

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 SONGWRITING

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

MMC PLO 1: Proficiency in Songwriting Composition

Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of musical structure and harmonic language by composing original songs that display advanced expertise in melodic and harmonic form, musical arrangement and lyrics that display poetic form and content.

MMC PLO 2: Performance Proficiency

Students will be able to demonstrate the ability to proficiently sing their songs and accompany themselves on guitar and piano using innovative chord and rhythmic patterns in support of the melodic structure.

MMC 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.

MMC PLO 4: Professional Creative Practices

Students will be able to demonstrate advanced competency in the professional knowledge and practice of arranging, music directing, recording studio techniques and computer technology.

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 |
|------------|---|----------------------------|
| COMP-520SW | Private Lesson in Songwriting | 2 |
| COMP-537 | Songwriter Showcase – Singer/Songwriter | 1.5 |
| COMP-535 | Writer/Producer Collaboration 1 | 2 |
| COMP-523 | Integrated Songwriting Styles | 2 |
| COMP-505 | Modern Composition Theory | 1 |
| PROD-500 | Advanced DAW Techniques 1 | 2 |
| | | Total Credits: 10.5 |

QUARTER 2

| CODE | COURSE | CREDITS |
|------------|---|---------------------------|
| COMP-521SW | Private Lesson in Songwriting | 2 |
| COMP-635 | Writer/Producer Collaboration 2 | 2 |
| COMP-510 | Writing For Sync | 2 |
| COMP-530 | Artists & Brand Partnerships | 2 |
| MUS-517 | Session Arranging & Production Techniques | 1.5 |
| | | Total Credits: 9.5 |

QUARTER 3

| CODE | COURSE | CREDITS |
|------------|--|--------------------------|
| COMP-522SW | Private Lesson in Songwriting | 2 |
| COMP-536 | Collaborative Composition | 2 |
| COMP-547 | Songwriter Showcase – Music Supervisor Pitch | 1.5 |
| COMP-500SW | Pedagogy 1: Private Studio Teaching | 1 |
| IND-502 | Entrepreneurship & Marketing for The Professional Songwriter | 1.5 |
| IND-615 | Music Industry Ethics & The Law | 2 |
| | | Total Credits: 10 |

QUARTER 4

| CODE | COURSE | CREDITS |
|------------|---|----------------------------|
| COMP-620SW | Private Lesson in Songwriting | 2 |
| COMP-637 | Songwriter Showcase – Artist Pitch | 1.5 |
| COMP-613 | Artist Management Practicum | 4 |
| COMP-600 | Pedagogy 2: Program & Course Development | 1 |
| IND-600 | Branding, Partnerships and Promotion Concepts | 1.5 |
| IND-616 | Royalty Accounting & Business Management | 1.5 |
| | | Total Credits: 11.5 |

ELECTIVE TRACK COURSES IN FIELDS OF STUDY OUTSIDE OF THE MAJOR

QUARTER 5

| CODE | COURSE | CREDITS |
|------------|--|---------|
| COMP-621SW | Private Lesson in Songwriting | 2 |
| COMP-647 | Songwriter Showcase – Live Video Production | 1.5 |
| COMP-534 | Song Catalog Development & Presentation | 2 |
| IND-501 | Advanced Music Publishing & Licensing | 2 |
| IND-510 | The Business of Philanthropy: Fundraising, Grant Writing | 1 |

Total Credits: 8.5

QUARTER 6

| CODE | COURSE | CREDITS |
|------------|---|---------|
| COMP-690SW | Thesis Project: Songwriting | 3 |
| COMP-631 | Intersection Of Education and Entertainment | 3 |
| COMP-512 | Music Media Production | 2 |
| MUS-603 OR | Advanced Arranging: The Orchestra | 2 |

Total Credits: 10

ELECTIVE TRACK - SONGWRITING

| CODE | COURSE | CREDITS |
|----------|---|---------|
| COMP-530 | Artists & Brand Partnerships | 2 |
| COMP-613 | Artist Management Practicum | 4 |
| COMP-631 | Intersection of Education and Entertainment | 3 |

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.

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 |

- 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*

Instrument

- Required minimum: Acoustic Guitar (preferred acoustic/electric)
- *Estimated cost: \$329.00 (Fender CD60)*

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

Required Equipment & Technology

Songwriting

Computer

- Required minimum: MacBook Pro (iOS 10.14.6 or later)
- *Estimated cost: \$599.00 used, \$1299.00 new*

Software

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

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)*