



*Honors in the Major:*

## **Music**

Music BA/BS; Music Business; Musical Theatre; Music Education;  
Composition; Performance; Music Therapy

Students in the Honors Program can choose to pursue various designations to earn upon graduation, including *Honors in the Major*. By completing *Honors in the Major*, students will:

- engage in an enriched and extended learning experience;
- develop as scholars and gain an edge over their peers by choosing a rigorous preparation in their field of study;
- be recognized in the Commencement Book, transcript, and on the diploma.

Students earn this designation at graduation; requirements, including being in good standing with the Honors Program, are reviewed at the end of the final semester:

1. 3.3 cumulative GPA
2. 3.5 major GPA
3. Fulfill Honors Program participation requirements: 1 Honors Learning Experience per semester in the program, including the final semester (students are not required to complete an Honors Learning Experience when they are off-campus)
4. Complete 2 Honors Learning Experiences in MUS courses, specifically:
  - a. Honors Contracts in two classes required for the student's major.
5. Complete an Honors Capstone Experience, which may include:
  - MUS 299: Honors Independent Study
  - HON 395: Honors Thesis

*Examples of capstone projects are on the following pages.*

## Honors in the Major School of Music Capstone Project Examples

Note: students do NOT have to choose a project representative of their major within the School of Music but should choose their advisor to align with their area of interest for the project

### Music Education:

- Clinical Experience
- Private Practice Business Plan

### Music Therapy:

- Research Proposal

### Performance:

- Children's concert/marketing
- Other outreach performance/marketing
- Chamber recital/program notes
- Lecture Recital
- Collaborative Recital
- Research Project

### Music Business:

- Music Business/Entrepreneurship Business Plan
- Composition / recording / pressing and distribution / marketing plan for an album release + release concert at a commercial venue
- Implement a detailed social media campaign for an artist/song
- Start a student-run publishing company

### Music Theory/Composition:

- **Traditional Composition:** Multi-movement work suitable for publication (e.g., chamber or large ensemble, professional bound/formatted, custom made cover/notes/etc.), with a performance on campus
- **Theory:** Large scale theory/analysis paper that supplements or contrasts work done in the capstone experience of MUS 342 (e.g., a theory pedagogy study).
- **New Media:** Collaborative project on/off, scoring music for a start up game/film, with a presentation on the process on campus, or documented in a blog/series of extensive social media posts (envisioning this as a way to start building a searchable portfolio)

### Musicology:

- Recital of own music — coordinate, perform, discuss (presentation)
- Original 2-movement piece using classical forms and style
- Analysis and presentation
- Analysis of style, compositions in that style, presentation
- Extended Research paper/presentation
- Organize recital of particular composer, coach, present
- Explore an early music instrument
- Program notes for senior recital

**Conducting:**

- Program the repertoire for an entire year for an ensemble of choice
- Propose an alternative concert venue/program/ensemble make up for a current ISU Ensemble
- Create a personal top 10 repertoire list for an ensemble of choice

Compiled Fall 2019