

# Music

## What can I do with this major?

OCCUPATIONS	EMPLOYERS	SKILLS TO DEVELOP
<b><u>EDUCATION</u></b>		
Teaching	Daycare centers Elementary and secondary schools Private schools Recreation centers Colleges and universities Conservatories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Acquire teaching certificate for public school teaching.</li><li>• Gain experience working with children through volunteer or part-time work experiences.</li><li>• Graduate degree required to teach in higher education.</li><li>• Specialize in an area such as music, music theory, composition, music history, etc.</li><li>• Performance skill on one instrument or voice required.</li><li>• Develop business relationships with schools and/or music stores to increase client base.</li></ul>
Private Lessons	Studios Self-employed	
<b><u>PERFORMANCE</u></b>		
Instrumental Vocal	Armed Forces bands and orchestras Symphony orchestras Small ensembles Rock or jazz groups Dance bands Concert soloist Clubs and restaurants Church choirs Community choral groups Opera chorus or soloist Musical theaters Ballet productions Recording industry Radio, television, and motion picture industries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop musical talent and skill.</li><li>• Obtain formal training to acquire necessary skills, knowledge, and ability to interpret music.</li><li>• Ambition and showmanship are important.</li><li>• Join campus bands and choruses, church choirs, and other performing acts.</li><li>• Seek competitions, apprenticeship programs, and workshops to gain experience and recognition.</li><li>• Opportunities are very limited. Most performers have other careers.</li><li>• Auditions are generally required.</li></ul>
<b><u>COMPOSING/ARRANGING</u></b>		
Composing Arranging	Self-employed Record companies Publishers Muzak Motion picture and television industries Production companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Knowledge of composition, harmony, arranging, and theory are important.</li><li>• Learn how to use electronic instruments and synthesizers.</li><li>• Develop computer and desktop publishing expertise.</li><li>• Skill on one or more instruments and voice are necessary.</li><li>• Seek grants and awards through foundations.</li><li>• Very few musicians earn living through composing.</li></ul>

**OCCUPATIONS****EMPLOYERS****SKILLS TO DEVELOP****CONDUCTING**

Choirs  
 Choral groups  
 Symphonies  
 Opera  
 Armed Forces bands and orchestras

- Develop superior musicianship and leadership.
- Acquire extensive experience in performing groups.
- Opportunities extremely limited.
- Gain acceptance into a conductor-training program or related apprenticeship.

**MUSIC LIBRARIES**

Colleges and universities  
 Conservatories  
 Public libraries  
 Radio and television stations

- Develop computer and research skills.
- Gain thorough knowledge of music and musicology.
- Earn master's degree in library/information science.

**MUSIC THERAPY**

Administration  
 Planning  
 Evaluation  
 Management  
 Research and Writing  
 Teaching  
 Social Work

Hospitals: general and psychiatric  
 Special education facilities  
 Mental health centers  
 Nursing homes  
 Correctional facilities  
 Private practice  
 Outpatient clinics

- Take courses in psychology, social work, or education.
- Earn a master's degree in music therapy and seek certification.
- Volunteer in a rehabilitation setting.
- Must demonstrate a genuine interest in helping people.

**RECORDING INDUSTRY**

Publishing and Editing  
 Producing  
 Recording  
 Engineering  
 Manufacturing  
 Talent Acquisition  
 Promotion/Media Relations  
 Publicity  
 Administration  
 Marketing and Sales  
 Product Management

Production recording studios (most located in New York City, Los Angeles, and Nashville)

- Complete an internship at a record company.
- Take business courses to work in management or administration.
- Journalism, public relations, and communication classes helpful for work in areas of promotion.
- Gain sales experience for marketing. Must interact well with people and develop persuasion tools.
- Knowledge of electronics, audio engineering, and recording knowledge required for production.
- Work or volunteer at a campus or local radio station.
- Join organizations involved with bringing events and entertainment to campus.
- Work at a retail record store to learn about the industry.

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**COMMUNICATIONS**

Music and Program Direction  
On Air Performance  
Promotion  
Voiceovers  
Copyright/Clearance Administration  
Music License Administration  
Music Editing, Production, and Composing  
Sound Mixing  
Post Production  
Research

Radio and television stations  
Virtual reality sound environments  
e.g. Internet sites, software creators

- Take classes in communications, broadcasting, or journalism.
- Complete an internship at a television or radio station.
- Develop computer-related skills such as software development and programming.

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**MISCELLANEOUS**

Sales  
Music Journalism  
Law

Music shops  
Record stores  
Instrument manufacturers  
Music-related publications  
Magazines and newspapers  
Entertainment law firms

- Get sales experience. Work in a retail music outlet.
- Take courses in journalism and English.
- Write articles for the Chimes.
- Earn law degree.

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**Strategies For Placement In Music**

- Finding positions in the music industry requires a combination of talent, training, connections and some luck. Perseverance is required!
- Develop competencies in business management, computers, marketing, or other areas to broaden range of employment possibilities.
- Develop a variety of skills. Become "multitalented."
- Confidence, personality, a positive attitude, and a love of music are important to success.
- Some jobs may require you to join unions or guilds.
- Performers often travel frequently and must be flexible regarding their work schedules.
- Gain experience working for a music publisher or other businesses in the entertainment industry.

**Internet Resources:**

Industry Profile - Performing Arts: [www.wetfeet.com/asp/careerlist.asp](http://www.wetfeet.com/asp/careerlist.asp)

WetFeet.com guide to performing arts: covers Industry Trends & Overview, "Love-Hate" (pros and cons of this field), Major Players and Job Descriptions & Tips.

Vault: more information on the every day life in the entertainment industry . This site is accessible through the Career Services Website: [www.capital.edu/careers](http://www.capital.edu/careers)