

Music*

Department Location

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Fine Arts Building – Room 103

Accreditation

Spelman College is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) and is subject to the standards set by NASM.

Special Entry Requirements

In addition to the general requirements for admission to the College, the incoming student must do the following:

1. Complete an audition in person or by videotape recording in her major medium. Auditions will be evaluated by department faculty members. Audition information may be secured by calling the Department of Music.
2. Take a theory assessment test. Students with little or no prior music training should plan to take Fundamentals of Music (MUS 100) before taking MUS 113A. For transfer students, all credits in music from another institution are subject to evaluation by the Department of Music and must be validated upon entrance by examination and audition. Transfer students may have to spend longer than the customary four years to complete the music requirements for the baccalaureate degree at Spelman College.

Goals

The program of the Department of Music is designed primarily for the music major or minor who wishes to study music as one of the liberal arts and who seeks a solid foundation for further study leading to a professional career in performance, scholarship, music education, or related fields. The following set of broad goals drives the Department of Music:

1. to offer, within the framework of the Bachelor of Arts degree in music, varied curricula to meet the diverse needs and interests of students in today's society.
2. to foster excellence in teaching, learning, and performing with an ongoing awareness of the need for creativity, scholarship, innovation, and currency, e.g., in technology.
3. to maintain faculty involvement in the music profession, arts organizations, and service to the College and the community.
4. to act as respected leaders in arts and educational communities, particularly in the immediate community.

More specific goals of the music program are to

1. acquire a thorough knowledge of rhythm, melody, harmony, form, timbre, texture, and their interaction, and apply this knowledge as the basis of all musical activity.
2. understand significant chronology and historical contexts, evolution of styles and musical characteristics,

contributions of ethnic groups, particularly those of African Americans.

3. demonstrate refined research capability.
4. demonstrate maximum skill in at least one major area of applied music sufficient for the performance of a cross-section of music from all styles and periods.
5. function as an integral part of an ensemble yet develop as a soloist performing in departmental recitals, juries, and community programs.
6. understand and creatively use new technologies as they apply to music.
7. make appropriate decisions regarding further study or gainful employment.

Additional Requirements

1. All courses in the major must be taken at Spelman unless the Department Chair grants special permission. Such permission must be obtained in writing.
2. All music majors and minors must exhibit satisfactory piano proficiency or take courses in class piano before the end of the junior year. (See Departmental Handbook.)
3. All music majors must present an exit project (senior recital, thesis, composition) during the senior year prior to graduation. All majors must present a junior recital.
4. All music minors must present a half-recital during the senior year prior to graduation or take an upper-level four-credit music history or music theory course culminating with an exit project.
5. All music majors and minors must register each semester for the Music Seminar, a Pass/Fail course based on class attendance, concert attendance, and website portfolios. (See Departmental Handbook.)

General Core Requirement

Fine Arts

MUS 120, MUS 130, MUS 240, MUS 241, MUS 242, or MUS 330 may be selected to satisfy divisional core requirements in the Fine Arts. Music majors and minors must select Fine Arts courses outside the Department of Music.

International/Women's Studies Requirement

Courses that satisfy the International/Women's Studies requirement are listed in the Course Sequence Booklet or on the Spelman Web page.

Teacher Certification

See Education Studies Program

* Major requirements under review.

Departmental Honors

The Music Department offers departmental honors for music majors who by the end of the senior year achieve an overall GPA of 3.3 and a GPA of 3.5 in music courses, and demonstrate exceptional quality in their final project.

Departmental Honor Society

Spelman music majors who achieve academic excellence and display exceptional musicianship and leadership may be elected to membership in Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society.

Recital Requirements

All Bachelor of Arts candidates are required to give a Junior Recital, the duration of which will be approximately 30 minutes. A student who successfully performs a Junior Recital may have the privilege of giving a full Senior Recital as an exit project. If a student wishes to give a Senior Recital, she must declare her interest and receive approval from her Applied Music teacher prior to the beginning of the senior year. A Senior Recital will be approximately 60 minutes in duration and will occur at the end of the senior year. Students are expected to begin work on their recitals during the summers preceding the recitals.

Music Major Requirements

To receive the B.A. in Music, a student must successfully complete 48 credit hours of music courses with no grade below "C." The following music core courses are required for all music majors:

Music Cognate and Core Courses

- MUS 000 Music Seminar (0)
- MUS 001 Piano Proficiency Test (0)
- MUS 113A Music Theory I (4)
- MUS 113B Music Theory II (4)
- MUS 113C Music Theory III (4)
- MUS 121 Introduction to World Musics (Cognate Course) (4)
- MUS 202 Music Technology for Majors (2)
- MUS 240 Survey of African American Music (4)
- MUS 313 Orchestration and Arranging (2)
- MUS 321 Form and Analysis I (2)
- MUS 350 History of Western Music I,(4)
- MUS 351 History of Western Music II (4)
- MUS 490A Senior Project (1)
- MUS 490B Senior Project (1)

The music major must also complete the following:

- enrollment in applied music, an ensemble that serves as a laboratory supporting the primary applied music study, and Music Seminar each semester.
- an applied jury in her major medium evaluated by the faculty each semester, except when she is scheduled to give a Junior or Senior Recital.
- a piano proficiency examination before the end of the junior year.
- an exit project (senior recital, thesis, or composition) during the senior year prior to graduation.

Music Minor Requirements

Students wishing to pursue a music minor must audition for the Music Department faculty and begin a course of study no later than fall semester of the sophomore year. For minors, MUS 113A and 113B are prerequisites for all other core courses in the department. After acceptance into the minor, the following courses are required (26 hours with no grade below "C").

- MUS 113A Music Theory I (4)
- MUS 113B Music Theory II (4)
- MUS 121 Introduction to World Musics (4)
- MUS 240 Survey of African American Music (4)
- MUS 350 or 351 History of Western Music I or II (4)

Music Minors must be enrolled in Applied Music, Ensemble, and Music Seminar for six successive semesters.

Electives

Music majors are required to take eight (8) credit hours of elective courses in order to complete the degree in music. Students may choose any of the courses listed below to satisfy this requirement. Students are encouraged to take courses that apply to their area of interest.

- MUS 011-058 Secondary Applied Instrument (up to 4 credits)
- MUS 130 Women in Music (4)
- MUS 200 Introduction to Music Technology (2)
- MUS 210 Choral Conducting and Literature (2)
- MUS 310 Vocal Diction for Singers† (2)
- MUS 330 History of Jazz (4)
- MUS 451/452 Introduction to Composition (2)

†Required for all vocal performance majors

Music Seminar

Music Seminar is a zero-credit, pass/fail, weekly meeting of all music majors and minors for the purpose of student recitals (*matinées*), seminars, workshops, special lectures, guest recitals, and listening labs. Music majors must be enrolled in Music Seminar each semester for a total of eight (8) semesters. Music minors must be enrolled in Music Seminar for six (6) successive semesters.

Music Seminar meets every Wednesday at 3:00 pm in the Fine Arts Building Room 107.

Applied Music (Private Lessons)

The study of voice or an instrument is an integral part of the musical education of every music student. Therefore, she must complete a minimum of six (6) semesters of private lessons on a single instrument. All Applied Music students will attend group performance classes as scheduled by the instructor in addition to the private lesson. Private lessons require a minimum of six (6) hours of practice and offer one (1) credit per semester. Two Applied Music courses may not be taken concurrently for credit nor may they be taken concurrently without permission of the Department Chair.

Private lessons are offered in the following instruments:

- MUS 011-018 Strings (Violin, Viola, Cello, Harp)
- MUS 021-028 Voice
- MUS 031-038 Piano
- MUS 041-048 Organ
- MUS 051-058 Wind and Brass Instruments
- MUS 061-068 Percussion

Recital Requirement

All Bachelor of Arts candidates are required to give a Junior Recital, the duration of which will be approximately thirty (30) minutes.

Group Lessons – Class Piano

Group instruction for students with little or no keyboard experience is offered in Class Piano. This class will introduce basic reading skills, piano technique, and compositions in small forms by Bach, Mozart, Kabalevsky, Donatelli, and others.

Lesson Policies for Non-Music Students

Private lessons for non-music students are offered on a limited basis and by audition only. Students enrolled in private lessons must be concurrently enrolled in a Spelman College ensemble. (See Music Department Chair before registration).

Ensembles

Ensemble participation is open by audition to all students of the College, with or without credit. A full year commitment is expected.

Music majors and minors are required to register each semester for an ensemble that serves as a laboratory supporting the primary Applied Music study. Upper-level music students may elect an additional ensemble (for 1 credit or zero credit) only with the approval of the primary Applied Music teacher and the Department Chair. A maximum of eight (8) semester hours of ensemble credit may be used in meeting departmental graduation requirements for both the music major and the music minor.

The following performance ensembles are offered:

- MUS 060 String Ensemble
- MUS 070 Glee Club
- MUS 080 Woodwind Ensemble
- MUS 081 Jazz Ensemble
- MUS 392 AUC Orchestra

* Vocal majors and minors are required to participate in Glee Club for a maximum of eight (8) semesters hours. This participation does not preclude concurrent participation in the other Music Department Ensembles.

Course Descriptions

MUS 000 – MUSIC SEMINAR (0)

This course is a weekly meeting of all music majors and minors for the purpose of student recitals (matinéés), seminars, workshops, special lectures, guest recitals, and listening labs.

MUS 100 – FUNDAMENTALS OF MUSIC (2)

This course provides a study of the basic materials used in the graphic and phonal aspects of music expression: notation, intervals, chord progression, via sight singing, ear training and keyboard principles.

MUS 113A – MUSIC THEORY I (4)

This course covers the fundamentals of music theory, triad and chord building, harmonizing of melodies, keyboard harmony, simple modulation, harmonic analysis, ear training, and sight singing. It emphasizes the acquisition of writing and analytical skills. Laboratory assignments using computer-assisted instruction.

MUS 113B – MUSIC THEORY II (4)

This course involves advanced ear training and sight singing, higher discords, chromatic harmony and modulation. Prerequisite: MUS 113A.

MUS 113C – MUSIC THEORY III (4)

This course involves advanced analytical, compositional and aural development skills in the music of the post-Romantic and modern time periods. Prerequisite: MUS 113A and 113B.

MUS 120 – MUSIC HISTORY AND APPRECIATION (4)

This listening course is designed to give the general student a chance to develop an appreciation for music of the Ancient, Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classic, and Romantic periods. Records, lectures, and concerts are the basic tools used.

MUS 121 – INTRODUCTION TO WORLD MUSIC (4)

This course surveys selected musical traditions from around the world, studied within their cultural contexts. Music from Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, North America, Oceania, and South America.

MUS 130 – WOMEN IN MUSIC (4)

This course is designed to highlight the achievements of women in all aspects of musical life from the Middle Ages to the present. The course focuses on the woman's important role in and influence on culture at various points in history.

MUS 200 – INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC TECHNOLOGY (2)

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to computers and their uses in music sequencing and digital audio recording. It also provides a workshop experience with current music notation software, sequencing software, sampling and an overview of mixing and studio technology.

MUS 201 – INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC TECHNOLOGY II (2)

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to computers and their uses in music sequencing and digital audio recording with a focus on ProTools.

MUS 202 – MUSIC TECHNOLOGY FOR MAJORS* (2)

Designed to teach music majors the basics of computer technology, particularly the use of computers in music notation and music production. Introduces various concepts of music notation, sequencing, sampling, and mixing through a number of project-based activities. Software applications that will be covered in the course will include Finale, Logic Pro, Pro Tools, iWeb, and iDVD.

MUS 203 – SURVEY OF MUSIC BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP* (2)

This course provides a general overview of the functional areas of the music industry, including production, marketing, publishing, distribution, copyright, etc. Attention is given to practical applications of business practices within the music industry and how the various segments of the industry operate on a day-to-day basis.

MUS 210 – CHORAL CONDUCTING AND LITERATURE (2)

This course focuses on conducting skills, choral literature, and techniques for organizing different choral ensembles. Students are expected to have skills in sight singing and playing the piano.

MUS 230 – OPERA AND SOCIETY (2)

This course surveys operatic literature from 1600 to the present and examines opera both as performance genre, stressing historical devel-

opment of styles and techniques in the repertoire, and also for a range of social and cultural messages embedded in representative works. An Honors course, open to non-majors by permission.

MUS 240 – SURVEY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSIC (4)

This course surveys the music of African Americans from the antebellum period to the present. Major genres include slave songs, blues, gospel, jazz, and art music. It is designed to articulate the sociocultural experiences from which this music has grown.

MUS 241 – AMERICAN POP (2)

This course provides a sociocultural and historical study of American popular music development from the 1870s to the present. Lectures, readings, discussions and audiovisual materials unearth the tremendous impact African Americans have made in general to the evolution of popular music in the United States.

MUS 242 – AFRICAN AMERICAN RELIGIOUS MUSIC (4)

This course examines African American religious music and its social, cultural and historical contexts as it has evolved from indigenous African ritual practices throughout the development of the antebellum and postbellum periods to urban contemporary or newly composed forms in the United States.

MUS 288 – ARTS JOURNALISM: WRITING ABOUT THE ARTS (4)

This workshop course in arts criticism and analysis emphasizes personal experience and creative presentation. It provides orientation in concepts, terms, and considerations of arts writing, including basic aesthetic theory, theories of arts mediation, and mechanics of shaping and publishing one's work. All artistic genres are included, and subject to student interests. Cross listed ENG288.

MUS 309 – VOCAL LITERATURE AND PEDAGOGY (2)

This course provides a survey of significant literature for the voice. It is principally concerned with the following: textural analysis of songs, problems with interpretation, poets, function of the accompaniment, repertoire for all voices, and program building. Designed for music majors and minors only.

MUS 310 – VOCAL DICTION FOR SINGERS (2)

This course provides a study of the fundamentals of lyric diction used by singers-English, French, German, and Italian. A study of the International Phonetic Alphabet and its application to singing in these languages will be included.

MUS 313 – ORCHESTRATION AND INSTRUMENTATION (2)

This course is a study of the instruments of the orchestra, their playing techniques, capabilities, and tonal characteristics, and essentials of instrumental combinations. It includes an analysis of typical problems in orchestration. Prerequisite: MUS 113A and 113B.

MUS 319 – KEYBOARD LITERATURE AND PEDAGOGY (2)

A survey of literature for keyboard instruments from the 16th century through the 20th century. Such elements as medium, form, keyboard style, idiom, and performance problems are considered in relation to the music of specific composers or periods. Designed for music majors and minors only.

MUS 321 – FORM AND ANALYSIS I (2)

This course examines the design and tonal structure of music of the traditional period, ranging from simple binary form to complex sonata and concerto forms. Analysis included. Prerequisite: MUS 113A and 113B.

MUS 330 – HISTORY OF JAZZ (4)

The course exposes the general student to the fundamental concepts of "jazz" (African American classical music), along with its chronological development, outstanding repertoire, and major innovators.

MUS 341 – THE STUDY OF MUSIC IN THE AFRICAN DIASPORA (4)

This course provides a study of traditional, popular and art musics that have emerged from the dispersal of Africans throughout North, South and Central America and the Caribbean based on the ethnomusicological paradigm which views music as culture, learned behavior and the sum total of life experiences translated into sound.

MUS 342/EDU, 450 – METHODS AND MATERIALS FOR TEACHING MUSIC (4,4)

These courses are designed to provide opportunities to explore music teaching procedures at the elementary and high school levels. Activities include supervised observation in the public schools of Atlanta. MUS 342 is required for Child Development majors. MUS/EDU 342-Grades Preschool through 5 (4) and MUS/EDU 450-Grades Preschool through 12 (4) are required of music majors who wish to teach.

MUS 350 – HISTORY OF WESTERN MUSIC I (4)

This course surveys of major styles, significant creative figures and important musical works in Western art music from antiquity through the late Baroque era. Prerequisite: MUS 113C.

MUS 351 – HISTORY OF WESTERN MUSIC II (4)

A survey of major styles, significant creative figures and important musical works in Western art music from the pre-Classical era to the present. Prerequisite: MUS 113C.

MUS 353 – SPECIAL TOPICS IN MUSIC HISTORY (4)

Course will be offered periodically in order to help students meet graduation requirements and explore one major genre, one creative figure or one cultural movement in greater depth. Prerequisite: MUS 113C.

MUS 392 – AUC ORCHESTRA (1)

This course is designed for the study of symphony orchestra performance. Emphasis is placed on the development of performance skills and the study of a variety of styles and period symphony orchestra literature.

MUS 451, 452 – INTRODUCTION TO COMPOSITION (2, 2)

This course introduces the student to the basics of composition with an emphasis on 20th-century techniques. Prerequisite: MUS 113A, 113B, and 113C.

MUS 490A, 490 B – SENIOR PROJECT (1)

This course provides directed research leading to completion of a project in music history, theory, jazz studies, African American music, or performance. Students will meet periodically to engage in critical dialogue related to their projects and other related musical topics. Prerequisite: For seniors only. The Piano Proficiency Exam must be successfully passed.

*Approval pending.