

2023 MSM Summer Electives

Please note:

Not all electives are available to every major. If you do not have the option to request an elective in the Elective Request Form, it is because it is not offered for your major. Some electives may be cancelled due to low enrollment.

Acting for Singers

Primarily for voice majors who wish to learn more about stage presence, acting, and audition techniques.

Audition Techniques for Singers

Musical theatre singers will learn how to prepare songs, choose cuts, and audition etiquette.

Aural Skills

Develop skills in melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic dictation and sight singing.

Basics of Pop Music Production

This course will provide a fun survey of American pop music and recording techniques. Students will learn about various ways that music is recorded, especially focusing on multitrack recording (MTR). Interactively the class will create a multitrack pop song. Open to all majors.

Beethoven, Brahms, and Schubert

Exploring the chamber music repertoire of three iconic Romantic composers.

Chamber Music

Open to all classical instrumental majors. Placement is made by the MSM Summer Administration.

Chorus

Open to all majors.

Classical Music History

A survey of significant orchestral masterworks composed from the classical period to the 20th century. Students will experience reading orchestral scores and will listen to works by key composers including Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, and Brahms.

Classical Piano Sonatas

A study of important sonatas from the classical piano repertoire.

Classics of the Piano Repertoire

A survey of important pieces in the piano repertoire.

Composition for Beginners

Open to students with no prior composition experience. Students will analyze music and learn the basics, such as melody and form, in order to develop a composition.

Composition for Intermediate Level

Open to students who have had at least one year of composition instruction. Students will analyze music to understand organizational concepts such as control of tension and balance in music and how to apply those functions to their own compositions; open to students who have completed a minimum of one fully notated score.

Conducting

A class in which students learn the fundamentals of orchestral conducting techniques and score reading.

Exploration of the Piano

Students will explore important pieces in classical piano repertoire and will learn about famous pianists in history.

2023 MSM Summer Electives

Film Scoring

Open to all majors. Students will study the techniques and mechanics of composing music for film and television.

Flute Ensemble

Open to classical flute majors.

Great Piano Performers

Students will learn about iconic pianists through time and what made them stand out in music history.

History of Musical Theater

Learn about how Musical Theater has evolved through time, from Hammerstein to Hamilton.

Improvisation for Non-Jazz Majors

Students with no prior improvisation experience will learn the fundamental skills required to improvise.

Improvisation for Beginners

Open to jazz majors. Students will have the chance to grow their improvisation skills, focusing on blues, jazz forms, and rhythm.

Improvisation for Intermediate Level

Students should be familiar with jazz articulation and be able to solo over a blues or jazz standard with simple chord changes.

Improvisation for Advanced Level

Students should be able to arpeggiate through chord tones and be able to solo over some jazz standards from memory.

Improvisation for Percussion

Open to jazz percussion majors.

Independent Practice

Students will be given a period of time during the day to practice individually.

Jazz Combo

Open to jazz instrumental majors.

Jazz Composition

Students will learn the basics of composing in a jazz style.

Jazz Music History

Students will be introduced to the evolution of jazz and its development as an American art form.

Jazz Music Theory

Open to jazz majors. Students will be placed in the appropriate level based on their placement exams. Students who wish to take jazz music theory and have not completed a placement test will be placed in the beginner level.

Jazz Piano Techniques

Open to jazz majors with no prior piano experience.

Latin Music

Students will explore the diverse elements of Latin Music, including stylistic approaches and various rhythms.

Music in New York

Students will receive an overview of music which is iconic to New York City, from Gershwin to hip-hop.

Music Theory

Open to non-jazz majors. Students will be placed in the appropriate level based on their placement exams. Students who wish to take jazz music theory and have not completed a placement test will be placed in the beginner level.

2023 MSM Summer Electives

Orchestration

Students will explore techniques relating to composing and arranging music for ensembles of various instruments.

Overview of Jazz Legends

Students will discover iconic performers and songwriters from the history of jazz.

Percussion Ensemble

Open to jazz percussion majors.

Percussion for Non-Majors

A group class in elementary to intermediate percussion for non-percussion majors.

Piano for Non-Majors

A group class in elementary to intermediate classical piano for non-piano majors.

Piano Literature

In this course, students will explore repertoire from the earliest keyboard works to the beginning of the 20th-Century. From Bach to Debussy, students will learn to discern styles and forms, and examine important works from the repertoire.

Saxophone Ensemble

Open to jazz saxophone majors.

Sight-reading for Pianists

Classical pianists will learn techniques to strengthen their sight-reading skills.

Songwriting

Students will write original pop songs with lyrics.

Video Game Music

Students will learn the history of video game music, as well as the techniques used to create an engaging piece of video game music.

Vocal Pedagogy

Musical theater students will learn skills to become effective voice teachers.

World Music

Students will survey the melodies, harmonies, rhythms, and instruments found in music outside North America and Europe.