
Pursue your passion for music in any of four tracks of study: performance, composition and theory, musicology, or technology.

As a music major, you will get involved and begin playing the moment you arrive on campus. Whether you are interested in recording technology and music production or hoping to get onstage, you will learn from professors who are leading scholars and practitioners in the field. You also will collaborate with creative peers in a curriculum that bolsters your practical skills, challenges you to think critically, hones your musicianship, and works with you to chart your own path.

THE MUSIC PATH

As you begin to study music at Clark, you will take foundational courses that build the intellectual, practical, and critical skills needed for advanced work:

- Theory: practices and possibilities in music
- Critical thinking, historical research
- Performance, collaboration, and leadership: classes and workshops
- Technological skills: audio engineering, sound synthesis, studio work

HIGHLIGHTS

Year 1  MUSC 082: Performance Workshop
Year 2  MUSC 100: Studying Music Historically and Critically
Year 3  MUSC 142: Recording Practice and Audio Art
Year 4  MUSC 220: Composition Seminar

“ We provide tools and experiences to help students discern their own paths as artists and scholars and find their own agency.”

— PROF. CAI LIN MAR CE L MA N S ON, DIRECTOR OF THE MUSIC PROGRAM

25+ Opportunities each year to perform and see leading artists
**Find your on-ramp**
Find your on-ramp to music study through Intro to Music, Making Music, Music and Politics, or Improvisation and Aleatory.

**Explore the music spaces on campus**
Explore the music spaces on campus by visiting the Clark Arts offices, frequenting the practice studios in Estabrook Hall, and attending concerts and presentations in Razzo Hall.

**Join a music ensemble**
Join a music ensemble to connect with other students in these spaces and develop a rapport with the performance faculty. Clark ensembles such as Concert Band, Jazz Workshop, and Sinfonia are both academic classes and student clubs.

**Experience Worcester’s music scene**
Experience Worcester’s music scene by attending events at Music Worcester, the Hanover Theatre, the Worcester Chamber Music Society, and more. Many of these involve our music faculty and all offer discounted student tickets.

**Dig into your interests**
Dig into your interests by looking at the course requirements for each track (performance, musicology, theory and composition, and technology). Take a course such as Performance Workshop to further explore.

**Assess and build your skills**
Assess and build your skills by taking the Music Skills Assessments so the curriculum can meet you where you are. Aural Skills and Keyboard Skills can help you develop mastery and have no prerequisites.

**Declare your major**
Declare your major by meeting with the program director to declare your music major and discuss the next steps on your journey.

**Take foundational courses early**
Take foundational courses early to grant yourself more flexibility in your junior and senior years, taking Aural Skills, Keyboard Skills, and the crucial 100-level courses: Studying Music Critically, Principles of Tonal Analysis, and Computers in Music.

**Connect with a faculty adviser**
Connect with a faculty adviser to help you navigate the requirements of the major and guide you toward courses that meet your interests and goals.

**Look for Problems of Practice (PoP) courses in music**
Look for Problems of Practice (PoP) courses in music to take Beginning a Music Career to explore making a life and a living in music.

**Talk to peer mentors**
Talk to peer mentors to discuss strategies and experiences with peer mentors and peer learning assistants (PLAs), who can give you a student perspective.

**Augment your individual artistry**
Augment your individual artistry as a music major or minor by taking a number of semesters of private lessons in voice or your primary instrument.

**Study Abroad?**
Study Abroad? Look at your upcoming course needs and consider a summer or semester abroad to expand your horizons. Connect with the Study Abroad Office to see what fits with your plans.
JOBS & EMPLOYERS
Graduates have landed jobs in music education and as professional singers, musicians, composers, music producers, and recording engineers.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS
Alumni have pursued graduate study in composition, performance, music education, and jazz studies at NYU, the Boston Conservatory at Berklee, and the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

Dive into research and get another point of view
Take From Wagnerism to Nazism, or view the discipline through a different lens with The Aesthetic and Ethics of the Sublime.

Enrich your studies with intermediate and extension courses
All music majors take Form and Chromaticism and Music of the Classical and Romantic Periods, but you can also try Jazz History or Music Theater Masterclass.

Step into leadership
Engage with the performance faculty and run for a student leadership position in one of the music ensembles.

Take your learning into the field
Enroll in Community Music and Social Action and receive hands-on experience working with the greater community through music. If you are a string player, become a mentor for the Neighborhood Strings program.

Honors: To declare or not to declare?
Talk with your faculty adviser or the program director about declaring Honors in music, which yields additional opportunities, such as a junior recital for performance students.

Prepare for senior year
Work with your faculty adviser to begin making plans for your culminating work, a thesis, recital, portfolio, or collaborative project.

Pull it all together in your capstone
Work with the music faculty in your track to complete an individual capstone project or senior recital. Take a capstone course such as Portfolio Masterclass, Topics in Music History and Criticism, Workshop in Music Analysis and Criticism, or Composition Seminar.

What’s next?
Connect with faculty about employment prospects and/or graduate school applications. Request references and letters of recommendation.

Share what you have learned
Serve as a peer mentor or as a PLA for music courses, or present your research or creative work at ClarkFEST.

Delve deeper
Further explore a specific interest by doing a directed study or senior tutorial in your major track.

Prepare for interviews and auditions
Write your resume, get headshots, build a website, and gather professional materials to present your work to your potential audience and employers.

Put your plan into action
Apply for graduate programs, fellowships, assistantships, scholarships, and job opportunities. Reflect on your learning, leverage your skills and connections, and launch.
Numerous opportunities exist for you to pursue your passion and learning outside of the school year.

The Sara Bickman Music and Arts Summer Internship Award allows undergraduate majors in the Visual and Performing Arts Department to apply for funding in their junior year for projects to be conducted and completed in the summer between the junior and senior year. These projects can include formal summer internships, workshops, symposia, enrollment in courses, independent research, and/or other creative works.

Interested?

If you are interested in declaring a major or minor in music:

Contact Professor Cailin Marcel Manson, music program director, at cmanson@clarku.edu.

CONNECT WITH US!

Clark University Music Program
Estabrook Hall
144 Woodland St.
Worcester, MA 01610
clarku.edu/academics/undergraduate/programs/majors-minors/music