MUSIC

Specialization, Bachelor of Music

Queen's Music has earned a reputation across Canada for producing some of the best-prepared graduates: musicians who excel as scholars, composers, teachers and performers. Students in the Dan School of Drama and Music obtain a solid education in western classical music from the ancient to the postmodern, while pursuing a wide variety of courses in applied study (performance), musicology/ethnomusicology, music education, and theory and composition. A highlight for music students is the chance to practice and perform in the fantastic rehearsal hall and concert hall of Queen's Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts.

Specialization (Music)
Bachelor of Music
MUSC-P-BMS

Top 4 Reasons to Study Music
1. Students have the opportunity to participate in many music and performance extracurricular.
2. Students can specialize in musicology, music theory and composition, music education, or applied study.
3. Students can apply to undertake a practical internship in applied music, music education, or administration.
4. We have 3 main locations – Theological Hall, one of Queen’s oldest buildings and often referred to as the most dramatic building on campus; our Castle in England or at the new, world-class Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts.

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Note that degree requirements are revised regularly. The most current requirements, including course lists and options, are found in the Academic Calendar at: QUarts.ca/academic-calendar

Sample Year by Year

1st Year
- MATH 110/3.0
- MATH 111/3.0
- 3.0 units from MUSC 180/3.0, MUSC 181/3.0, MUSC 183/3.0, MUSC 185/3.0, MUSC 187/3.0, MUSC 188/3.0, MUSC 189/3.0
- MUSC 127/3.0
- MUSC 191/6.0
- MUSC 120/6.0 or MUSC 121/6.0
- MUSC 129/3.0 or MUSC 229/3.0
- 1.5 units from MUSC_Ensembles
- 3.0 units of electives

2nd Year
- MUSC 210/3.0
- MUSC 211/3.0
- MUSC 220/3.0 or MUSC 221/6.0
- MUSC 227/3.0
- MUSC 290/3.0
- MUSC 293/3.0
- 1.5 units from MUSC_Ensembles
- 9.0 units of electives

3rd Year
- MUSC 392/3.0
- 15 units from MUSC_Ensembles
- 15.0 units from MUSC, MUSC_Subs
- 12.0 units of electives

4th Year
- 1.5 units from MUSC_Ensembles
- 18.0 units from MUSC, MUSC_Subs
- 12.0 units of electives

Add a Certificate to your degree
- Employment Relations
- Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity
- Disability and Physical Activity
- French for Professionals
- Geographic Information Science
- Global Action and Engagement
- Indigenous Languages and Cultures
- International Studies
- Media Studies
- Sexual and Gender Diversity
- Urban Planning Studies

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Plan: 90.0 units plus electives to a total of 126 units.

Music Ensembles
- Chamber
- Flute
- Choral
- Wind
- Polyphymnia
- Keyboard
- Symphony
- Music Theatre

Music Theatre
Our ensemble courses require an audition and involve weekly or bi-weekly coachings and a minimum of one evaluation and/or concert per term for all students. Credit (1.5 units each) is attained only through your regular attendance, active participation and ample preparation.

ALUMNI JOBS
- 3% of alumni work in Law
- 4% of alumni work in Government & Non-Profit
- 10% of alumni work in Music & Performing Arts
- 62% of alumni work in Education

Originally an orchestral musician, Steven London, BMus '94, studied composition and conducting with Canada’s music elite: John Burge and Kristi Allik. In 1995, he received a certificate from the world-renowned ‘Scoring for Motion Pictures and Television’ program at the University of Southern California. The opportunity to study in L.A. with such composers as Jerry Goldsmith was invaluable and integral to his development as a serious composer for film and television.
In 1st year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of Music along with some electives. See the back page for specific courses to consider.

Music courses will be pre-loaded from Musicology, Music Theory, Music Education, and Musicanship and Applied Study (Performance).

Get the courses you need

In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of Music along with some electives. See the back page for specific courses to consider.

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Get Relevant experience

Join teams or clubs on campus such as Queen’s Bands, Queen’s Musical Theatre, QUSMEA, and Shine On.

Attend concerts, masterclasses, and workshops. Check out events at the Isabel and the Grand Theatre.

See the AMS clubs Directory or the Queen’s Get Involved page for more ideas.

Get Connected with the Community

Volunteer on or off-campus with different community organizations such as Queen’s Music Club (QMC), QUSMEA, H’art School, and MusicMates.

Prepare for work or studies in a multicultural environment by taking QUIC’s Intercultural Competency Certificate.

Speak to a QUIC advisor to get involved in their programs, events, and training opportunities.

Get Thinking globally

Is an exchange in your future? Start thinking about where you would like to study abroad. Apply in January for a third year exchange through the International Programs Office.

Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with other cultures or by practicing or improving your language skills (especially Italian, French, and German for musicians).

International students interested in staying in Canada can speak with an International Student Advisor.

Get Ready for life after graduation

Considering adding a certificate? Go to Majors Night or get some help wondering about career options from Career Services.

Explore different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Career Advising and Resource Area, such as Great Jobs for Music Majors. For more information connecting with alumni on LinkedIn.

Check out summer performance programs such as FAVA, COS, Opera Nuova, and CAMMAC.

Research education requirements for careers of interest. If needed, prepare to take any required tests (like the LSAT or GMAT) and get help thinking about Grad School from Career Services. Take any courses relevant to your future career (e.g. Lyric Diction, Music Education, Composition, Musicology, Applied Study).

Apply to jobs or future education, or make plans for other adventures. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, interviews, Grad School applications, or other decisions. Attend the post-graduate information session at the School in September or October.

What will I learn?

A degree in Music can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:

- Understanding of musical form and organization
- Ability to compose music
- High-level performance on an instrument or voice
- Use of sound equipment
- Oral communication for confident public speaking
- Presentation and performance skills and stage presence
- Self-discipline and time management
- Ability to work independently and as a team
- Creative and critical thinking
- Written and oral communication
- Research skills
- Increased working memory and IQ leading to improved pattern recognition, memorization and improvisation
- Increased adaptability

Where can I go?

A degree in Music can take your career in many directions. Many students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a Master’s. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Audio consulting
- Concert production
- Digital archivist
- Instrument repair
- Lyricist
- Music journalism
- Music therapy
- Piano accompanist
- Songwriting
- Talent scouting
- Taking time to explore career options, build experience and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.