

Jazz Studies & Contemporary Media – Composition

Total Units Required: 124 - 132

Degree Requirements

In order to graduate from the Eastman School of Music and the University of Rochester a student must complete a minimum of 120 credits. Specific degree program requirements may require more than 120 credits total, but a student must earn a minimum of 120. For the **Jazz Studies & Contemporary Media – Composition** degree, students should expect to earn between 124 - 132 credits for all requirements, depending on their primary instrument. Additionally, students are required to take a minimum of 12 credits each semester for a full-time status.

Go to the end of this document for a [sample schedule](#).

APPLIED MUSIC STUDY		MUSIC THEORY CORE		HUMANITIES/SCIENCES ELECTIVES	
Semester 1 (4 units)		JCM 119 (3 units)		First Year Writing (4 units)	
Semester 2 (4 units)		TH 100J (2 units)		Course 1 (4 units)	
Semester 3 (4 units)		TH 105J (2 units)		Course 2 (4 units)	
Semester 4 (4 units)		TH 110J (2 units)		Course 3 (4 units)	
Semester 5 (2 units) + JCM 211 (3 units)		TH 115J (2 units)		Course 4 (4 units)	
Semester 6 (2 units) + JCM 212 (3 units)		TH 120J (2 units)		Course 5 (4 units)	
Semester 7 (2 units) + JCM 213 (3 units)		TH 125J (2 units)		Total Units: 24	
Semester 8 (2 units) + JCM 214 (3 units)		TH 210J (2 units)		IMPROVISATION & REPERTOIRE²	
Total Units: 36		Total Units: 19		JCM 249 (2 units)	
LARGE ENSEMBLE²		MUSIC HISTORY CORE		JCM 250 (2 units)	
JCM 121/200 (1-2 units)		JCM 241 (2 units)		JCM 251/249 (2 units)	
JCM 122/200 (1-2 units)		JCM 242 (2 units)		JCM 252/250 (2 units)	
JCM 200 (1 unit)		MHS 123J (3 units)		JCM 251 (2 units)	
JCM 200 (1 unit)		MHS 12X (3 units)		JCM 252 (2 units)	
JCM 200 (1 unit)		Total Units: 10		JCM 251/253 (2 units)	
JCM 200 (1 unit)		COMPOSITION/ARRANGING		JCM 252/254 (2 units)	
JCM 200 (1 unit)		JCM 223 (2 units)		Total Units: 12-16	
JCM 200 (1 unit)		JCM 224 (2 units)		JAZZ PEDAGOGY	
JCM 200 (1 unit)		JCM 225 (2 units)		JCM 218 (2 units)	
JCM 200 (1 unit)		JCM 226 (2 units)		COLLOQUIUM	
JCM 200 (1 unit)		Total Units: 8		EIC 101 (1 unit)	
JCM 200 (1 unit)				DEGREE RECITAL	
Total Units: 6-10				ESM 202	
PIANO CLASS¹					
PCL 101 (2 units)					
JCM 205 (2 units)					
JCM 206 (2 units)					
Total Units: 6					

Eastman Colloquium – EIC 101 (1 unit required)

Eastman Colloquium (EIC 101) provides first-year and new transfer students the opportunity to gather and learn more about the practical aspects of music and musical institutions as they begin their journey as students at the Eastman School of Music. The class format consists of presentations by a diverse array of guests, including Eastman faculty, staff, students, and members of the community. This is a required 1 unit course in the first semester of study.

Applied Music Study (36 units required)

All undergraduate students in the Bachelor of Music degree program will be assigned to a faculty studio for their applied music lessons. Every jazz composition student receives 14 one-hour private lessons per semester in their area of applied study in the first four semesters. In addition to weekly private instruction, students are required to attend and participate in weekly studio class every semester they are enrolled in lessons. Studios are comprised of all the students of a single instructor, inclusive of both undergraduate and graduate.

Starting in junior year, jazz composition students will switch to secondary applied lessons and begin primary composition lessons for four semesters. The course registration code for one-hour lessons is made up of the instrument code, the number 160, and the section number assigned for a faculty studio (i.e., JAZ 160-1). Students are expected to complete a first-year, sophomore, and junior jury.

Fall	Spring
JAZ 160 (4 units)	JAZ 160 (4 units)
JAZ 160 (4 units)	JAZ 160 (4 units)
JAZ 130 (2 units) + JCM 211 (3 units)	JAZ 130 (2 units) + JCM 212 (3 units)
JAZ 130 (2 units) + JCM 213 (3 units)	JAZ 130 (2 units) + JCM 214 (3 units)

Jazz Department Forum

Forum is a weekly meeting between all the faculty and students in the Jazz Studies & Contemporary Media Department to discuss important topics and trends. Forum meets every Wednesday from 11:35 – 12:25 pm.

Piano Class (6 units required)

All undergraduate students are expected to develop functional keyboard skills. The piano class requirement for Bachelor of Music majors can either be satisfied by successfully passing a piano proficiency examination or taking the required piano classes for their major.

Students with prior piano experience will be invited to take a piano placement exam in the summer before their first year and will be placed into the appropriate course. Students who place into a higher level do not earn any credit towards their degree for the level(s) they placed out of; however, all students are still held to the 120 unit minimum for a Bachelor of Music degree and may need additional elective coursework to meet this threshold.

Jazz Piano

Jazz piano majors will take 6 units of music-based electives in place of the piano class requirement in consultation with their studio teacher or department chair.

Fall First Year	Spring First Year	Fall Second Year
PCL 101 (2 units)	JCM 205 (2 units)	JCM 206 (2 units)

Music Theory Core (19 units required)

Students in the Jazz Studies & Contemporary Media program follow a specific theory sequence that introduces the fundamental concepts for jazz theory as well as advanced harmony, chromaticism, rhythm, and forms. Students will take the jazz music theory exam before they arrive on campus to determine what

jazz theory course is appropriate for their knowledge level. Students who place into a higher level do not earn any credit towards their degree for the level(s) they placed out of; however, all students are still held to the 120 unit minimum for a Bachelor of Music degree and may need additional elective coursework to meet this threshold.

Fall First Year	Spring First Year	Fall Second Year	Spring Second Year
JCM 119 (3 units) TH 100J (2 units) TH 105J (2 units)	TH 110J (2 units) TH 115J (2 units)	TH 120J (2 units) TH 125J (2 units)	TH 210J (2 units) TH 215J (2 units)

Music History Core (10 units required)

Jazz majors require four semesters of music history courses, for a total of 10 credits. JCM 241: Jazz History I and JCM 242: Jazz History II, both offered through the JCM department, touch on both early and modern jazz artists, composers, and works, surveying the evolution of jazz from early improvisation to present developments.

Jazz majors also require two music history (MHS) survey courses offered through the Musicology department. Students will take MHS 123J, a course about jazz-specific music history topics, and any other 120-level MHS course (121, 122, or 123) from early Baroque music to modern 20th century topics. MHS 123J is only offered every other fall semester.

Spring First Year	Fall Second Year	Every other Fall Semester	Any semester after Second Year
JCM 241 (2 units)	JCM 242 (2 units)	MHS 123J (3 units)	MHS 121, 122, or 123 (3 units)

Humanities/Sciences Electives (24 units required)

Students are expected to explore a diverse range of academic disciplines, develop strong intellectual perspectives, and be able to voice these convincingly through completion of the humanities and sciences elective requirement. This 24-credit requirement has two components:

1. **First Year Writing (FWS 121, 4 units):** Every entering student is required to complete a first year writing seminar in their first year of study. The first year writing seminar introduces students to college-level inquiry and analysis by focusing on critical thinking and academic writing. In individual sections, the discussion of literary, historical, philosophical, or art historical topics will serve as the basis for writing assignments.

English for Academic Purposes Course Sequence (EAP 101 and 102, 8 units): Students whose native language is not English may be required to complete a two-semester course sequence in order to fulfill their first year writing requirement. These two courses are structured to assist non-native English learners with collegiate academic writing and speaking skills, while also counting towards their overall humanities and sciences elective requirement. EAP 101 and 102 are each 4-credits and will count as 8 units towards the total 24-credit overall humanities/science requirement as well as fulfill the first year writing requirement.

2. **Elective Courses (20 units):** Students are expected to take a minimum of 20 additional credits of courses offered through the Eastman Humanities Department or in the School of Arts & Sciences. Each course **must carry at least 4 units** and must not have a primary listing associated with the Departments of Music Teaching and Learning (MTL), Music Theory (TH), Musicology (MHS), Institute for Music Leadership (ALC), the Arthur Satz College Music Department (MUSC).

Jazz Composition & Arranging (8 units required)

Jazz Composition majors are expected to complete 4 core courses in jazz composition and arranging for a total of 8 units.

Fall Third Year	Spring Third Year
JCM 223: Jazz Composition I (2 units)	JCM 224: Jazz Arranging I (2 units)
Fall Fourth Year	Spring Fourth Year
JCM 225: Jazz Composition II (2 units)	JCM 226: Jazz Arranging II (2 units)

Jazz Pedagogy (2 units required)

Students in the Jazz Studies & Contemporary Media program are expected to learn basic rehearsal techniques for the development of large and small jazz ensembles. These skills are earned through successful completion of JCM 218: Jazz Pedagogy, a course where students will also gain teaching skills pertaining to improvisation, theory, and aural training from beginning to advanced levels.

Improvisation & Repertoire (12-16 units required)

Students in the Jazz Studies & Contemporary Media program will be introduced to a variety of improvisation styles and repertoire and apply them in practice through 6-8 semesters of coursework, depending on a student's primary instrument. Students will gain expansive experience through lectures on jazz improvisation concepts and practical application in labs and workshops.

Rhythm Section, Winds, and Brass instruments:

Fall	Spring
First Year	
JCM 249: Jazz Improvisation & Repertoire I (2 units)	JCM 250: Jazz Improvisation & Repertoire II (2 units)
Second Year and Third Year	
JCM 251: Jazz Performance Workshop (2 units)	JCM 252: Jazz Performance Workshop (2 units)
JCM 251: Jazz Performance Workshop (2 units)	JCM 252: Jazz Performance Workshop (2 units)
Fourth Year	
JCM 253: Advanced Jazz Improv. & Repertoire I (2 units)	JCM 254: Advanced Jazz Improv. & Repertoire II (2 units)

Voice:

Fall	Spring
Second Year	
JCM 249: Jazz Improvisation & Repertoire I (2 units)	JCM 250: Jazz Improvisation & Repertoire II (2 units)
Third Year and Fourth Year	
JCM 251: Jazz Performance Workshop (2 units)	JCM 252: Jazz Performance Workshop (2 units)
JCM 251: Jazz Performance Workshop (2 units)	JCM 252: Jazz Performance Workshop (2 units)

Large Jazz Ensemble (6-10 units required)

Jazz ensembles are assigned at the beginning of the academic year through jazz ensemble auditions. There are a number of JCM 200 ensembles students may be placed into, each with different directors. Depending on a student's primary instrument, the number of credits required for large ensemble will differ.

Jazz Ensembles	
Eastman Jazz Orchestra	Eastman New Jazz Orchestra
Jazz Lab Band	Jazz Workshop
Eastman Jazz Voice Ensemble	Saxology®

Rhythm Section (10 units)

Jazz Rhythm Section Concepts I/II in the first year of study (JCM 121/122) and then 6 semesters of large ensemble participation (JCM 200) as assigned through auditions.

Winds and Brass (8 units)

8 semesters of large ensemble participation (JCM 200) as assigned through auditions.

Voice (6 units)

6 Semesters of large ensemble participation (JCM 200) as assigned through auditions in first, second, and fourth year.

Rhythm Section:

Fall	Spring
JCM 121 (2 units)	JCM 122 (2 units)
JCM 200 (1 unit)	JCM 200 (1 unit)
JCM 200 (1 unit)	JCM 200 (1 unit)
JCM 200 (1 unit)	JCM 200 (1 unit)

Winds & Brass:

Fall	Spring
JCM 200 (1 unit)	JCM 200 (1 unit)
JCM 200 (1 unit)	JCM 200 (1 unit)
JCM 200 (1 unit)	JCM 200 (1 unit)
JCM 200 (1 unit)	JCM 200 (1 unit)

Voice:

Fall	Spring
JCM 200 (1 unit)	JCM 200 (1 unit)
JCM 200 (1 unit)	JCM 200 (1 unit)
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JCM 200 (1 unit)	JCM 200 (1 unit)

Degree Recital – ESM 202

All applied music majors must present a full senior degree recital to a faculty panel of no less than three members of the department, including the student’s composition teacher. A jazz writing-skills recital will be given during the senior year. The recital will showcase compositions and arrangements created by the student, demonstrating a variety of historical and contemporary jazz styles. In the semester a student is presenting their degree recital, they must register for ESM 202.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE (Total Units Required: 124-132)

YEAR 1 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 1 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
JAZ 160: Applied Jazz Lessons	4	JAZ 160: Applied Jazz Lessons	4
JCM 200 <i>assigned</i> or JCM 121: Rhy. Concepts I	1-2	JCM 200 <i>assigned</i> or JCM 122: Rhy. Concepts II	1-2
JCM 249: Improvisation & Repertoire I	(2)	JCM 250: Improvisation & Repertoire II	(2)
JCM 119: Basic Jazz Theory & Aural Skills	3	TH 110J: Diatonic Harmony in Theory	2
TH 100J: Fundamentals of Theory	2	TH 115J: Diatonic Harmony in Practice	2
TH 105J: Fundamentals of Aural Skills	2	JCM 205: Functional Jazz Piano I	2
PCL 101: Piano Class 1	2	JCM 241: Jazz History 1	2
FWS 121: First Year Writing Seminar	4	Humanities/Sciences Elective 1	4
EIC 101: Eastman Colloquium	1		
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	19-22	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	17-20
YEAR 2 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 2 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
JAZ 160: Applied Jazz Lessons	4	JAZ 160: Applied Jazz Lessons	4
JCM 200: Large Jazz Ensemble <i>assigned</i>	1	JCM 200: Large Jazz Ensemble <i>assigned</i>	1
JCM 251: JPW or JCM 249: Improv. & Rep I	2	JCM 252: JPW or JCM 250: Improv. & Rep II	2
JCM 265: Jazz Department Forum	0	TH 210J: Forms and Post-Tonal Developments	2
TH 120J: Chromaticism in Theory	2	TH 215J: Rhythm Training	2
TH 125J: Chromaticism in Practice	2	Humanities/Sciences Elective 2	4
JCM 206: Functional Jazz Piano II	2		
JCM 242: Jazz History II	2		
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	15	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	15
YEAR 3 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 3 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
JAZ 130: Applied Jazz Lessons	2	JAZ 130: Applied Jazz Lessons	2
JCM 211: Jazz Composition Lessons I	3	JCM 212: Jazz Composition Lessons II	3
JCM 200: Large Jazz Ensemble <i>assigned</i>	(1)	JCM 200: Large Jazz Ensemble <i>assigned</i>	(1)
JCM 251: Jazz Performance Workshop <i>assigned</i>	2	JCM 252: Jazz Performance Workshop <i>assigned</i>	2
JCM 223: Jazz Composition I	2	JCM 224: Jazz Arranging I	2
Music History Core: MHS 121/122, 123 or 123J	3	Humanities/Sciences Elective 4	4
Humanities/Sciences Elective 3	4		
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	16-17	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	13-14
YEAR 4 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 4 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
JAZ 130: Applied Jazz Lessons	2	JAZ 130: Applied Jazz Lessons	2
JCM 213: Jazz Composition Lessons III	3	JCM 214: Jazz Composition Lessons IV	3
JCM 200: Large Jazz Ensemble <i>assigned</i>	1	JCM 200: Large Jazz Ensemble <i>assigned</i>	1
JCM 251: JPW or JCM 253: Adv. Improv & Rep I	2	JCM 252: JPW or JCM 254: Adv. Improv & Rep II	2
JCM 225: Jazz Composition II	2	JCM 226: Jazz Arranging II	2
Music History Core: MHS 121/122, 123 or 123J	3	JCM 218: Jazz Pedagogy	2
Humanities/Sciences Elective 5	4	ESM 202: Degree Recital	0
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	17	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	12