



University of Wisconsin Whitewater

College of Arts and Communication

Department of Music

Declaring a Music Minor Admission Requirements

While any UW-Whitewater student may declare a music minor, the Music Department must be assured that a student is prepared to succeed in the program. Basic qualifications for success in the degree minor program include:

- An ability to read music. Students who do not begin the program able to read music fluently are simply not equipped to succeed in the required music theory, aural skills, piano, and music history coursework. Students who have learned to play or sing solely "by ear" or using guitar tablature are also not prepared to contribute to UW-Whitewater ensembles.
- A basic level of competence on an instrument or voice. Performing in UW-Whitewater ensembles is an expected part of the minor program, and students must be prepared to make an appropriate musical contribution, instrumentally or vocally.

To assure that students have these basic qualifications, all music minors who enter the program are expected to pass an audition. Here is the process:

- Fill out an online [Music Minor Audition Application](#).
- Once received, your application will be forwarded to the appropriate faculty member who will contact you to set up an audition time/date.
- After your audition, a faculty member will forward audition results to the Music Office for processing. You will receive notification of your audition results via email.

Note: If a student who has declared a music minor fails to audition in a timely manner, the Department Chair has the option of removing the minor from the student's records.

Degree Requirements and Advising

Music Minors are not required to receive formal advising from the Department of Music. However, you should be aware of the music minor requirements. Students may wish to meet with their music minor advisor to make sure they are on track.

Not all required Music classes are offered every semester. The two required theory classes are prerequisites for the required music history class. Therefore, students who wait until their junior year to begin required coursework may run into problems. We recommend that a student start the required coursework (Theory I and Class Piano I) in the fall of their sophomore year. Minors are encouraged to begin registering for their electives (such as participating in ensembles) as freshmen.

Practice Rooms

Once a student has successfully passed an audition, they will be given access to the music practice rooms using their student ID card. The practice rooms are located in the basement of the Center of the Arts, Rooms 20-25. If you have any problems with access, please submit an online [E-Access Request form](#).

Private Lessons

You must seek permission of both the studio instructor and the Department Chair to take elective private lessons (MUSC 120, 121 or 122). Be aware that lessons come with an additional fee (\$175), and may not be available to all minors. If you are able to take private lessons, be sure to contact your teacher as soon as possible when you get to campus. They will need to know your class schedule so they can begin to schedule lessons.

Special Note to Transfer Students Completing a Music Minor

We occasionally see transfer students who have completed most or even all of our requirements for the minor. Be aware, however, that in addition to completing the academic requirements for the minor, transfer students must complete at least one fourth of the minor (6 credits) here at UW-Whitewater. If you have issues relating to transfer credits, see [Prof. Sharri VanAlstine](#), department master advisor.