

“I love learning from our experienced music faculty. I am continuously impressed by how professors in the Department of Music are willing to help students, keeping their doors open, both inside and outside the classroom.”

– Jack Krimmel '15

DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION

The Department of Music prepares students for culturally rich careers in music. Students may choose from five degree programs, all leading to the Bachelor of Music degree: Music/Business, Music/Education, Music Performance, Music/Religion or Music. In each track, a solid core of music courses is coupled with concentration on a performance instrument or voice, varied ensemble experiences, and additional music and/or career preparation courses.

Faculty mentor students in the Pew Fine Arts Center, which houses the 700-seat Ketler Auditorium, 170-seat Arnold Recital Hall, and Miriam Shellito Parker '52 Organ Hall. A black-box theatre, rehearsal hall, soundproof practice rooms, and a music technology lab. The building also houses complete theatre facilities.

MAJORS

Music

This degree track provides the most flexibility in terms of electives. Students pursuing this track are often performance and/or graduate school-oriented, and may elect to add a second major, or one of the many minors available through other departments. Students take 46 credit hours (including private lessons) and the College core curriculum. An audition is required for admission.

Music Education leading to PreK-12 Certification

The Music Education program (PreK-12 Certification) has a strong tradition of producing teachers who communicate across all areas of music education and foster a love of music. Students take 98 credit hours and engage in field experiences, student teaching, and extra-curricular activities across music events and academic honoraries.

Music Performance

Students enrolled in the Bachelor of Music in Performance degree will take a variety of courses that address both the academic and pedagogical aspects of music, as well as courses which provide students with opportunities to explore music through performance. Students take 70 hours.

Music and Religion

This program meets the needs of students interested in pursuing music ministry and Christian education. Students complete 72 credit hours including core music and humanities, applied lessons, ensembles and 23 credit hours of appropriate religion courses.

Music Business

Students pursuing this degree work in areas such as music merchandising, arts management or other music business-related fields. Students complete 63 credit hours including core music and humanities and 24 credit hours of appropriate business courses.

MINORS

Music

The 20-22 credit course of study includes a selection of music courses, private lessons and ensemble participation. An audition is required.

Musical Theatre

Students complete 24 credit hours of course requirements (including private lessons in voice) that address musical theater as both an academic and a performance medium. It is appropriate for students who are pursuing one of the five degrees leading to a B.Mus. in music, as well as non-music majors.

SPECIAL DEPARTMENTAL AREAS OF INTEREST

The department boasts a number of performing ensembles including Concert Choir, Symphony Orchestra, Wolverine Marching Band, Symphonic Concert Band, Touring Choir, Grove City College Singers and Jazz Ensemble. Additional student-led groups include Chamber Singers, GCC String Quartet, Gallery Brass, Cantata Woodwind Quintet, Trumpet Choir and Flute Choir.

Organizations within the department include Signature, a fine arts service organization for women, and a chapter of the PCMEA (Pennsylvania Collegiate Music Educators Association). The group sponsors music-related trips and workshops, and encourages students to attend the state conference each year.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Many students pursue independent studies that offer opportunities to research an area of interest in greater depth than afforded by the regular classroom setting. Typical options include music theory or history, music composition, conducting or jazz improvisation.

CAREER AND GRADUATION OPPORTUNITIES

On average, over the past three years, the Department of Music has had a 95% success rate of students pursuing both post-graduate employment and graduate level education. Alumni have excelled as teachers, conductors and performers, as church musicians, as music therapists, and as arts administrators. Music students receive career advice, as well as mentorship by professors. Alumni have attended graduate schools such as Carnegie Mellon University, Duquesne, Indiana University (Bloomington), Notre Dame, Penn State, the University of South Carolina, Westminster Choir College, Oxford University and Yale.

For a comprehensive list of the Department of Music faculty, visit www.gcc.edu/music.



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