



Make today matter

The Bachelor of Music is a five-year degree programme. The first year of the programme offers foundational support for the following critical skills required for music studies: practical musicianship, music theory, musicology, aural training, academic literary and academic information management. In the second year of study, students are incorporated into the regular four-year Bachelor of Music programme.



Who are the ideal candidates?

This programme is designed for students who do not meet the practical and theoretical requirements to study a four-year music degree directly after high school.



What makes this programme unique?

The first year of study acts as a bridging year aimed to equip students with the necessary skills required to study music at a tertiary level.



Structure of programme

Core modules

Musicology, first instrument, music theory, aural training, methodology, music education, ethnomusicology and research methodology (final year)

Elective modules

Composition, music therapy, music technology, second instrument, orchestral and choral conducting, chamber music, music entrepreneurship, music philosophy and music psychology



Which companies employ our graduates?

Schools, local and international orchestras, and early childhood development centres. Our graduates also open their own private teaching studios.

What career opportunities exist for graduates?

Music teachers and technicians

Solo and/or chamber music performers

Orchestral musicians

Music therapists

Composers

Musicologists

Minimum admission requirements

Programme	Minimum requirements for NSC/IEB for 2026		
	Achievement level		APS
	Music	English Home Language or English First Additional Language	
Bachelor of Music [5 years]	4 (50-59%) or Grade V Practical and Grade III Theory (Unisa/Royal Schools/Trinity) or a comparable standard and Practical audition and theoretical test passed with 50%	4	26

This is a 5-year programme. Prospective students will be required to write an assessment.

The School of the Arts: Music selects candidates based on a practical singing or instrument performance of 10 minutes, as well as a theoretical test.

Audition required

- Video of a practical performance (50%): A performance on the candidate's principal instrument. The performance should last about 10 minutes, and the programme must contain three works from different style periods (standard: at least Grade V, Unisa/Royal Schools/Trinity practical music examinations);
- Online theory test (50%): A written test that will assess the candidate's knowledge of elementary theoretical principles (standard: at least Grade III, Unisa/ Royal Schools/Trinity theory examinations).

To retain admission, you must obtain an APS of at least 26 in the NSC. Admissions for the Bachelor of Music in the 5-year programme will take place from July, September and Ad-hoc. If you are admitted to this programme, you may not be considered for any other degree programme within the Faculty, except for the Bachelor of Music degree.

Careers: Music teachers, music technicians, solo and/or chamber music performers, orchestral musicians and composers

Contact information

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Refer to the International undergraduate prospectus at www.up.ac.za/programmes > Undergraduate > Admission Information or [click here](#) for more information.

- The closing date for applications for programmes in this faculty is 30 June.
- Meeting the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee admission into a programme.

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES Programmes	Minimum requirements for 2026									
	Achievement level									
	Compulsory subjects	GCSE #		HIGCSE NSSC HL	AS Level	A Level	IB		KOMBI ABITUR	KCSE
		The qualifications in the two columns below will be considered only for conditional admission. If final AS and/or A levels have been completed, these two columns will not apply. It can also not be used for final admission and/ or registration.			GCE CIE NSSC AS	GCE CIE CGCE UACE WAEC ZGCE	IB SL	IB HL		
CIE	UK									
		IGCSE LGCSE BGCSE EGCSE	England Wales Northern Ireland Pearson Edexcel GCSE							
		O Level NSSC OL CGCE UCE NECO WAEC WASSCE ZGCE								
Bachelor of Arts in Speech-Language Pathology	English Mathematics	C	4	3	C	E	4	3	60-69%	B
Bachelor of Arts in Audiology		D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
Bachelor of Arts specialising in Philosophy, Politics and Economics	English Mathematics	C	4	3	C	E	4	3	60-69%	B
		C	4	3	C	E	4	3	60-69%	B
Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts [4-year programme]	English	C	4	3	C	E	4	3	60-69%	B
Bachelor of Arts in Information Design										
Bachelor of Drama [3-year programme]										
Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law										
Bachelor of Social Work										
Bachelor of Arts										
Bachelor of Arts specialising in Languages										
Bachelor of Political Science specialising in International Studies										
Bachelor of Political Science specialising in Political Studies										
Bachelor of Arts specialising in Visual Studies										
Bachelor of Social Science specialising in Industrial Sociology and Labour Studies										
Bachelor of Social Science in Heritage and Cultural Sciences***										
Bachelor of Music [4-year programme]	English Music*	C	4	3	C	E	4	3	60-69%	B
		D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
Bachelor of Music [5-year programme]	English Music**	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
		D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts [5-year programme]	English	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
Bachelor of Drama [4-year programme]	English	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+

Only English with at least a C symbol on this level can be used for final admission.

* or Grade VII Practical and Grade V Theory (Unisa/Royal Schools/Trinity) or a comparable standard and a practical audition and theoretical test passed with 60%.

** or Grade V Practical and Grade III Theory (Unisa/Royal Schools/Trinity) or a comparable standard and a practical audition and theoretical test passed with 50%.

*** Possible name change to: Bachelor of Social Science specialising in Heritage and Cultural Tourism