

# MASTER OF ARTS IN Music and Culture

Our unique, interdisciplinary program is on the cutting edge of musical research.

The Master of Arts in Music and Culture at Carleton University 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 the understanding 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, some at the recently launched Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre for the Arts.

The MA 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.

The MA is designed to provide students with a core of knowledge and skills, while enabling flexibility in exploring elective course options. Students have until their second term of study to decide which option they will pursue: **thesis, major research essay or coursework-only.**

We also offer an MA with a specialization in Digital Humanities and a specialization in African Studies.

## Degrees Offered

MA

## Career Options

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.



## Fall Application Deadline

**February 1**, to be eligible for funding

## Admission Requirements

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.

“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 (MA/16)

[carleton.ca/music](http://carleton.ca/music)

### Contact Info

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