

Important Information for Incoming Freshman Music Majors

Music Theory

In early August, each student will take a theory diagnostic exam so the faculty can learn about your current level of music theory knowledge. The exam is conducted online – more information is provided at orientation. If you would like to know more about the music theory diagnostic exam (there is a sample exam) or more about UNI's Music Theory Program, please visit: <https://music.uni.edu/student-hub/student-resources/undergraduate-student-handbook/advisory-statements-and-policies#musictheory>



Group Piano

All music students are required to take Group Piano classes and show proficiency at the piano. Do not worry if you have no piano background – that is why you take the classes! Students with experience may test out of the proficiency. See below.

If you have no piano background, you will enroll for one of the four sections of MUS APPL 1470 Group Piano Class I. Since these classes have limited enrollment, not all incoming freshman will have piano class their first semester. Do not worry as this is normal and will in no way affect your projected graduation date.

If you have a background in piano, you need to meet with Dr. Andrea Johnson before or on the first day of the fall semester. She can assess your background and place you in the appropriate level of piano class or determine if you meet the proficiency level. Please contact her at andrea.johnson@uni.edu

Ensembles

Music major students are required to perform in one large ensemble each semester, and most of these ensembles are auditioned. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU VISIT THIS WEB SITE TO FIND YOUR AUDITION DATES, TIMES, AND REQUIRED REPERTOIRE:** <https://music.uni.edu/ensembles/auditions-ensembles> You may choose to play in more than one large ensemble, but only one counts for credit toward the degree per semester. Additionally, you may enroll in small ensembles for participation credit.



Keep in mind that most ensemble auditions take place on the Thursday, Friday, and Saturday before classes start. Students in marching band camp will be excused from rehearsals for your audition.

Students who are participating in the Panther Marching Band should go to the following web site to register: <https://bands.uni.edu/pmb>. You will find the schedule of football games there as well as information about marching band camp that begins the week before classes.



You can direct questions about specific ensembles to the following faculty members:

Marching Band/Symphonic Band:

Dr. Justin Mertz

justin.mertz@uni.edu

Wind Ensemble:

Dr. Danny Galyen

danny.galyen@uni.edu

Symphony Orchestra:

Dr. Erik Rohde

erik.rohde@uni.edu

All Choirs:

Dr. John Wiles

john.wiles@uni.edu

Jazz Ensembles:

Mr. Chris Merz

chris.merz@uni.edu

Opera:

Mr. Richard Gammon

richard.gammon@uni.edu

Applied Lessons

Every music major is required to enroll in applied lessons on his or her instrument/voice each semester. Freshman music majors enroll for **2 credit hours of applied lessons**. This means you will have one, 50 minute lesson per week. At orientation, the music adviser will assist you with enrollment. Please make sure you enroll for two credit hours, because the enrollment system will automatically enroll you for one credit hour unless you change this default number. Additionally, you should enroll in the seminar in your area (e.g. Wind and Percussion Seminar, Brass Seminar, Piano Seminar or Composition Seminar).

Your lesson day and time will be set for you by your applied teacher. You will turn in your class schedule to your applied teacher either right before the first week of classes or during the first week of classes, depending on what your teacher asks for. If you have questions about applied lessons, here are the names and emails of the applied teachers in each area. They are happy to answer any question you have so don't hesitate to email them.

WOODWINDS

Flute	Dr. Hannah Porter Occeña	hannah.porter-occena@uni.edu
Oboe	Dr. Heather Peyton	heather.peyton@uni.edu
Clarinet	Dr. Amanda McCandless	amanda.mccandless@uni.edu
Bassoon	Dr. Brisa de Paula	brisa.depaula@uni.edu
Saxophone	Dr. Ann Bradfield	ann.bradfield@uni.edu

BRASS

Trumpet	Dr. Randy Grabowski	randy.grabowski@uni.edu
Horn	Dr. Maddy Tarantelli	madeline.tarantelli@uni.edu
Trombone	Dr. Anthony Williams	anthony.williams@uni.edu
Euphonium/Tuba	Dr. Brett Copeland	brett.copeland@uni.edu

PERCUSSION

Professor Matt Andreini matt.andreini@uni.edu

STRINGS

Violin	Dr. Nash Ryde	nash.ryder@uni.edu
Viola	Dr. Tyler Hendrickson	tyler.hendrickson@uni.edu
Cello	Professor Isidora Nojkovic	nojkovii@uni.edu
Bass	Dr. Alexander Pershounin	alexander.pershounin@uni.edu
Guitar	Professor Luke Sanders	luke.sanders@uni.edu
Harp	Professor Gretchen Brumwell	gretchen.brumwell@uni.edu

VOICE

Chair of Voice Area	Dr. Suzanne Hendrix-Case	suzanne.hendrix@uni.edu
	Dr. John Hines	john.hines@uni.edu
	Dr. Corey Barrett	korey.barrett@uni.edu
	Professor Jeffrey Brich	jeffrey.brich@uni.edu
	Dr. Jean McDonald	jean.mcdonald@uni.edu

PIANO

Professor Sean Botkin sean.botkin@uni.edu
Dr. Vakhtang Kodanashvili vakhtang.kodanashvili@uni.edu
Dr. Andrea Johnson andrea.johnson@uni.edu
Dr. Robin Guy robin.guy@uni.edu

Welcome to the UNI School of Music!!!!

You are beginning an important and exciting part of your life! The faculty and staff of the UNI School of Music are here to help you succeed. It is very important that if you have questions or need help that you ask for it. It is why we are here and we want to help you. Some advice for incoming students:

- **Get organized early:** Figure out when your classes are, when your job is, then schedule meals, study time, and practice time. Sticking to a schedule will help you keep up with what you have to do and allow you to have some free time.
- **ASK FOR HELP!!:** We have tutoring for music theory and piano classes. If you don't understand something, ask, and keep asking until you get the help you need.
- **Ask our staff members:** The office staff employees in Russell Hall 115 and Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center 72 are always willing to assist you with questions.
- **Learn from the older students:** The upperclassmen in your studios have been through what you are going through. They can help answer questions and give you advice.
- **Make appointments:** The Interim Director of the School of Music, Dr. Melinda Boyd, located in 115 Russell Hall, is available for your questions.
- **Have fun, but also be smart:** There are many opportunities for university students and throughout your four years you will be able to explore as many of them as you would like. Be careful in your first semester not to be involved in too many things. Get used to being a college student first, then each semester seek out the activities that you feel will enrich your time here as a student. This way you will be successful in your classes and enjoy student life.

For more information about the School of Music, most of what you need to know is on our website: <https://music.uni.edu>. See the undergraduate student handbook at: <https://music.uni.edu/student-hub/student-resources/undergraduate-student-handbook>

