Got Questions?
Get Answers!

News You Can Use
about
Performance Study

Questions
I want to take music lessons -- Are there any requirements?
What should I prepare for my audition?
How do I register?
How much do lessons cost?
Can I get aid to help pay for lessons?
What is the policy for placing new students?
What happens if I have to cancel a lesson?
How much credit do I receive for lessons?
Are ensembles open to non music majors or minors?
Where can I practice?
Where can I store my instrument?

….and Answers

The above questions and more are often posed by students enrolled in INDIVIDUAL OR ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE STUDIES. The information contained in this booklet will provide the answers.

It is the responsibility of each student to know course requirements, fees, credit for all courses in which they are enrolled.
MUSIC 100 REQUIREMENT

Because the Department believes students enrolled in individual performance studies should have a thorough knowledge of the rudiments of music, enrollment for lessons is contingent on successful completion of, or exemption from, MUS100, regardless of whether a student's home institution is Mount Holyoke or one of the other colleges in our consortium.

Students wishing to enroll in individual performance study for the first time at Mount Holyoke MUST EITHER:

(1) enroll concurrently in MUS100, which meets Monday through Friday from 9:00 - 9:50am in Room 109 Pratt;

(2) enroll concurrently in a course equivalent to MUS100 at one of the other campuses; OR

(3) pass the MUS100 Exemption Exam. For dates on which the exemption will be given please see: http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/news.html

Prospective performance students who do not enroll concurrently in MUS100 or an equivalent course at another institution ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE the Exemption Exam. For information on the written and aural contents of the Exam please see: http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/music100_exemption.html

and to the following pages for materials which may be useful for those wishing to refresh their understanding of written theory material:

http://www.mtholyoke.edu/courses/lladerac/music/basictheory.html

N.B. In order to pass the Exam, students must achieve scores of at least 75% on BOTH the written and aural portions

AUDITION/INTERVIEW

Students who have not previously studied through the Music Department, and who want to take Individual Performance Study in an instrument or voice and/or play in a chamber music ensemble, must schedule an audition (experienced players and singers) or interview (beginners) with department faculty during the first week of classes. For date and time of auditions see: www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/news.html

Students interested in piano, voice or flute should sign up for an audition appointment on the bulletin board located diagonally across the hall from the Music Department Office, and come to the audition prepared to play or sing a piece of music that demonstrates their musicianship and level of ability. For all other instruments (string, brass, wind, percussion) please go to https://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/orchestra/auditions and use the online audition form

Auditions generally last no more than 10 minutes and are painless.

What should I be prepared to do when I come for an audition?

Piano
- Play a prepared piece of intermediate to advanced level of difficulty and sight-read some brief passages.

Voice
- Sing a short warm-up to check vocal range and ear, i.e. ability to sing intervals in vocal exercises without piano accompaniment.

- Sing a short prepared piece (memory not necessary), e.g. folk song, hymn, broad-way tune, jazz (anything but hard rock).

- Sight-read a few measures of something in English.

Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass
- Play a short prepared piece, some scales, and do some sigh-treading.

Flute
- Play a short prepared piece, some scales and do some sight-reading.
REGISTRATION

In order to register for performance study on ISIS students must first receive a PERMISSION from the instructor after the audition/interview process is completed.

Registration Caveats:
1. The system default is for 2 credits (50 min lesson)
2. If you plan to take a 30-minute lesson for 1 credit, your instructor will need to inform the Registrar.

LESSON FEES

Registered students will receive 12 lessons according to the following fee schedule:
50 minute lessons: $675 (2 credits)
30 minute lessons: $405 (1 credit)

Lesson fees for students who have officially declared a music or minor within the first 10 academic days of a semester are waived.

GRANT-IN-AID

Students who receive financial aid from the College are eligible to apply for a music grant to help pay for lessons.

1. Applications must be submitted by the posted deadline.
2. An application must be submitted for every semester that you need aid.
3. There are no automatic renewals.
4. Only those students who receive financial aid from the College are eligible to apply.
5. Only one instrument or voice will be funded.
6. Applications are available in the Music Office and online at www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/grantinaid.html

NEW STUDENT PLACEMENT

Openings on performance teachers' schedules will be filled according to the following order of priority:

1. Declared Music Majors and Minors.
2. First-, Second-, and Third-year students who demonstrate proficiency on their instrument at or above an upper elementary level, with order of placement determined by extent of experience and quality of performance.
3. First-, Second-, and Third-year students who wish to begin their study of an instrument or voice, provided they enroll concurrently in MUS100 Basic Musicianship.
4. Fourth-year students, with order of placement determined by extent of experience and quality of performance. Senior beginners must enroll concurrently in MUS100 Basic Musicianship.

LESSONS AND MAKE-UPS

1. All students registered for individual performance studies will receive 12 lessons a semester.
2. A lesson canceled by your teacher will be rescheduled.
3. A lesson canceled by you with advance notice and due to illness will be rescheduled.
4. A lesson canceled for any reason other than illness will not be rescheduled.
5. In accordance with College policy, there are no lessons on Mountain Day.
6. Makeup lessons will be scheduled as soon as possible after the missed lesson; it is hoped that by the ninth week of each semester, no student will be more than one lesson behind.

LEVEL OF STUDY

All performance study is for credit and is counted in a student’s GPA.

100 Level (1 or 2 credits)
Successful completion of, or exemption from Music 100 allows up to 8 credits of individual performance study on one instrument at the 100 level.

30 min lesson = 1 credit  50 min lesson = 2 credits

**200 Level (1 or 2 credits)**
Following successful completion 8 credits of 100-level performance study on one instrument, the student will automatically advance to 200-level study, for which there are no credit limitations. Students enrolled in 200-level study will be expected to participate in at least one performance situation per semester. Earlier entry in 200-level is per Instructor.

30 min lesson = 1 credit  50 min lesson = 2 credits

**300-Level (4 credits)**
Students may advance to the 300-level of performance studies upon completion of

1. One 200-level theory course and one 200-level history course
2. Recommendation of the instructor
3. Demonstration of prior public performance
   a. For 1 semester of 300-level study: performance on a shared student recital in each of the 2 semesters of study preceding 300-level study
   b. For 2 semesters of 300-level study: a half recital in one of the 2 semesters preceding entry into 300-level study.

Four (4) credits are granted for each semester of 300-level performance study. Students enrolled in **1 semester of study at the 300-level** will be required to prepare a **half recital or its equivalent**. Students enrolled in a full year of 300-level study will be required to prepare **one full recital program or its equivalent** (Equivalent*: two half-recitals, or one half-recital plus other significant public performance.)

**ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE**
All students are welcome to audition for Mount Holyoke small chamber music ensembles, Orchestra, Choral, Jazz and Early Music Ensembles—not just music majors and minors. All Music Department Ensembles receive one academic credit per semester.

**Where to sign up?**
Orchestra and small chamber music ensembles: [https://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/orchestra/auditions](https://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/orchestra/auditions)
Choral, Jazz, Early Music Ensembles: sign up for your brief, painless, private audition on the bulletin board across the hall from the main office in Pratt Hall. Audition dates are published at the beginning of each semester at [www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music](http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music)

**What to prepare?**
For specific information on auditions for a particular group, please contact the director. In general, come to your audition with a prepared unaccompanied piece that best shows off your abilities. (For Chorale this piece may be as simple as a church hymn or folk song.) The audition will test general ability and musicianship. Students are not expected to be equally strong in all areas.

**How to register?**
Students are able to register for ensembles only after they audition and receive a **PERMISSION** from the instructor.

**ENSEMBLES**
**Choral Ensembles**
[www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/ensemble/choral/](http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/ensemble/choral/)

**Symphony Orchestra**
[www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/ensemble/orchestra/](http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/ensemble/orchestra/)

**Jazz Ensembles**
[www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/ensemble/jazz/](http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/ensemble/jazz/)

**Early Music**
[www.fivecolleges.edu/sites/earlymusic/](http://www.fivecolleges.edu/sites/earlymusic/)

**World Music Ensembles:**
[www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/world_music.html](http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/world_music.html)

**Small Chamber Ensembles**:
**string, wind, brass, mixed**
Flute Choir
See bulletin board for more information.
PRACTIC ROOMS
There are 12 practice rooms in Pratt, located on the ground and basement levels. Schedules are posted outside each room allowing students to reserve a room for particular days and times. Pratt is open from 6am – 7pm and card accessible until 11pm.

LOCKERS
There are a limited number of instrument storage lockers available for students enrolled in individual and ensemble performance study. All lockers must be signed out thru the Music Office. Students are required to sign a “Locker Release Form” and must supply their own padlock.

MUSIC MAJOR or MINOR DECLARATION
Students may declare a major or minor in music as early as the second semester of their first year providing they have taken at least one course that leads to the major or minor i.e. Music 100 (Basic Musicianship) which is offered every semester or Music 231 (Theory I) offered only in the spring. Declaration papers are available online at http://www.mtholyoke.edu/offices/reg/forms/index.shtml

Students must make an appointment with the Department Chair, Linda Laderach (lladerac) to discuss courses they plan to take and to get the required signature.