



## GUIDE TO MAJORS AT YESHIVA: MUSIC

Choosing a major can be stressful, but it is important to understand that you can pursue almost any career regardless of which major you choose. While there are some exceptions, most entry-level positions simply require general transferable skills—those that can be learned in one setting and applied in another. Relevant experience through internships and activities is generally more important to employers than a major. It is best to choose an area that you find interesting and where you have the ability to do well.

### What is the Music Major?

Music majors study the basics of music theory and composition, music history and literature, and music performance in order to give them an appreciation of the pleasures and an understanding of the role of music in the arts and humanities. The study of music has been at the heart of the humanities since the beginning of the Common Era and has traditionally exerted a major influence upon cultural, creative and intellectual life. Participation in the arts and humanities contributes significantly to broadening a person's vision and understanding of the human condition. For more information on this program visit <https://www.yu.edu/stern/ug/music/about>

### What can I do with a Major in Music?

A major in music trains individuals in a skill set that offers a solid foundation and preparation for graduate school (in many areas) as well as employment (in almost any field). Many music majors choose careers in education, professional music, communications, business, law, skilled crafts, social services, health care, and broadcasting. Some potential career titles include:

#### Professional

- Choir Director
- Lyricist
- Performer (instrumental; vocal)

#### Academia/Education

- Music School Administrator
- Private Music Teacher

#### Social Services

- Activities Coordinator

#### Communications/Broadcasting

- Advertising Executive
- Copyists
- Disc Jockey
- Music Promoter
- Music Publisher/ Editor
- Music and Program Director (radio/TV)

- Music Reviewer/Critic
- Production Coordinator
- Publicist
- Sound Mixer/Post Production Assistant (Recording Studios)
- Technical Writer
- Voice Over Artist

#### Business/Industry

- Artist and Repertoire Coordinator
- Booking Agent
- Business Manager/Agent
- Consumer Researcher
- Copyright/Music License Administrator
- Cruise Ship Director
- Instrument Making and Repair
- Manufacturer's Representative
- Marketing Representative
- Music/Record Store Owner/Merchant

- Publicity Director
- Regional Sales Manager
- Road Manager
- Tour Coordinator

#### Graduate Study Required

- Arranger
- Arts Administrator
- Cantor
- College/University Professor
- Composer
- Conductor
- Entertainment Lawyer

- Film Scorer
- Instructor in music conservatories
- Music Engineer
- Music Historian
- Music Librarian
- Music Software Developer
- Music Teacher (elementary/secondary schools)
- Music Therapist
- Physician
- Sound Recording Engineer
- Sound Technician
- Synthesizer Specialist

### **Skills and Abilities**

A major in music trains individuals in research, creativity, and analytical skills through examination of the development of music history, through understanding the interrelationship of music and other art forms and other fields of thought, and through the critical analysis involved with music theory. In addition it develops one's technical skills and fine tunes one's self management skills. Here is a sample of representational skills and abilities:

#### Technical

- Ability to read and write music
- Ability to play instruments

#### Physical

- Hand eye coordination
- Fine and gross motor skills

#### Self Management

- Perseverance
- Self Discipline
- Poise
- Versatility
- Adaptability and flexibility

#### Observation & Analysis

- Interpreting issues/data
- Dissecting information
- Reasoning & abstracting
- Problem solving and troubleshooting
- Offering different perspectives
- Synthesizing themes from complex issues

#### Communication

- Listening critically
- Reading effectively
- Translating
- Writing and Editing

#### Creative/Imaginative

- Improvising/inventing
- Experimenting
- Developing/formulating
- Symbolizing words/images/concepts