jazz improvisation, analysis of jazz composition, and analysis of jazz arranging techniques.

MUTC 6930  Baroque Music Styles  3 s.h.
Stylistic and structural analysis of compositions from the Baroque Era.

MUTC 6931  Classic Music Styles  3 s.h.
Stylistic and structural analysis of compositions from the Classic Era.