

2025-2026 Four Year Degree Plan for:
Bachelor of Music, Musical Studies - Composition
Any instrument¹

First Year

Fall Semester ~17 credit hours

MUCC 111 Keyboard Skills I
MUCT 103 Theory I²
MUCT 104 Aural Skills I²
MUCT 430 Studio Composition
MUCS 420 Performance Class
Ensemble(s)
WAYS 101
WAYS 102 -or- WAYS 103²

Spring Semester ~17 credit hours

MUCC 112 Keyboard Skills II
MUCT 105 Theory II²
MUCT 106 Aural Skills II²
MUCT 430 Studio Composition
MUCS 420 Performance Class
Ensemble(s)
WAYS 102 -or- WAYS 103²
Non-music course⁴

Second Year

Fall Semester ~14 credit hours

MUCT 203 Theory III²
MUCT 204 Aural Skills III²
MUCH 201 Music History I²
MUCP 209 Conducting I
MUCT 430 Studio Composition - or - MUCT 411 Computer
Music Composition³
MUCS 420 Performance Class
Ensemble(s)

Spring Semester ~17 credit hours

MUCT 205 Theory IV²
MUCT 206 Aural Skills IV²
MUCH 202 Music History II²
MUCP 309 Conducting II
MUCT 430 Studio Composition
MUCS 420 Performance Class
Ensemble(s)
Non-music course⁴

Third Year

Fall Semester ~16 credit hours

MUCH 323 Music History III - or - Upper Division Course^{3,4}
MUCT 430 Studio Composition - or - MUCT 411 Computer
Music Composition³
MUCS 420 Performance Class
Ensemble(s)
Upper Division Course⁵
Non-music course⁴

Spring Semester ~ 15 credit hours

MUCH 323 Music History III - or - Upper Division Course^{3,4}
MUCT 430 Studio Composition
MUCS 420 Performance Class
Ensemble(s)
Upper Division Course⁵
Non-music course⁴

Fourth Year

Fall Semester ~ 15 credit hours

MUCT 430 Studio Composition
Upper Division Course⁵
Upper Division Course⁵
Non-music course⁴
Non-music course⁴

Spring Semester ~16 credit hours

MUCT 430 Studio Composition
MUCT 490 Composition Capstone Portfolio & Jury⁶
Upper Division Course⁵
Upper Division Course⁵
Non-music course⁴
Non-music course⁴

NOTES:

¹ Different instruments will have somewhat different ensemble requirements. Details about ensemble requirements can be found in the Crane Undergraduate Student Handbook (in section V). Additionally, students for whom piano is their primary instrument do not take Keyboard I and II (MUCC 111 & 112).

²These courses are pre-registered and should appear on the student's schedule prior to the schedule being released.

³These courses can be taken either semester listed but should be taken in one of the semesters indicated in order to complete the degree requirements in the prescribed time.

⁴ See page 4 for detailed information, but the required non-music courses are:

- General Education courses that must be taken outside of music, and
- non-music liberal arts electives

⁵ See page 3 for a detailed list of required Upper Division courses.

⁶ MUCP 490 must be requested by the student via the Request-A-Course form. Refer to the Crane Student Handbook, for details about the composition genre and performance requirements of the composition degree and the Composition Sophomore Evaluation.

Music Courses

124 total minimum credit hours in degree (121 for pianists)

93 total minimum credit hours in music (91 for pianists)

Basic Musicianship:

MUCC 111 & 112: Keyboard Skills I & II (2 cr)
MUCT 103, 105, 203, 205: Theory I, II, III, IV (12 cr)
MUCT 104, 106, 204, 206: Aural Skills I, II, III, IV (4 cr)
MUCH 201, 202, 323: Music History I, II, III (9 cr)
MUCP 209 & 309: Conducting I & II (2 cr)

Performance:

MUCS 420 Performance Class (6 semesters @ 2 cr = 12 cr)
Non-credited performance requirements: Pass Level A 10- or 30-Minute Recital
6 ensembles (@ 1 cr = 6 cr) – At least four of the ensembles must be conducted ensembles, and participation in a variety of ensemble types is encouraged. Studio teacher must also be consulted. For details, see ensemble information in the Crane Student Handbook (in section V)

Composition:

MUCT 430 Studio Composition (7 semesters @ 3 cr = 21 cr)
MUCT 411 Computer Music Composition (3 cr)
MUCT 490 Composition Capstone Portfolio & Jury (1 cr)

Upper Division Theory and History Courses (21 credits total):

MUCT 412 Advanced Computer Music Composition (3 cr)
MUCT 421 Orchestration (3 cr)
Ethnomusicology (3 cr) Select from: MUCH 360 World Music Cultures MUCH 460 Introduction to Ethnomusicology MUCH 461 Gender and Music in Cross-Cultural Perspective MUCE 462 Music, Culture, and Politics in West Africa Approved Special Topics Course (MUCH 395 or 495)
Jazz Theory (1@3 credits). Select from: MUCT 330 Jazz Theory and Arranging MUCT 335 Jazz Improvisation MUCT 422 Jazz Styles and Analysis Approved Special Topics Course (MUCT 395 or 495)
Upper Division Music History Course (1@3 credits). Any MUCH 3XX or 4XX course except MUCH 323 Music History III.
Two Upper Division History or Theory Electives (2@3 credits - 6 credits total). Any MUCH or MUCT 3XX or 4XX course except MUCH 323 Music History III.

General Education Courses and Non-Music Liberal Arts Electives

Students must complete the required number of credits within each general education designation. Some general education requirements are fulfilled with required music courses, as noted.

28 total minimum credit hours outside of music

52 total minimum liberal arts credit hours in the degree (music & non-music)

Ways of Beginning (to be taken in year one):

WAYS 101: Critical Thinking Seminar (3 cr)
WAYS 102 College Writing Seminar (3 cr)
WAYS 103 Talking about Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Seminar (3 cr)

Ways of Thinking:

Thinking Aesthetically (TA): fulfilled by MUCT 103 Theory I (0 cr)
Thinking Historically (TH – 3 cr)
Thinking Mathematically (TM - 3 cr)
Thinking Scientifically: Natural World (NW - 4 cr)
Thinking Scientifically: Social World (SW - 3 cr)

Ways of Connecting:

Connecting through Language Other than English (CL- 0 to 3 cr)
Connecting Globally (CG): fulfilled by MUCH 202 Music History II (0 cr)
Connecting Clearly: Communication in the Major (CC): fulfilled by MUCH 323 Music History III (0 cr)
Connecting Theory to Practice through Applied Learning (CM): fulfilled by MUCT 490 Composition Capstone Portfolio & Jury (0 cr)

Non-Music Liberal Arts Electives:

9 credits of free non-music liberal arts electives
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Note: Bachelor of Music degrees are exempt from the college's PE/HW requirement.