

# MUSIC STUDIES FOR NONMAJORS

music.northwestern.edu/academics/nonmajors

Students from all schools at Northwestern are encouraged to continue their development as instrumentalists or vocalists through ensemble participation, class instruction, or private study. Ensembles and music performance instruction require an audition. For more information, visit the Bienen School's Office of Student Affairs.

## Individual and Group Lessons for Non-Majors

Non-music majors may take individual music lessons for either 0 or 0.5 unit in voice, piano, strings, winds, brass, percussion, and jazz. Group lessons are offered in piano and guitar. See the list of GEN\_MUS courses for all available options. Students are accepted for lessons based on an audition and the availability of an instructor. An applied lesson fee is required for each registration and is billed to the student's account.

## Ensemble Participation

Non-music majors interested in auditioning for Bienen School ensembles should contact the ensemble director for audition information. If admitted, non-majors register under the following course numbers for 0 unit, or, non-majors may register under the corresponding ensemble under CONDUCT for 0.5 unit.

Course	Title
GEN_MUS 364-0	Choral Organizations
GEN_MUS 374-0	Band Organizations
GEN_MUS 393-0	Orchestral Organizations
GEN_MUS 395-0	Baroque Music Ensemble

## Minor Programs

Students outside the Bienen School have a variety of minor options from which to choose. The minor in general music is open only to non-music majors and is outlined below. Minors in music cognition (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/music/music-theory-cognition/music-cognition-minor/>), music composition (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/music/composition-music-technology/composition-minor/>), music technology (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/music/composition-music-technology/music-technology-minor/>), and musicology (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/music/musicology/musicology-minor/>) are also open to non-music majors.

### Minor in General Music (6 units)

Course	Title
One course in Music Theory (GEN_MUS 252-0 or equivalent)	
One course in Music History chosen from GEN_MUS or MUSICOL	
Two music academic courses chosen from GEN_MUS, MUSICOL, MUS_TECH, MUS_COMP, or MUSIC_ED	
Two units of music electives; may be academic or performance	

**GEN\_MUS 101-6 First-Year Seminar (1 Unit)** *WCAS First-Year Seminar*

**GEN\_MUS 110-0 Class Piano (Beginner and Intermediate Levels) (0 Unit)** Group instruction in piano for non-music majors.

**GEN\_MUS 115-0 Applied Piano (Advanced) (0.5 Unit)** Private lessons for non-majors; audition required.

**GEN\_MUS 116-0 Applied Piano (Advanced) (0 Unit)** Private lessons for non-majors; audition required.

**GEN\_MUS 120-0 Non-Major Strings (0-0.5 Unit)** Private lessons for non-majors; audition required.

**GEN\_MUS 121-0 Non-Major Guitar Class-Beginning (0.5 Unit)** Class instruction in classical guitar.

**GEN\_MUS 125-0 Non-Major Winds/Percussion (0-0.5 Unit)** Private lessons for non-majors; audition required.

**GEN\_MUS 130-0 Non-Major Jazz (0-0.5 Unit)** Private lessons for non-majors; audition required.

**GEN\_MUS 160-0 Non-Major Private Voice-Beginning (0-0.5 Unit)** Private lessons for non-majors; audition required.

**GEN\_MUS 170-0 Introduction to Music (1 Unit)** Key concepts and contexts for becoming an informed listener and critical thinker with respect to a broad range of musical styles and genres and for acquiring the skills and vocabulary to discuss and write about music effectively. Individual sections may vary from quarter to quarter; see specific section descriptions for more information. No previous musical training or ability to read music notation is required. (VI. Literature and fine arts) *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**GEN\_MUS 175-0 Selected Topics in Music Literature for Non-Majors (1 Unit)** Topics vary; announced before registration. May be repeated. (VI. Literature and fine arts) *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**GEN\_MUS 176-0 Selected Topics in Applied Music for Non-Majors (1 Unit)** Topics vary; announced before registration. May be repeated.

**GEN\_MUS 220-0 History of the Symphony (1 Unit)** Study of music for the symphony orchestra from the 17th century to the modern period. (VI. Literature and fine arts) *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area*

**GEN\_MUS 230-0 History of Opera (1 Unit)** History of opera from its origins in Italy at the end of the 16th century to the modern period. (VI. Literature and fine arts) *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**GEN\_MUS 250-0 History of Rock (1 Unit)** The basic elements of rock from its roots in pop, country and western, and rhythm and blues to the present. (VI. Literature and fine arts) *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**GEN\_MUS 252-0 Introduction to Music Theory I (1 Unit)** A basic course in music theory fundamentals, including harmonic materials and tonal structures. Analysis of harmonic structures; harmonization of melodies. (II. Formal studies) *Formal Studies Distro Area*

**GEN\_MUS 253-0 Introduction to Music Theory II (1 Unit)** For non-majors. Study of musical forms – such as binary form, invention, fugue, theme & variation, sonata, etc. – and their application to works primarily from the 18th and 19th centuries by composers including Bach, Mozart, and Schubert, among many others. Prerequisite: GEN\_MUS 252-0, or music-reading skills and some understanding of harmony. *Formal Studies Distro Area*

**GEN\_MUS 260-0 Non-Major Private Voice-Intermediate (0-0.5 Unit)** Private lessons for non-majors; audition required.

**GEN\_MUS 270-1 Western Musical Tradition (1 Unit)** Major genres and composers from 1600 to 1825. Primary emphasis on the generations of Bach and Handel, Haydn and Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert.

Prerequisite: GEN\_MUS 170-0 or equivalent. (VI. Literature and fine arts).  
*Literature Fine Arts Distro Area*

**GEN\_MUS 270-2 Western Musical Tradition (1 Unit)** Major genres and composers from 1825 to the present. Prerequisite: GEN\_MUS 170-0 or equivalent. (VI. Literature and fine arts). *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area*

**GEN\_MUS 315-0 Non-Major Piano (0.5 Unit)** Piano lessons for non-major students. Fees apply, please contact the Bienen School of Music for more information.

**GEN\_MUS 335-0 Selected Topics for Non-Majors (1 Unit)** Topics vary; announced before registration. May be repeated.

**GEN\_MUS 360-0 Non-Major Private Voice-Advanced (0-0.5 Unit)** Private lessons for non-majors; audition required.

**GEN\_MUS 364-0 Choral Organizations (0 Unit)** Non-music majors interested in auditioning for Bienen School ensembles should contact the ensemble director for audition information. Register under GEN MUS for 0 unit, or under CONDUCT for 0.5 unit.

**GEN\_MUS 374-0 Band Organizations (0 Unit)** Non-music majors interested in auditioning for Bienen School ensembles should contact the ensemble director for audition information. Register under GEN MUS for 0 unit, or under CONDUCT for 0.5 unit.

**GEN\_MUS 378-0 Contemporary Music Ensemble (0 Unit)** Non-music majors interested in auditioning for Bienen School ensembles should contact the ensemble director for audition information. Register under GEN MUS for 0 unit, or under CONDUCT for 0.5 unit.

**GEN\_MUS 391-0 Small Ensembles (0 Unit)** Small ensembles.

**GEN\_MUS 393-0 Orchestral Organizations (0 Unit)** Non-music majors interested in auditioning for Bienen School ensembles should contact the ensemble director for audition information. Register under GEN MUS for 0 unit, or under CONDUCT for 0.5 unit.

**GEN\_MUS 395-0 Baroque Music Ensemble (0 Unit)** Non-music majors interested in auditioning for Bienen School ensembles should contact the ensemble director for audition information. Register under GEN MUS for 0 unit, or under CONDUCT for 0.5 unit.