

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

Bachelor of Music [BMus] 4-year programme (01132003)

Department School of the Arts

Minimum duration of study 4 years

Total credits 500

NQF level 08

Programme information

This programme is aimed at the acquisition of specialist music skills and knowledge. The programme can be compiled in such a way that, on its completion, students are qualified for a wide variety of music-related occupations, including the following: solo performer, orchestral or chamber musician, music teacher at all levels (for individual and group tuition), musicologist, music technologist, entrepreneur and impresario.

Admission requirements

Important information for all prospective students for 2025

The admission requirements below apply to all who apply for admission to the University of Pretoria with a **National Senior Certificate (NSC)** and **Independent Examination Board (IEB)** qualifications. [Click here](#) for this Faculty Brochure.

Minimum requirements			
Achievement level			
English Home Language or English First Additional Language	APS (Grade 11)	APS (NSC/IEB completed)	Additional music requirements:
5	30	28	Music: 4 (50-59%) 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 at least 60%

* To retain admission, you must obtain an APS of at least 28 in the NSC.

Admissions for the Bachelor of Music degree will take place in July, September and Ad-hoc.

Life Orientation is excluded when calculating the APS.

Applicants currently in Grade 12 must apply with their final Grade 11 (or equivalent) results.

Applicants who have completed Grade 12 must apply with their final NSC or equivalent qualification results.

Please note that meeting the minimum academic requirements does not guarantee admission.

Successful candidates will be notified once admitted or conditionally admitted.

Applicants should check their application status regularly on the UP Student Portal at [click here](#).

Applicants with qualifications other than the abovementioned should refer to the International undergraduate prospectus 2026: Applicants with a school leaving certificate not issued by Umalusi (South Africa), available at [click here](#).

International students: [Click here](#).

Transferring students

A transferring student is a student who, at the time of applying at the University of Pretoria (UP) is/was a registered student at another tertiary institution. A transferring student will be considered for admission based on NSC or equivalent qualification and previous academic performance. Students who have been dismissed from other institutions due to poor academic performance will not be considered for admission to UP.

Closing dates: Same as above.

Returning students

A returning student is a student who, at the time of application for a degree programme is/was a registered student at UP, and wants to transfer to another degree at UP. A returning student will be considered for admission based on NSC or equivalent qualification and previous academic performance.

Note:

- Students who have been excluded/dismissed from a faculty due to poor academic performance may be considered for admission to another programme at UP, as per faculty-specific requirements.
- Only ONE transfer between UP faculties and TWO transfers within a faculty will be allowed.
- Admission of returning students will always depend on the faculty concerned and the availability of space in the programmes for which they apply.

Closing date for applications from returning students

Unless capacity allows for an extension of the closing date, applications from returning students must be submitted before the end of August via your UP Student Centre.

Additional requirements

Departmental selection is required for this programme.

Admission is subject to tests in the first instrument, music theory and harmony. Level 4 in Music as a Grade 12 subject or Grade VII Practical and Grade V Theory (Unisa, Royal Schools, Trinity) serves as a guideline of the expected standard.

Other programme-specific information

- Students with an achievement level of 5 or 6 or 7 for English Home Language or an achievement level of 6 or 7 for English First Additional Language or the foreign qualification equivalence, as per the conversion table, are exempted from ALL 110 and 125.
- MME 400 can only be taken if the first instrument is piano, violin, jazz or classical voice.
- MEI 403 is performing art, with a public concert of 1 hour in the second semester.
- The choice of instrument is based on the availability of an appropriate teacher.
- In order to be admitted to MTI 100 (Second instrument) in any instrument other than percussion, organ, harpsichord or singing, a student should have reached at least Unisa Grade V or a comparable standard in that instrument; in the case of organ, harpsichord, percussion and singing, admission is at the discretion of the head of the department.

Practical music

Students choose a first and a second instrument from the following: Voice, piano, keyboard, organ, harpsichord, violin, viola, cello, double bass, flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, French horn, trumpet, trombone, tuba, percussion, harp, guitar, recorder, saxophone and ensemble. Jazz and/or classical streams are allowed, according to availability.

Attendance modules

- i. In addition to the modules mentioned in the learning programme, students are obliged to attend the weekly recital classes and seminars.
- ii. It is compulsory for all music students to be a member of a departmental ensemble, choir and/or the UP Symphony Orchestra and UP Symphonic Wind Orchestra.
- iii. Unsatisfactory attendance at the performance classes, seminars and compulsory ensembles and choirs as stipulated under (i) and (ii) may, at the discretion of the head of the department, lead to a lowering of the student's practical or any one academic module's year mark.

Promotion to next study year

Admission to the second year of study

Must obtain at least 108 credits for music modules at year level 1.

Admission to the third year of study

Obtain all credits at level 1 (142 credits), as well as at least 130 credits for music modules at yr level 2.

Admission to the fourth year of study

Must obtain all credits at level 2 (155 credits), as well as at least 110 credits for music modules at yr level 3.

Pass with distinction

In order to be awarded the degree with distinction, a student has to obtain a weighted average of at least 75% (not rounded) for the final-year modules.



Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 132

Fundamental modules

Academic information management 111 (AIM 111) - Credits: 4.00

Academic information management 121 (AIM 121) - Credits: 4.00

Academic literacy 110 (ALL 110) - Credits: 6.00

Academic literacy for Humanities 125 (ALL 125) - Credits: 6.00

Academic orientation 101 (UPO 101) - Credits: 0.00

Core modules

Aural training 100 (GHO 100) - Credits: 10.00

General music studies 100 (MAM 100) - Credits: 12.00

First instrument 100 (MEI 100) - Credits: 20.00

Musicology 100 (MGS 100) - Credits: 20.00

Music theory 100 (MKT 100) - Credits: 20.00

Methodology 100 (MME 100) - Credits: 10.00

Music education 100 (MML 100) - Credits: 10.00

Second instrument 100 (MTI 100) - Credits: 10.00



Curriculum: Year 2

Minimum credits: 138

Select one elective music module at year level 2.

Core modules

- Aural training 200 (GHO 200) - Credits: 12.00
- First instrument 200 (MEI 200) - Credits: 30.00
- Musicology 200 (MGS 200) - Credits: 24.00
- Music theory 200 (MKT 200) - Credits: 30.00
- Methodology 200 (MME 200) - Credits: 12.00
- Music education 200 (MML 200) - Credits: 12.00
- Second instrument 200 (MTI 200) - Credits: 12.00
- Community arts in practice 210 (SOA 210) - Credits: 6.00

Elective modules

- General composition studies 200 (KPS 200) - Credits: 12.00
- Music technology 200 (MCS 200) - Credits: 12.00
- Chamber music 201 (MCS 201) - Credits: 12.00



Curriculum: Year 3

Minimum credits: 120

Select three elective modules at year level 3.

Core modules

First instrument 300 (MEI 300) - Credits: 30.00

Musicology 300 (MGS 300) - Credits: 36.00

Music education 300 (MML 300) - Credits: 18.00

Elective modules

General composition studies 300 (KPS 300) - Credits: 18.00

Capita selecta: Music 300 (MCS 300) - Credits: 18.00

Music technology 302 (MCS 302) - Credits: 18.00

Music theory 300 (MKT 300) - Credits: 18.00

Music entrepreneurship 300 (MKZ 300) - Credits: 18.00

Methodology 300 (MME 300) - Credits: 18.00

Music education 300 (MML 300) - Credits: 18.00

Music psychology 370 (MPE 370) - Credits: 18.00

Second instrument 300 (MTI 300) - Credits: 18.00

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 120

Select two elective modules to the value of 80 credits.

Core modules

[Arts research and methodology 400](#) (SOA 400) - Credits: 40.00

Elective modules

[Composition portfolio 400](#) (KPS 400) - Credits: 40.00

[Capita selecta: Music 401](#) (MCS 401) - Credits: 40.00

[Music technology 402](#) (MCS 402) - Credits: 40.00

[First instrument 400](#) (MEI 400) - Credits: 40.00

[First instrument 403](#) (MEI 403) - Credits: 40.00

[Musicology 400](#) (MGS 400) - Credits: 40.00

[Music theory 400](#) (MKT 400) - Credits: 40.00

[Music entrepreneurship 400](#) (MKZ 400) - Credits: 40.00

[Methodology 400](#) (MME 400) - Credits: 40.00

[Music education 400](#) (MML 400) - Credits: 40.00

[Music psychology 470](#) (MPE 470) - Credits: 40.00

General Academic Regulations and Student Rules

The [General Academic Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) and [General Student Rules](#) apply to all faculties and registered students of the University, as well as all prospective students who have accepted an offer of a place at the University of Pretoria. On registering for a programme, the student bears the responsibility of ensuring that they familiarise themselves with the General Academic Regulations applicable to their registration, as well as the relevant faculty-specific and programme-specific regulations and information as stipulated in the relevant yearbook. Ignorance concerning these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression, or basis for an exception to any of the aforementioned regulations. The G Regulations are updated annually and may be amended after the publication of this information.

Regulations, degree requirements and information

The faculty regulations, information on and requirements for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

University of Pretoria Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) verification project

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQSF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP

qualification and programme names, may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to contact their faculties if they have any questions.