BACHELOR OF MUSIC: CONCENTRATION IN COMPOSITION

The Bachelor of Music Degree with concentration in composition provides training and preparation in scoring for games and film, and/or concert music composition leading to careers in the music industry and/or further graduate studies. Embracing a wide range of styles and techniques, students learn the fundamentals of musical language and expression, gain hands-on experience working with instrumentalists and technologies and begin building a professional network of musical colleagues.

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Musical Literacy. Students will demonstrate proficiency in reading, notating, and transcribing music by ear. Students will demonstrate critical listening abilities through describing, analyzing, and articulating artistic and perceptual aspects of music.
2. Performance. Students will demonstrate applied performance skills through accurate, and expressive instrumental or vocal performances.
3. Creation. Students will be able to express compelling and original musical thought through arranging, composing, and improvising in a variety of styles and for a variety of purposes.
4. Critical Understanding of Historical, Cultural, and Aesthetic Contexts. Students will be able to apply historical and cultural knowledge and aesthetic judgement in order to articulate significance and meaning in music within diverse contexts.

Bachelor of Music: Concentration in Composition – 65 units

Lower Division Core (20 units)

Foundational (3 units)

Code	Title	Units
MUS 130/ TH A 131	The Foundations of Music Theory	3

Theory/Musicianship (10 units)

Code	Title	Units
MUS 200/ TH A 234	Fundamentals of Modern Musicianship	3
MUS/TH A 221	Ear Training I	2
MUS 222	Ear Training II	2
MUS 232	Diatonic Harmony	3

Piano (2 units)

Code	Title	Units
MUS 201	Class Piano I	1
Select One:		1
MUS 202	Class Piano II	
MUS/TH A 206	Beginning Jazz/Pop Piano	

Technology (2 units)

Code	Title	Units
MUS 237	Introduction to Music Technology	2

History (3 units)

Code	Title	Units
MUS 281	The American Musical Experience	3

Upper-Division Core (13 Units)

Core (4 units)

Code	Title	Units
MUS 542GW	Music in Culture and Context - GWAR	3
Select One:		1
MUS 361	Capstone Composition or Performance Project	
MUS 598	Senior Thesis	

Theory (3 units)

Select One:

Code	Title	Units
MUS 403	Chromatic Harmony	3
MUS 440	Jazz Harmony	3

Music History (6 units)

Select Two:

Code	Title	Units
AFRS 514	African Musical Diaspora	3
AIS 320	American Indian Music	3
MUS 505	Music of the World's Peoples	3
MUS 506	Survey of Jazz	3
MUS 513	Asian Musical Diaspora	3
MUS 515	Latin American Musical Diaspora	3
MUS 550	Western European Music History from the Middle Ages to 1750	3
MUS 551	European and American Classical Music History of the 18th and 19th Century	3
MUS 552	Classical Music History of Europe and the Americas in the 20th Century	3
MUS 558	Music of John Coltrane	3
MUS/TH A 559	Women in Jazz	3

Concentration Requirements (32 units)

Code	Title	Units
MUS 260	Applied Music Lessons (1 unit course taken 4 times)	4
MUS 360	Advanced Applied Music Lessons (1 unit course taken 4 times)	4
6 units chosen from MUS 370 - MUS 380; MUS 386 - MUS 390		6
MUS 405	Tonal Counterpoint	3
MUS 420	20th Century Techniques	3
MUS/BECA 434	Introduction to Sound for Games	3
MUS 443	Composition Studio Seminar (1 unit course taken 4 times)	4
MUS 455	Scoring for Film I	3
MUS 640	Ensemble Conducting	2

First-Time Student Roadmap (4 Year)

The roadmaps presented in this Bulletin are intended as suggested plans of study and do not replace meeting with an advisor. For a more personalized roadmap, please use the Degree Planner (https://registrar.sfsu.edu/degreeplanner) tool found in your Student Center.

First-Time Student Roadmap (https://bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/liberal-creative-arts/music/bm-conc-composition/roadmap-4year/)

General Advising Information for Transfer Students

1. Before transfer, complete as many lower-division requirements or electives for this major as possible.
2. The following courses are not required for admission but are required for graduation. Students are strongly encouraged to complete these units before transfer; doing so will provide more flexibility in course selection after transfer.
   - a course in U.S. History
   - a course in U.S. & California Government

For information about satisfying the requirements described in (1) and (2) above at a California Community College (CCC), please visit http://www.assist.org (http://assist.org). Check any geographically accessible CCCs; sometimes, options include more than one college. Use ASSIST to determine:

- Which courses at a CCC satisfy any lower-division major requirements for this major;
- Which courses at a CCC satisfy CSU GE, US History, and US & CA Government requirements.

Remedial courses are not transferable and do not apply to the minimum 60 semester units/90 quarter units required for admission.

Additional units for courses that are repeated do not apply to the minimum 60 units required for upper-division transfer (for example, if a course was not passed on the first attempt or was taken to earn a better grade).

Before leaving the last California Community College of attendance, obtain a summary of completion of lower-division General Education units (IGETC or CSU GE Breadth). This is often referred to as a GE certification worksheet. SF State does not require delivery of this certification to Admissions, but students should retain this document for verifying degree progress after transfer.

Credit for Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or College-Level Examination Program courses: AP/IB/CLEP credit is not automatically transferred from the previous institution. Units are transferred only when an official score report is delivered to SF State. Credit is based on the academic year during which exams were taken. Refer to the University Bulletin in effect during the year of AP/IB/CLEP examination(s) for details regarding the award of credit for AP/IB/CLEP.

Students pursuing majors in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines often defer 6-9 units of lower-division General Education in Areas C and D until after transfer to focus on preparation courses for the major. This advice does not apply to students pursuing associate degree completion before transfer.

Transferring From Institutions Other Than CCCs or CSUs

Review SF State's lower-division General Education requirements. Note that, as described below, the four basic skills courses required for admission meet GE Areas 1A/A2, 1B/A3, 1C/A1, and 2/B4 in the SF State GE pattern. Courses that fulfill the remaining areas of SF State's lower-division GE pattern are available at most two-year and four-year colleges and universities.

Of the four required basic skills courses, a course in critical thinking (1B/A3) may not be widely offered outside the CCC and CSU systems. Students should attempt to identify and take an appropriate course no later than the term of application to the CSU. To review more information about the 1B/A3 requirement, please visit bulletin.sfsu.edu/undergraduate-education/general-education/lower-division/#AAEL.

Waiting until after transfer to take a single course at SF State that meets both US and CA/local government requirements may be an appropriate option, particularly if transferring from outside of California.