

Music Theory

Total Units Required: 123

Advising Worksheet

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 **Bachelor of Music – Music Theory** degree, students should expect to earn 123 credits for all requirements. 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)		TH 100 (1.5 units)*		First Year Writing (4 units)	
Semester 2 (4 units)		TH 105 (1.5 units)*		French or German 101 (4 units)	
Semester 3 (4 units)		TH 110 (2.5 units)		French or German 102 (4 units)	
Semester 4 (4 units)		TH 115 (1.5 units)		French or German 201 (4 units)	
Semester 5 (4 units)		TH 120 (2.5 units)		French or German 202 (4 units)	
Semester 6 (4 units)		TH 125 (1.5 units)		Course 5 (4 units)	
Semester 7 (4 units)		TH 210 (2.5 units)		Total Units: 24	
Semester 8 (4 units)		TH 215 (1.5 units)		THEORY CONCENTRATION	
Total Units: 32		TH 220 (4 units)		TH 285 (3 units)	
LARGE ENSEMBLE		TH 230 (3 units)*		TH 475 (3 units)	
Semester 1 (1-2 units)		Total Units: 19*		Theory Elective I (3 units)	
Semester 2 (1-2 units)		MUSIC HISTORY CORE		Theory Elective II (3 units)	
Semester 3 (1-2 units)		MHS 121 (3 units)		TH 295 Semester 1 (3 units)	
Semester 4 (1-2 units)		MHS 122 (3 units)		TH 295 Semester 2 (3 units)	
Semester 5 (1-2 units)		MHS 123 (3 units)		Total Units: 18	
Semester 6 (1-2 units)		Total Units: 9		PIANO CLASS	
Semester 7 (1-2 units)				PCL 101 (2 units)	
Semester 8 (1-2 units)				PCL 102 (2 units)	
Total Units: 8-16				PCL 103 (2 units)	
COLLOQUIUM				PCL 104 (2 units)	
EIC 101 (1 unit)				PCL 105 (2 units)	
				PCL 106 (2 units)	
				Total Units: 12	

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 (32 units required)

All undergraduate students in the Bachelor of Music – Music Theory program will be assigned to a faculty studio for their applied music lessons. Every student receives 14 one-hour private lessons per semester in their area of applied study. 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.

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., VLN 160-1). Applied music study is worth 4 credits and students must register for applied lessons every semester for a total of 8 semesters and earn a total of 32 credits to graduate. Music Theory majors are expected to complete a first-year, sophomore, junior, and senior jury.

Instrument Codes: Bassoon = BSN, Clarinet = CL, Double Bass = DBL, Cello = VCL, Euphonium = EUP, Flute = FL, Guitar = GTR, Harpsichord = HPC, Oboe = OB, Organ = ORG, Piano = PA, Percussion = PRC, Saxophone = SAX, Trombone = TBN, Trumpet = TPT, Voice = VCE, Viola = VLA, Violin = VLN

Large Ensemble – 8 Semesters (8 – 16 units required)

Students in the Music Theory program are required to participate in 8 semesters of large ensemble, a critical component in their musical professional development. Students may participate in a number of ensembles throughout their time at Eastman but will register for a large ensemble dependent on their primary instrument, with the number of credits varying based on the chosen ensemble. Students may satisfy this requirement from the following ensembles: ENS 100: Large Instrumental Ensemble, ENS 200: Advanced Instrumental Ensemble, ENS 120: Chorale, ENS 120A: Rep Singers, ENS 120B: Eastman Rochester Chorus, and ENS 120C: Treble Chorus.

Up to two semesters of the following ensembles may be used towards this requirement: ENS 215: Sansifanyi Ensemble, ENS 216: Mbira Ensemble, or ENS 260: Percussion Ensemble. Students who are double majors in Music Theory and Applied Music may follow their Applied Music ensembles to satisfy the music theory ensemble requirement.

Piano Class – PCL 101 - 106 (12 units required)

All undergraduate students are expected to develop functional keyboard skills. The piano class requirement for Music Theory majors can either be satisfied by successfully passing a [piano proficiency examination](#) or by completing PCL 106.

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 (PCL 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, or 106). 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.

Music Theory majors who are piano primaries do not need to complete this requirement but will still be responsible for completing the 120 unit minimum.

Music Theory Core – 5 semesters of theory based on placement exam (19 units required*)

As part of the core curriculum for a Bachelor of Music degree, all students must complete their music theory core requirement. Students are expected to complete 5 semesters of written and aural music theory courses in an order determined by the music theory placement exam results they take prior to their first semester of study. A student may place into one of three tracks: Regular – Fundamentals, Regular – No Fundamentals, and Honors Theory. The requirements for each track are listed below:

1. **Regular – Fundamentals Track:** Students require five semesters of written and aural music theory classes beginning with a fundamentals course sequence in the fall semester of their first year and ending with an integrated written and aural theory class (TH 220) in the fall semester of their third year. This track requires a total of 19 credits.

Fall Semester 1	Spring Semester 2	Fall Semester 3	Spring Semester 4	Fall Semester 5
TH 100 TH 105	TH 110 TH 115	TH 120 TH 125	TH 210 TH 215	TH 220

2. **Regular – No Fundamentals Track:** Students require five semesters of written and aural music theory classes beginning with courses in the spring semester of their first year and ending with a topical theory elective course (TH 230) in any semester after they have completed the integrated written and aural theory class (TH 220) in the fall semester of their third year. This track requires a total of 19 credits.

Fall Semester 1	Spring Semester 2	Fall Semester 3	Spring Semester 4	Fall Semester 5	Semester 6 or later
No Theory	TH 110 TH 115	TH 120 TH 125	TH 210 TH 215	TH 220	TH 230

3. **Honors Theory Track:** Students with advanced music theory knowledge may place into an accelerated music theory course sequence, requiring four semesters of written and aural music theory classes beginning in the fall semester of their first year through the spring semester of their second year. This track requires a total of 16 credits* instead of 19. Students must maintain a minimum course grade of B, or they will be reassigned to the regular theory core.

Fall Semester 1	Spring Semester 2	Fall Semester 3	Spring Semester 4
TH 101H TH 161H	TH 102H TH 162H	TH 201H TH 261H	TH 202H TH 262H

A student's theory placement is noted in their academic record and a student may not take these courses out of order or advance to the next semester of courses without successfully earning a passing grade in the previous semester courses. Any deviation or variation to the music theory core will be determined by the music theory department and noted in a student's academic record.

Music History Core – MHS 121/122/123 (9 units required)

Three music history survey courses that trace the development of music from the ninth century to the present are required of all undergraduate students. These courses (MHS 121, 122, and 123) can be taken in any order for a total of 9 credits. Students may not take MHS in their first year.

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. Music Theory majors require three 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. **Four Semesters of French or German (16 units):** Music Theory majors are required to take four (4) semesters of a language: French or German. French and German courses are offered through the Eastman Humanities Department, but students may also take French or German at the School of Arts & Sciences. If a student has gained proficiency in either French or German, they may be able to place into a higher level but will not receive any credit for courses they place above. Students will still be held to the total 24 unit policy for the humanities/sciences (see elective courses below).
3. **Elective Courses (4 units):** Students are expected to take a minimum of 4 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).

Music Theory Concentration (18 units)

Students in the Music Theory program must take several concentrated courses related to their major. Students must take the following courses:

2 Core Theory Courses:		
TH 285: Comprehension & Analysis I (3 units)		TH 475: Intermediate Keyboard Skills (3 units)
Music Theory Elective 1 – Choose from the following:		
TH 251: Modal Counterpoint (3 units)	TH 252: Tonal Counterpoint (3 units)	TH 480: Style Composition (3 units)
Music Theory Elective 2 – Choose from the following or not previously taken courses in Elective 1:		
TH 212: Acoustics (3 units)	TH 260: Music and the Mind (4 units)	TH 411: Theory & Analysis of Tonal Music (3 units)
TH 421: Pedagogy of Music Theory (3 units)	TH 431: Seminar in Analysis & Performance (3 units)	TH 476: Advanced Keyboard Skills (3 units)
TH 481: Special Topics (3 units)	TH 513: Theory & Analysis of 20 th Century Music (3 units)	TH 523: “What is Music Theory?” (3 units)
TH 524: Intro to History of Music Theory		
Senior Thesis – 2 semesters		
TH 295: Senior Thesis (3 units)		TH 295: Senior Thesis (3 units)

Courses with a 400-level or 500-level delineation are graduate level courses and require permission of the instructor.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE – Regular Theory Fundamentals Track (Total Units Required: 123)

YEAR 1 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 1 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons	4	Applied Music Lessons	4
Large Ensemble	1-2	Large Ensemble	1-2
PCL 101: Piano Class 1	2	PCL 102: Piano Class 2	2
TH 100: Fundamentals of Music Theory	1.5	TH 110: Music Analysis & Style Composition 1	2.5
TH 105: Fundamentals of Aural Musicianship	1.5	TH 115: Aural Musicianship 1	1.5
FWS 121: First Year Writing Seminar	4	FR 102 or GER 102	4
FR 101 or GER 101	4		
EIC 101: Eastman Colloquium	1		
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	19	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	15
YEAR 2 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 2 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons	4	Applied Music Lessons	4
Large Ensemble	1-2	Large Ensemble	1-2
PCL 103: Piano Class 3	2	PCL 104: Piano Class 4	2
TH 120: Music Analysis & Style Composition 2	2.5	TH 210: Music Analysis & Style Composition 3	2.5
TH 125: Aural Musicianship 2	1.5	TH 215: Aural Musicianship 3	1.5
FR 201 or GER 201	4	FR 202 or GER 202	4
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	15	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	15
YEAR 3 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 3 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons	4	Applied Music Lessons	4
Large Ensemble	1-2	Large Ensemble	1-2
PCL 105: Piano Class 5	2	PCL 106: Piano Class 6	2
TH 220: Musicianship and Analysis 4	4	TH 285: Comprehension & Analysis	3
Music Theory Elective 1	3	Music History Core: MHS 121, 122, or 123	3
		Humanities/Sciences Elective 5	4
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	14	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	17
YEAR 4 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 4 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons	4	Applied Music Lessons	4
Large Ensemble	1-2	Large Ensemble	1-2
TH 475: Intermediate Keyboard Skills	3	Music Theory Elective 2	3
Music History Core: MHS 121, 122, or 123	3	Music History Core: MHS 121, 122, or 123	3
TH 295: Senior Thesis I	3	TH 295: Senior Thesis II	3
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	14	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	14

SAMPLE SCHEDULE – Regular Theory No Fundamentals Track (Total Units Required: 123)

YEAR 1 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 1 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons	4	Applied Music Lessons	4
Large Ensemble	1-2	Large Ensemble	1-2
PCL 101: Piano Class 1	2	PCL 102: Piano Class 2	2
FWS 121: First Year Writing Seminar	4	TH 110: Music Analysis & Style Composition 1	2.5
FR 101 or GER 101	4	TH 115: Aural Musicianship 1	1.5
EIC 101: Eastman Colloquium	1	FR 102 or GER 102	4
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	16	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	15
YEAR 2 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 2 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons	4	Applied Music Lessons	4
Large Ensemble	1-2	Large Ensemble	1-2
PCL 103: Piano Class 3	2	PCL 104: Piano Class 4	2
TH 120: Music Analysis & Style Composition 2	2.5	TH 210: Music Analysis & Style Composition 3	2.5
TH 125: Aural Musicianship 2	1.5	TH 215: Aural Musicianship 3	1.5
FR 201 or GER 201	4	FR 202 or GER 202	4
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	15	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	15
YEAR 3 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 3 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons	4	Applied Music Lessons	4
Large Ensemble	1-2	Large Ensemble	1-2
PCL 105: Piano Class 5	2	PCL 106: Piano Class 6	2
TH 220: Musicianship and Analysis 4	4	TH 230: Music Theory Core Curriculum	3
Music Theory Elective 1	3	TH 285: Comprehension & Analysis	3
Humanities/Sciences Elective 5	4	Music History Core: MHS 121, 122, or 123	3
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	18	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	16
YEAR 4 FALL SEMESTER		YEAR 4 SPRING SEMESTER	
Courses	Units	Courses	Units
Applied Music Lessons	4	Applied Music Lessons	4
Large Ensemble	1-2	Large Ensemble	1-2
TH 475: Intermediate Keyboard Skills	3	Music Theory Elective 2	3
Music History Core: MHS 121, 122, or 123	3	Music History Core: MHS 121, 122, or 123	3
TH 295: Senior Thesis I	3	TH 295: Senior Thesis II	3
<i>Semester Total Units</i>	14	<i>Semester Total Units</i>	14