

Psychology and Music, BS (Boston)

This combined major is designed to educate students in psychology and music and the interface between the two disciplines. The scope and sequence of psychology courses provide students with a foundation in the interdisciplinary science of psychology including cognition, psycholinguistics, perception, and the biological basis of behavior. Music courses provide a foundation in music theory, creative music in context, contemporary/ethnomusicology, music perception and cognition, and the psychoacoustics of music. The program fosters understanding how the two fields jointly contribute to explaining human behavior in the domain of music.

Program Requirements

Complete all courses listed below unless otherwise indicated. Also complete any corequisite labs, recitations, clinicals, or tools courses where specified and complete any additional courses needed beyond specific college and major requirements to satisfy graduation credit requirements.

Universitywide Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the Universitywide Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/university-wide-requirements/>).

NUPath Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the NUPath Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/>).

NUPath requirements Differences and Diversity (DD), Ethical Reasoning (ER), and Advanced Writing in the Disciplines (WD) are not explicitly satisfied by the required courses. Differences and Diversity (DD) and Ethical Reasoning (ER) can be met through Music in Context. Students are responsible for satisfying any of these requirements not met within the major.

Psychology Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
PSYC 1101	Foundations of Psychology	4
PSYC 3452	Sensation and Perception	4
PSYC 3458	Biological Psychology	4
PSYC 3464	Psychology of Language	4
PSYC 3466	Cognition	4
Statistics		
Students who receive transfer credit for the Advanced Placement Statistics exam may complete the 1-semester-hour PSYC 2315 course (requires department permission); otherwise, complete the following:		4-5
PSYC 2320	Statistics in Psychological Research	
Required Lab		
Complete one of the following:		4
PSYC 4600	Laboratory in Research Design	
PSYC 4604	Laboratory in Learning and Motivation	
PSYC 4606	Laboratory in Biological Psychology	
PSYC 4610	Laboratory in Psycholinguistics	
PSYC 4612	Laboratory in Cognition	
PSYC 4614	Laboratory in Social Psychology	
PSYC 4616	Laboratory in Personality	
PSYC 4622	Laboratory in Sensation and Perception	
PSYC 4624	Laboratory in Affective Science	
PSYC 4626	Laboratory in Life-Span Emotional Development	
PSYC 4628	Laboratory in Developmental Psychology	
Required Seminar		
Complete one of the following:		4
PSYC 4656	Seminar in Biological Psychology	
PSYC 4658	Seminar in Psycholinguistics	
PSYC 4660	Seminar in Cognition	
PSYC 4662	Seminar in Personality	
PSYC 4664	Seminar in Social Psychology	

PSYC 4666	Seminar in Clinical Psychology
PSYC 4668	Seminar in Sensation and Perception
PSYC 4674	Seminar in Cognitive Neuroscience
PSYC 4676	Seminar in Developmental Psychology

Psychology Electives

Complete two PSYC courses not used to fulfill requirements above.

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Music Theory Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Music Theory Placement		
All students can take a music theory placement exam to place out of MUSC 1119. Students who place out of MUSC 1119 will substitute it with a general elective course.		
MUSC 1119	Fundamentals of Western Music Theory	4
Required Courses		
MUSC 1201	Music Theory 1	4
MUSC 1202	Music Theory 2	4

Music in Context

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one of the following:		4
MUSC 1001	Music in Everyday Life	
MUSC 1002 and MUSC 1003	Music in Everyday Life and Lab for MUSC 1002	

Creative Category

Complete one of the following 4-semester-hour courses, or complete four 1-semester-hour ensembles and/or lessons from the list:

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Coursework Option

MUSC 1301	Introduction to Music Composition
MUSC 2150	Making a Musical: Analysis, Craft, and Creation ¹
MUSC 2208	Jazz Improvisation
MUSC 2209	Conducting
MUSC 2210	Introduction to Songwriting
MUSC 2420	Music Composition Seminar 1
MUSC 2425	Arranging and Orchestration for Film, Media, and the Concert Stage
MUSC 3342	Critical Listening for Producers
MUSI 2232	Music Production and Recording 1
MUSI 5220	The Independent Performing Songwriter: Creation, Commerce, and Well-Being
MUST 1220	Introduction to Music Technology
MUST 2320	Sound Design

Ensembles and Lessons Option

MUSC 1901	Music Lessons 1
MUSC 1902	Music Lessons 2
MUSC 1904	Chorus
MUSC 1905	Concert Band
MUSC 1906	Orchestra
MUSC 1907	Wind Ensemble
MUSC 1911	Jazz Ensemble
MUSC 1912	Rock Ensemble
MUSC 1913	Blues/Rock Ensemble
MUSC 1914	Pop Music Performance
MUSC 1915	Chamber Ensemble
MUSC 1917	Jazz Choir and Combo
MUSC 1918	World Music Ensemble
MUSC 1919	Fusion Ensemble
MUSC 1920	Pep Band

MUSC 1922 Open Microphone Performance Workshop

Contemporary/Popular Music or Global Music/Ethnomusicology Category

Complete one of the following:

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MUSC 2101	Black Popular Music
MUSC 2150	Making a Musical: Analysis, Craft, and Creation ¹
MUSC 2310	Popular Music Since 1945
MUSC 2311	Topics in American Music
MUSC 2313	Topics in Global Music Cultures
MUSC 2317	Punk Rock
MUSC 2320	40,000 Years of Music Technology
MUSC 2330	Musical Communities of Boston
MUSC 2331	Topics in Musical Communities
MUSC 2336	The Festival Experience
MUSC 2340	Divas, DJs, and Double Standards
MUSC 2351	Music, Sound, and the Screen
MUSC 2380	The World of Choral Music
MUSC 3352	Sounding Human
MUSC 3353	Music and the Racial Imagination
MUSC 3354	Sound and the Sacred
MUSC 3360	Ethnography and the Arts
MUSI 3351	Music and Social Justice
MUSI 3360	Global Music Industries in Context
MUSI 3401	Hip Hop in the Music Industry

¹ MUSC 2150 can be used to meet either the creative or the contemporary/popular music or global music/ethnomusicology requirement but not both.

Music Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
MUSC 2350	Acoustics and Psychoacoustics of Music	4
or INAM 3200	Creative Cognition	
MUSC 3300	Music Perception and Cognition	4
Capstone		
MUSC 4510	Music and the Brain Research	4

Music Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Complete two courses from MUSC, MUSI, or MUST not used to fulfill the requirements above.		8

Other Requirements Outside Major

Code	Title	Hours
EESC 2000	Professional Development for Co-op	1
or EEAM 2000	Professional Development for Co-op	
ENGW 1111	First-Year Writing	4
PSYC 1000	Psychology at Northeastern	1
or MUSC 1000	Music at Northeastern	
Complete one of the following:		4
MATH 1213	Interactive Mathematics	
MATH 1215	Mathematical Thinking	
MATH 1241	Calculus 1	

Bridge/Integrative Courses

Code	Title	Hours
Note: MUSC 3300 is already required above.		
MUSC 3300	Music Perception and Cognition	

BS Psychology/Music Major

Complete 76 semester hours in the major.

Music Major Grade Requirement

Students must maintain at least a 2.667 grade-point average (B– average) in the requirements of the music half of the combined major. Students who fail to meet the above standards will be placed on departmental probation; those who remain on probation for two consecutive semesters will be dropped from the major.

Program Requirement

130 total semester hours required

Plan of Study

Sample Plan of Study

FOUR YEARS, TWO CO-OPS IN SUMMER SECOND HALF/FALL

Year 1							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
ENGW 1111		4 MATH 1213		4 PSYC 3466		4 Open elective	4
PSYC 1101	4	MUSC 1201	4	Music elective	4	Open elective	4
MUSC 1000 or PSYC 1000	1	PSYC 2320	4				
MUSC 1001 or 1002 <i>and</i> 1003	4	EEAM 2000 (For CAMD students)	1				
MUSC 1119	4	NUpath ER	4				
17		17		8		8	
Year 2							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
MUSC 1202		4 EESC 2000 (For COS students)		1 PSYC elective		4 Co-op	0
MUSC 3300	4	MUSC 2350 or INAM 3200	4	Open elective	4		
PSYC 3458	4	PSYC 3464	4				
Open elective	4	Contemporary/ethno course	4				
		NUpath DD	4				
16		17		8		0	
Year 3							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
Co-op	0	MUSC 4510	4	PSYC lab	4	Co-op	0
		PSYC 3452	4	PSYC elective	4		
		Creative music course	4				
		Open elective	4				
0		16		8		0	
Year 4							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours				
Co-op	0	Music elective	4				
		NUpath WD	4				
		PSYC seminar	4				
		Open elective	4				
0		16					

Total Hours: 131