MUSIC COMPOSITION (B.M.)

The B.M. in Music Composition prepares students for careers in composition, independent teaching, or graduate study in music. The degree conforms to standards in composition set by the National Association of Schools of Music, including the development of a composition from concept to finished product; the competency to work with both electronic and acoustic media; working with a variety of forms, styles, and notations; and applying principles of scoring appropriate to particular compositions. Students will achieve fluency in the use of tools needed by composers, including keyboard skills, spoken and written language, conducting and rehearsal skills, analytical techniques, and applicable technologies. Students will have opportunities to hear fully realized performances of their original compositions in workshop settings and public performances, culminating in a capstone Senior Recital.

All students are auditioned before admission to the program.

A grade C or higher must be earned in each music course counted toward the major.

Mid-Level Review

All music majors must complete a Mid-Level Review prior to the junior year. The Review is normally conducted during the student's fourth semester of study, with adjustments made for transfer credits, participation in national and international exchange programs, and official leaves of absence. The Mid-Level Review consists of an application (information form, transcript, and reflective essay) and an assessment meeting between the candidate and the Faculty Review Panel. Application forms and additional information are available from the Music Department Office.

The purpose of the Mid-Level Review is threefold:

1. to assess the student's academic progress,
2. to assess the student's artistic progress, and
3. to advise the student on academic, artistic, and career goals.

Music Education and Music Performance majors whose academic record and/or artistic growth are not at an appropriate level based on state and national standards cannot continue in either of those two Bachelor of Music degree programs, but may continue to be a music major in the Bachelor of Arts in Music program.