COMPOSITION AND ELECTRONIC MUSIC

Ohio University provides instruction in composition and electronic music from beginning levels through advanced graduate levels.

Degrees Offered
- Bachelor of Music in Composition
- Master of Music in Composition

Composition Curriculum

Music composition at Ohio University is taught in private or semi-private lessons with a major professor. Students have the opportunity to hear their music read or performed by School of Music ensembles such as the Orchestra, Wind Symphony, Jazz ensembles, University Singers, and the New Music Ensemble. Composition department recitals provide valuable opportunities for students to hear their music performed. Ohio also has strong programs in film, video, theater, and dance which provide composition majors with many opportunities for interdisciplinary projects. In addition, composition majors may compete in the annual student soloist competition, or have a work performed on an Honors Recital.

Bachelor of Music in Composition

The undergraduate degree in composition is a comprehensive program that offers specialized training. Students receive a strong, well-rounded education that is required to achieve success. Two years of private study are required for the degree, though most majors elect to enroll in composition every term, or whenever their schedule permits. The degree culminates with a Senior Recital and a Senior Project – a large-scale musical work.

Requirements for Undergraduate Composition Majors:
Prospective composition students must complete a successful audition as a performer before being admitted as a composition major. Refer to the School of Music website for details. Prospective composition students are encouraged to submit a portfolio of recent compositions and schedule an interview with the composition department chair.

Upon acceptance into degree program, the following should occur:
- Applied music study is required until proficiency requirements established by the School of Music are attained.
- Keyboard skills, developed in piano classes or private lessons, are required.
- Successful completion of the core curriculum in music theory and history.
- Complete at least one course in conducting (designed to prepare student composers to conduct their own compositions).
- In addition to the core curriculum, composition majors receive advanced training in theory, history, orchestration, and electronic/computer music.

Master of Music in Composition

The Master of Music degree in music composition at Ohio offers specialized training in music composition complemented by a well-balanced, advanced education in music history and theory, as well as orchestration and electronic/computer music. One year of private study is required for the master’s degree in composition, but most students enroll in composition as an elective every term, or whenever their schedule permits. The degree culminates with a composition thesis, which is a large-scale musical work.

Composition and Electronic Music Faculty

Mark Phillips, D.M.
Distinguished Professor
Composition - Electronic Music
Chair, Composition-Academic Studies
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Mark Phillips won the 1988 Barlow International Competition for Orchestral Music, leading to collaborations with conductor Leonard Slatkin. His music has received hundreds of performances throughout the world—including dozens of orchestra performances by groups such as the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and the Cleveland Orchestra — and has been recorded by Richard Stoltzman and the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra, the Lark Quartet, and several solo artists. He has received several Ohio Arts Council fellowships, an Ohioana Music Citation, and numerous commissions. Ohio University named him a Distinguished Professor in 2007.

André Gribou, M.M.
Professor of Composition and Piano
gribou@ohio.edu

Andre Gribou has composed for and collaborated with many nationally and internationally known artists in the creation of works for dance, film documentaries, theater and video. He has received several Emmy ® nominations as well as numerous commissions and grants. He has scored two NASA films created for the Science on a Sphere format. His score for the NASA-TV project Water for Tea received the Crystal Award for Excellence and the Award of Distinction for Original Music. As a pianist, he has performed across the United States, in Europe and Asia in classical, contemporary and jazz formats.
Application Process
In addition to completing the standard application for admission to the university, applicants to the composition master’s degree program are required to submit a portfolio of scores and recordings that best demonstrate their ability as a composer. They must also include a short essay in which they discuss their career goals as a composer and why they are interested in pursuing a master’s degree in composition. Further information about this application process can be found online at www.finearts.ohio.edu/music.

Scholarships and Graduate Assistantships
Scholarships and Graduate Assistantships are available in electronic-computer music and in theory, as well as other areas. These awards are highly competitive and are dependent on availability from year to year.

Electronic/Computer Music Curriculum
The study of electronic music is an important part of the curriculum of the School of Music. Electronic music classes are required of undergraduate and graduate composition majors, as well as music education majors. The main emphasis of the two-year curriculum is learning to use the technology to create original compositions. Courses, which are intensively instructional, can be alternated with courses that encourage more creativity. Students work in several different studios (see below) with a wide variety of the rapidly evolving technology available in this exciting field.

Electronic Music Facilities
The School of Music has a first-rate electronic and computer music program centered around a multi-station lab and a surround sound studio. Each workstation in the lab is equipped with a 20’ screen G5 iMac, a MIDI keyboard, and a variety of commercial and custom software and is available for student use about 80 hours a week. The surround sound studio, available for advanced studio projects, is centered around a dual processor Apple G5 powermac, a MOTU multi-channel audio interface, and matched powered speakers.

About the School of Music
One of four schools in the College of Fine Arts, the School of Music is a significant part of the vibrant cultural life of the Ohio campus. Our students, faculty, and guest artists present well over 150 concerts annually. A distinguished faculty of 43 professors serves a primarily residential student body of approximately 230 undergraduate and 50 masters’ students. The School of Music also houses the Athens Community Music School, which provides lessons, ensembles and courses to students of all ages from Southeast Ohio. School of Music students have the opportunity to teach through the ACMS, gaining highly valuable professional experience. School of Music alumni hold prominent teaching and professional positions in a variety of music fields throughout the United States and abroad. The School of Music is committed to a continuing tradition of excellence and to meeting the needs of future generations of students. Ohio University has been a fully accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Music since 1946.

About Ohio University
Ohio University, chartered in 1804, was the first institute of higher learning in the Northwest Territory. Today it has a student body of over 19,000, offers degrees in more than 250 undergraduate programs and grants master’s and doctoral degrees in nearly all of its major academic divisions. Located in Athens, Ohio provides diverse intellectual stimulation and a wealth of social-cultural activities in a scenic setting. Neighboring cities with active performance calendars include: Charleston, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, and Pittsburgh.

For further composition program information
Dr. Mark Phillips, Chair
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Ohio University School of Music
Robert Glidden Hall
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For audition Information:
Dr. Phillips
(graduate/undergraduate)

Dr. Andrew Trachsel
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For questions about degree program content:

Undergraduate
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www.finearts.ohio.edu/music