

MUSIC

<http://music.gmu.edu>

Name and description of the field.

The Music major offers students three degree programs: a Bachelor of Music degree in Performance, Instrumental and Choral Education, Composition, and Jazz Studies, a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Music, and a Master of Music in Performance, Composition, Conducting, Music Education, and Pedagogy & Performance. These degree programs, available through the Department of Music, are organized around a core of course work in basic musicianship, balancing historical/theoretical aspects of music with actual performance. The two undergraduate Music degree programs prepare students for graduate work, research, professional work, and state certification to teach music. In addition the department offers a jazz studies minor, music minor, music in technology minor and world music minor.

What special skills or abilities are needed to succeed in this major?

Below is a list of functional skills used in a broad range of occupations:

Manual	Physical	Verbal	Sensory
Numerical	Intuitive	Creative	Helping
Artistic	Leadership	Follow-through	Analytical

Courses in music will teach and reinforce these skills.

If both B.A. and B.S. degrees are offered, what are the differences in career/graduate school opportunities?

The Music Department does not offer a B.S. degree. Musicians are often hired as performers, conductors for studio work, etc., on the basis of auditions, and degrees are seldom of importance. However, the degree is quite important in teaching, and certification is still a requirement for most primary and secondary positions. A Bachelor of Arts degree might allow a student to take courses more useful in entering an arts management career. A Bachelor of Music degree is more oriented towards performance. The Doctor of Musical Arts degree or a Ph.D. is generally a requirement for full-time university-level tenure-track positions.

What are recent graduates doing?

Most of our recent graduates are teaching--many are in secondary school systems, some are teaching privately, others are teaching on the college/university level. Others have chosen Band Director or Choral Director as their profession.

Because of the self-discipline and dedication exhibited by most musicians, employers in a variety of occupations are interested in Music majors.

The skills that individuals possess coupled with the experience they acquire while pursuing the degree play a large role in the type of position held after graduation.

Sample job titles of recent graduates:

Performing musician	Private music teachers	Orchestra teacher
Composer	Church/school music director	Marketing representative
Computer operator	Program annotator	
Writer	Assistant Band Director	

Career Library Resources & Job Hunting Information Online (links to associations and other useful sites) – Go to

http://careers.gmu.edu/careerlibrary/wheretostart/musi_mued.pdf

to see resources located in the Career Services Library in room 348, SUB I

Organizations that are currently employing GMU Music graduates include:

Fairfax County Public Schools	Immanuel Christian School	Music Masters
Music & Arts Center	Prince William Public Schools	Military Bands
Virginia Center for Creative Arts	Alexandria Symphony	All Saints Catholic Church
Prince George's Philharmonic	Stafford County Public Schools	

EXPLORING MAJORS

Is it possible to minor in music?

Yes, see the *Handbook for Music Students*, the university catalog and consult with music faculty.

Whom should students contact for further information?

Orchestra

Anthony Maiello
Music Department
A436 Performing Arts Building
703-993-1386

Band & Jazz

Music Department
A 436 Performing Arts Building
703-993-1383

Private Music Instruction

Melinda Englert
Music Department
A417C Performing Arts Building
703-993-1392

Choruses

Stanley Engebretson
Music Department
A417G Performing Arts Building
703-993-1387

Academic Advising Center
304 SUB I
703-993-2470

University Career Services
348 SUB I
703-993-2370

Undergraduate Coordinator:

Melinda Englert
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For further questions, e-mail the department at music@gmu.edu or call at 703-993-1380.