

## GRADUATE PROGRAMS MASTER OF MUSIC & MASTER OF ARTS

The Master of Music and Master of Arts degrees are practice-oriented degrees designed to focus on the development of professional competence for students who intend to pursue a career in music as artists and educators.

The degrees, including their curricular structure, requirements for admission, continuation and graduation, are guided by the mission statement and purposes/objectives of the Los Angeles College of Music graduate degree program.

### Mission Statement

The Los Angeles College of Music master's program provides a rich environment where students develop a competitive career path through artistic endeavor, rigorous training, scholarship and unparalleled exposure to the music industry to become influential creative artists, educators, and entrepreneurs.

### Purposes/Objectives

Directed by the guiding principle to develop students as successful artistic entrepreneurs, the purposes and objectives, structure and content of the Master of Music and Master of Arts programs focus on in-depth knowledge and competence in a major field of specialization and a breadth of competence through practice and scholarship.

### Program Structure

Major Field/Specialization study develops advanced proficiency in the concentrated field with an emphasis in the exploration of an individual creative voice. Courses in music technology exclusive to the major instrument as well as recording studio techniques cover professional creative practices. (Total: Master of Music, 31 credits, Master of Arts, 36 credits)

Supportive Study reinforces the concentrated field and provides a breadth of learning in areas that uphold the mission to develop artistic entrepreneurs. Depending on the major, supportive study courses include composition and arranging, expertise in music technology and recording practices, pedagogy training and practice, professional development in music business and leadership skills and in scholarship through inquiry, investigation, research development and cognitive writing. (Total 20 credits)

Elective Tracks (studies in other fields) allow students who are interested in expanding their knowledge in a field outside their specialization to choose deeper study in composition, production or music business. Students who wish to focus solely on their major field can choose the Performance Track for their specialization. (Total 9 credits)

Courses are conducted in four forms of instruction:

- Lecture classes award one credit per contact hour of class time (50 minutes of lecture per hour) and require three hours of work outside of class for each contact hour.
- Lab classes, including instructor supervised ensemble classes and computer work labs, award 0.5 credits for each contact hour of lab time.
- Applied Private Lessons award two credits per contact hour of class time, one credit for class time and one credit for three hours minimum of work outside of class.
- Capstone Thesis Project awards credit based on advisor supervised student work time. Three hours work per week outside of class awards one credit. The thesis advisor meets with the student regularly throughout the term to guide and support progress in the capstone thesis project.

### Course Pacing

Master of Music and Master of Arts degrees are six-quarter programs that students complete in 18 months. Students may start a program in the Fall or Spring quarters (course pacing for each program is outlined in detail in the sections below).

- Course pacing for Fall starts: Q1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
- Course pacing for Spring starts: Q3, 4, 1, 2, 5, 6

*NOTE: Specific placement of courses may vary depending on the chosen Elective Track (the Major Field, or an outside field in Composing for Visual Media, Songwriting, Music Production, Music Business or Vocal Arranging). Graduate students work with the Academic Advising Office in developing a precise academic plan toward graduation.*

# MASTER OF MUSIC IN MUSIC PRODUCING & RECORDING

Guided by the mission and purposes of the **Master of Music in Music Production** program, the curriculum will adhere to the following six Program Learning Outcomes:

## MMPD PLO 1: Technical Proficiency

Students will be able to demonstrate technical advanced expertise in recording studio techniques including proficiency in operating analog and digital equipment, proper microphone techniques, sound processing techniques, and computer software with an emphasis on Pro Tools™ and its sound processing plug-ins and employing these tools in the process of recording, editing recorded performances, mixing and final delivery.

## MMPD PLO 2: Producer Leadership Skills

Students will be able to demonstrate creative expertise in the production of music by conceiving recording projects from conception to completion, by practicing awareness of recording session etiquette, diversity and the roles of personnel, by making appropriate technical and artistic choices and by employing leadership skills that guide recording sessions toward positive results.

## MMPD PLO 3: Critical Thinking in Music

Students will be able to demonstrate the ability to critically analyze and solve problems that are characteristic in the study of music.

## MMPD PLO 4: Professional Creative Practices

Students will be able to demonstrate advanced competency in the professional knowledge and practice of reading musical scores, arranging parts for ensembles and guiding rehearsals and performances.

## MMC PLO 5: Professional Business Practices

Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge and competency in music industry business practices including marketing and promotion, characteristics of performance contracts and publishing, and entrepreneurship.

## MMC PLO 6: Pedagogy

Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge and competency in teaching in applied lesson and classroom formats including course development, lecture preparation and presentation, grading practices and student relationships.

## MASTER OF MUSIC - DEGREE PACING

60 Credits

Major Field/Specialization classes (31 credits)

Supportive classes (20 credits)

Elective Track classes (9 credits)

### QUARTER 1

CODE	COURSE	CREDITS
PROD-520MPR	Private Lesson in Music Production	2
PROD-530	Pro Tools 300-S6	3
PROD-633	Advanced Digital Processors	2
PROD-505	Classic Synthesizers 1	2
		<b>Total Credits: 9</b>

### QUARTER 2

CODE	COURSE	CREDITS
PROD-521MPR	Private Lesson in Music Production	2
PROD-531	Pro Tools 310-M	3
PROD-636	Songwriter Recording	2
PROD-506	Classic Synthesizers 2	2
		<b>Total Credits: 9</b>

### QUARTER 3

CODE	COURSE	CREDITS
PROD-522MPR	Private Lesson in Music Production	2
PROD-535	Contemporary Ensemble Recording	2
PROD-631	Intro Max/MSP Programming	2
PROD-501MPR	Pedagogy 1: Private Studio Teaching	1
IND-500	Entrepreneurship Marketing for The Pro. Musician	1.5
MUS-504	Music History: Jazz Studies	2
		<b>Total Credits: 10.5</b>

### QUARTER 4

CODE	COURSE	CREDITS
PROD-620MPR	Private Lesson in Music Production	2
PROD-635	Classical/Film Score Recording	2
PROD-632	Advanced Max/MSP Programming	2
PROD-601	Pedagogy 2: Program & Course Development	1
IND-600	Branding, Partnerships and Promotion Concepts	1.5
PROD-602	Production Styles and Genres	2
		<b>Total Credits: 10.5</b>

### QUARTER 5

CODE	COURSE	CREDITS
PROD-621MPR	Private Lesson in Music Production	2
PROD-640	Advanced Mixing	2
PROD-630	Advanced Modular Synthesis	3
IND-615	Music Industry Ethics & The Law	2
MUS-603 CE	Advanced Arranging: Contemporary Ensembles	2
		<b>Total Credits: 11</b>

**QUARTER 6**

CODE	COURSE	CREDITS
PROD-690MPR	Thesis Project: Music Producing and Recording	3
PROD-642	Acoustics & Studio Design	2
PROD-641	Surround Sound	2
MUS-602	Ethnomusicology	1
MUS-604	Advanced Arranging: Vocal Arranging	2
<b>Total Credits: 10</b>		

**ELECTIVE TRACK - MUSIC PRODUCING & RECORDING**

CODE	COURSE	CREDITS
PROD-630	Advanced Modular Synthesis	3
PROD-631	Intro Max/MSP Programming	2
PROD-632	Advanced Max/MSP Programming	2
PROD-633	Advanced Digital Processors	2

**Elective Tracks**

Nine credits of the Master of Music and Master of Arts degrees are reserved for Elective Tracks that allow graduate students to focus on studies within or outside their major. Students interested in expanding their learning experience may focus on composing for visual media, songwriting, vocal arranging, music production or music business. Discovery Tracks introduce students who are new a field of study to the fundamentals, while Exploration Tracks are designed for students with foundational knowledge and experience in a field of study. Prior to selecting Elective Track classes, students are assessed by the Academic Advising Office to determine the most suitable pathway for study.

Students who wish to focus exclusively on their major field can choose the Elective Track in their specialization – see Elective Track courses in the major pacing charts above.

**ELECTIVE TRACK COURSES IN FIELDS OF STUDY OUTSIDE OF THE MAJOR**

**Composing for Visual Media**

Discovery Track | select 9 credits

CODE	COURSE	CREDITS
COMP-501	History of Music in Film and TV	3
COMP-502	Working with Picture / Applied Techniques 1	3
COMP-503	Electronic Film Scoring	3
COMP-504	Composing for Drama (or other Genre course)	3

**Composing for Visual Media**

Exploration Track | select 9 credits

COMP-506	Working with Picture / Applied Techniques 2	3
COMP-507	Composers in Depth	2
COMP-504	Composing for Drama (or other Genre course)	3
COMP-508	Harmony for the Media Composer 1	2
COMP-509	Instrumentation	2
COMP-513	Intro to Orchestration	2

**Songwriting**

Discovery Track | select 9 credits

COMP-514	Songwriting 1	1.5
COMP-515	Original Solo Showcase	1.5
COMP-516	History of Song 1	1.5
COMP-517	Songwriting 2	1.5
COMP-518	Guitar Vocal Showcase	1.5
COMP-519	History of Song 2	1.5
COMP-524	Small Band Showcase	1.5
COMP-525	Piano Vocal Showcase	1.5
COMP-526	Lyric Writing	2
COMP-527	Music Supervision	2

**Songwriting**

Exploration Track | select 9 credits

COMP-528	Advanced Songwriting 1	1.5
COMP-529	Advanced Songwriting 2	1.5
COMP-538	Industry Showcase	1.5
COMP-539	History of Song 3	1.5
COMP-541	History of Song 4	1.5
COMP-542	Collaborative Showcase	1.5
COMP-543	Co-Writing 1	2
COMP-544	Co-Writing 2	2
COMP-545	Intro to Scoring for Picture	2

**Vocal Arranging**

select 9 credits

COMP-509	Instrumentation	2
----- OR -----		
COMP-513	Intro to Orchestration	2
MUS-507	Vocal Arranging 1	1.5
MUS-607	Vocal Arranging 2	1.5
MUS-508	Conducting Vocal Ensembles 1	2
MUS-608	Conducting Vocal Ensembles 2	2

**Music Production**

select 9 credits

PROD-545	MIDI Production 1	2
PROD-546	MIDI Production 2	2
PROD-547	Sound And Signals	1
PROD-548	Introduction to Signal Processing	3
PROD-549	Advanced Signal Processing	3
PROD-550	Microphone Technology	2
PROD-551	Producer's Survival Skills	2
PROD-552	Production Styles and Genres	2
PROD-553	Pro Tools 101	3
PROD-554	Pro Tools 110	3
PROD-555	Pro Tools 201	3
PROD-556	Pro Tools 210m	3

**Music Business**

select 9 credits

IND-561	A&R Strategy	2
IND-562	Brand Development & Partnership	1
IND-563	Social Media Branding	2
IND-564	Music Licensing 1	2
IND-565	Music Publishing 1	2
IND-566	Music Licensing 2	2
IND-567	Music Publishing 2	2
IND-568	Marketing Budgeting	2
IND-569	Digital Distribution	1
IND-570	Creating Artist Pitch Materials	1
IND-571	Indie Record Labels	2
IND-572	Merchandise Licensing & Retail	2
IND-573	Touring Strategies 1	2
IND-574	Music Journalism	2
IND-575	Publicity	2
IND-576	Touring Strategies 2	2
IND-577	Music Delivery Devices and Services	1
IND-578	Managing Your Audience	1
IND-579	Music Supervision	2
IND-580	Technology Startups	1
IND-581	App Development	1

**Required Equipment & Technology  
Music Producing & Recording**

Computer

- Required minimum: MacBook Pro (iOS 10.14.6 or later)  
- Estimated cost: \$599.00 used, \$1299.00 new
- Required minimum: 1TB external storage  
- Estimated cost: \$45.00 (1TB), \$170.00 (1TB ssd), \$299.00 (2TB ssd)

Software

- Required minimum: Sibelius  
- Estimated cost: \$9.99/month (education pricing)
- Required minimum: Logic Pro X  
- Estimated cost: \$199.00 (education bundle, 5 months)
- Required minimum: Pro Tools  
- Estimated cost: \$9.99/month (education pricing)

USB Audio Interface

- Required minimum: Single iutput interface (Focusrite Scarlett solo)  
- Estimated cost: \$109.99
- Double input interface (Focusrite Scarlett 2i2 or MOTU M2) (optional)  
- Estimated cost: \$159.99

MIDI Keyboard

- Required minimum: 61 keys and sustain pedal (76 keys preferred)  
- Estimated cost: \$177.00 (61 keys), \$269 (76 keys)

Headphones

- Required minimum: Wired, over ear (AKG K240 or comparable)  
- Estimated cost: \$69.00 (AKG K240)

Microphone

- Required minimum: Shure SM58 (or comparable)  
- Estimated cost: \$99.00

- Required minimum: Mic Stand  
- Estimated cost: \$25.00
- Required minimum: XLR Cable  
- Estimated cost: \$19.00+
- Required minimum: Pop Filter  
- Estimated cost: \$13.00 - \$35.00

Other

- Required minimum: Printer  
- Estimated cost: \$44.00+
- Required minimum: Thumb drive for back up (at least 32GB)  
- Estimated cost: \$5.00 (32GB) - \$18.00 (128GB)
- Required minimum: Staff paper, pen, pencil, eraser

**Tech Requirements & Recommendations for Incoming MPR Students:**

Student must own a personal license of Pro Tools software. Ownership will be verified.

1. If a student wishes to wait with the purchase of the software until officially enrolled at LACM—in order to benefit from the substantial price reduction afforded by Avid's Academic pricing—the purchase must be completed by the end of week 2. (Please note that Pro Tools first is NOT an acceptable version of Pro Tools, as its limitations are substantial.)

Since ownership of Pro Tools software is mandatory, it follows that students must own a computer.

1. We strongly recommend computers made by Apple. Mac Pro, iMac, and MacBook Pro are all acceptable and recommended solutions. A vast majority of professionals in the audio world use Apple computers with Pro Tools (as well as many other DAW solutions). (When needed, it will be a lot easier to get help from fellow students and/or professionals.) While Pro Tools will run successfully on PCs, there are too many variables to offer recommendations. All students should visit [Avid.com](http://Avid.com), and ensure that their computer meets the minimum requirements to successfully operate Pro Tools.
2. Buy the best computer you can afford, even if it seems overkill today. This will go a long way in ensuring your system's ability to handle complex productions, and will also improve reliability. Furthermore, the computer will most likely remain within the minimums required by Avid for a longer period in the future. We recommend a minimum of 16 GB of RAM, and a 512 GB of internal storage (SSD drive) Laptop or desktop. Either is fine. Desktop performance, connectivity & expansion options are usually slightly better than those offered by laptop computers.
3. Since it is not advisable to keep Pro Tools sessions on a computer's (internal) startup drive, we strongly advise the purchase of the following:
  - 1x Portable 1GB external SSD drive. Use this to store all projects, and to transfer work to and from

- campus.
- 1x 2GB (more—or multiple—is better) External Hard drive for backup of data. Additional drives recommended for long-term storage/archiving purposes.
  - If student owns large sample libraries, it is advisable to store those on a fast (SSD) dedicated, external drive.
  - All drives should feature USB 3 interfaces. Drives with Thunderbolt interface are OK (even desirable), but student must also acquire a Thunderbolt-to-USB adapter cable.

Ownership of a good pair of “closed back” headphones is mandatory. These are required for work in labs.

1. It is also strongly recommended that student acquire a good pair of open back headphones, for work at home, or away from others. (Sennheiser 580, 600, 650. etc., or Drop.com 58X Jubilee, or Sennheiser HD 6XX)