



# Bachelor of Music

**BMus**

Why study Music?

## The music industry is changing; will you lead the way?

Tune into your creativity and let your imagination amplify your ability to think outside of the box. Develop the skills to ensure the past is preserved while building a future that sings true to you – collaboration and innovation begins here.

Choose your specialisation

**COMPOSITION:** Develop your compositional practice in instrumental, vocal, and electronic music. By participating in various technical and creative activities, you will explore contemporary approaches to music, informed by artistry from a range of historical, cultural, and geographical contexts.

**EDUCATION:** Learn skills in music education in a mix of school, studio, and community contexts. You will study how musical knowledge is conveyed through practical and theoretical work on pedagogy.

**JAZZ PERFORMANCE:** Build your skills as an improviser and performer through 1:1 lessons, ensembles, and the study of jazz composition, history, theory, and ear-training. You will refine your instrumental or vocal technique while developing a deep understanding of jazz language. Grounded in tradition, you will be encouraged to experiment, take creative risks, and define your own unique artistic identity.

**MUSICOLOGY:** Build your knowledge of music in its various historical, contemporary, and theoretical contexts. Learn how music has changed over time and think about the role music plays in everyday life. Hone your writing skills as you learn to express yourself about music.

**PERFORMANCE:** Acquire essential technical and performative skills while you broaden your historical and cultural knowledge of music and performance. Delve into a range of ensembles, workshops, masterclasses, and performances to better understand a range of industry topics.

**SONGCRAFT & MUSIC PRODUCTION:** Develop a cohesive creative practice that connects songwriting, performance, recording, and music production using vocals, instruments, and digital software. Your learning process will be supported by integrated hands-on and theoretical learning in music production and audio engineering.



**“The study of music is actually the study of everything. Through thinking, making, and doing, you’ll learn how to collaborate, be creative, contribute meaningfully to society, and advocate for artistic integrity. You’ll be playing and singing with each other, learning about other times and places, and discussing big theoretical concepts.”**

**GREGORY CAMP**  
Senior Lecturer



There are numerous ways you can study Music, with a range of specialisations you can choose from. Get a taste for all aspects of what the degree has to offer in your first year with cross genre music theory, contemporary music culture, and other core courses that will help develop your own unique path in your chosen area.



**STAGE 1 COURSE\***

**MUS 149 – Rock to Reggae: Tracking Popular Music in New Zealand**

An introduction to Aotearoa New Zealand’s home-grown popular music, from the 1950s to the present day. A broad range of musical styles will be considered and situated within various social contexts. The issue of cultural identity in music – at national and local levels – will also be explored.

**STAGE 2 COURSE\***

**MUS 258 – Composing with Computers**

An introduction to the study and use of computers to compose and generate music. Topics include: algorithmic composition, sound design, algorithmic music, artificial intelligence for music creation, live coding.

**STAGE 3 COURSE\***

**MUS 363 – Music and Community Engagement**

A study of community music from semi-professional music organisations through to community music activities that emphasise access, participation and inclusion. An examination of the health and community benefits of music activity including healthy ageing, early development, and youth and mental health.

**Get excited about your course options:**

- History, Music and Ideas: Rethinking the Classical Canon
- Music Fundamentals
- Sound Design for Film and Video Games
- Special Topic: Ragas of India

**Available conjoints:**

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Engineering
- Bachelor of Laws
- Bachelor of Science

**Careers**

Turn your passion for music into a meaningful and versatile career. Whether you see yourself in the classroom, in the studio, on the stage, or working behind the scenes, a Bachelor of Music prepares you for a wide range of pathways. Our graduates go on to careers as composers, educators, performers, producers, sound designers, and arts managers—contributing to creative industries locally and globally. Along the way, you’ll develop the creative, collaborative, and critical thinking skills needed to adapt, innovate, and thrive in a rapidly changing world.

\*Course availability may be subject to change. For a full list of courses and up-to-date information visit our website. Published May 2026.

“I take classes that span a wide range of niches. We dig deep into the history of New Zealand’s music, learn how to read and understand different languages and translations, and how to conduct ensembles. We try our music production technology and learn about how music technology has changed since the 19th century.”

**ALANAH JONES**

Student: Bachelor of Music Studies, specialising in Creative Practice: Classical\*  
*Pears-Britten Award in Singing, Evelyn M Harrison Scholarship, Beatrice Ratcliffe Entry-Level Scholarship in Music, Auckland University Singers Choral Prize*

\*Creative Practice: Classical has been replaced with Performance as a specialisation.

