

MASTER OF ARTS IN **MUSIC AND CULTURE**



carleton.ca/music

“We offer a unique, interdisciplinary program on the cutting edge of research in music.”

SHAPE YOUR FUTURE BASED ON YOUR RESEARCH INTERESTS

The Master of Arts in Music and Culture at Carleton provides students with unique opportunities to explore various musical practices and theories of culture, music, and music as culture. The program is grounded in the practices of various musics (classical, popular, non-Western) but conducted from within a wide range of **interdisciplinary** theoretical approaches, including sociology, post-colonialism, critical theory, feminism, cultural studies and ethnomusicology.

Our **internationally recognized faculty** has helped to change understandings of music and culture by taking lessons from other disciplines and by participating in the most diverse fields of musical study, including popular music studies, historical musicology, ethnomusicology and music and media studies. Students benefit from this plurality of critical perspectives on how music and culture mutually inform each other. At the same time, the active research and creative profiles of faculty afford unique possibilities for students to benefit from—and collaborate on—cutting-edge research projects.

The MA in Music and Culture aims to address the wider educational and cultural needs of Canadian society in a scholarly framework. Doctoral programs and university appointments in Music increasingly expect applicants to possess knowledge of issues in music and culture, while cultural agencies need individuals with a deep understanding of music as a form of social and cultural practice. Our students are equipped with this knowledge and strong writing and research skills, which will assist them in their job search when they graduate.

CAPITAL ADVANTAGE

Students enrolled in the Master of Arts in Music and Culture program benefit from the diverse cultural and intellectual environment that exists within the nation’s capital. Students at Carleton have access to leading cultural institutions, including the National Arts Centre, the Library and Archives of Canada and the Canadian Museum of History. Moreover, the city’s large immigrant communities and diplomatic representatives from around the world provide a stimulating context for studying music and culture.

Ottawa’s wide range of cultural offerings, from rock concerts at the Canadian Tire Centre and jazz performances at intimate clubs in the Byward Market, to the full season of the National Arts Centre Orchestra, provide our students with ample opportunities to experience different genres and styles of music in performance.

Graduates from our program have continued on to PhD and other professional studies and full-time work in the public and private sectors. The broad range of social, musical and cultural understandings that are fostered within the program prepare our students for successful careers, academic or otherwise.

Students can pursue a collaborative specialization in Digital Humanities while completing an MA in Music and Culture.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The MA in Music and Culture is designed to provide students with a core of knowledge and skills, while enabling flexibility in exploring elective course options in such diverse areas as Canadian music, technologies of music, and music and identity.

You have until your second term of study to decide which option you will pursue: thesis, major research essay or coursework-only option.

The minimum requirement for admission to the MA in Music and Culture is either a BMus or a BA (Honours) in Music with at least a B+ average. Applicants with a BA (Honours) in a related discipline (e.g., communications, sociology, or cultural studies), with a minimum B+ average, will also be considered, providing the applicant can demonstrate a strong background in some form of music. Applicants without the requisite background in music or cultural/theoretical issues may be required first to complete additional courses at the undergraduate level. There are no formal music performance requirements for admission to the program.

Contact information:
Graduate Supervisor (Music)
School for Studies in Art and Culture (SSAC)
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REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- Two letters of reference
- A Statement of Intent
- A copy of transcripts from all post-secondary institutions that you have attended
- A Writing Sample (recent research essay)
- If applicable, a copy of your English-language test scores

Note: Official documents (transcripts, test scores) will be required if you are accepted into our graduate program.

APPLICATIONS AND DEADLINES

For more information about our program, please visit this website: carleton.ca/music

Details about how to apply are available here: graduate.carleton.ca/apply-online

You can access an online application at this website: graduate.carleton.ca/applynow

All applicants must submit their completed application by **February 1** to ensure full consideration for funding.

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This document is available in a variety of accessible formats upon request. A request can be made on the Carleton University website at: carleton.ca/accessibility/request.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Generous funding is available in the form of teaching/research assistantships and scholarships based on academic excellence. We encourage students to compete for scholarships from the Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) or the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). Applicants who apply after February 1 may be considered for funding, if funding is available. For additional information on scholarships visit: graduate.carleton.ca/financial-assistance.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

For admission into Carleton's graduate programs, you will need to demonstrate that your knowledge and use of English are strong enough for graduate studies at an English-language university. For a listing of our minimum English-language requirements, please visit our website at: graduate.carleton.ca/international.

“The MA in Music and Culture offers engaging courses in cultural theory, while providing practical applications for personal research areas. The dedicated faculty helped me hone my research skills towards developing my thesis as a natural outcome from my coursework.”

— Kathy Armstrong, current MA student