



UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES: Bachelor of Music (BMus) AFA02

The audition process is a compulsory requirement of the BMus degree. All applicants are required to book and attend the compulsory audition to be eligible for consideration into the programme.

Audition bookings will only be considered between 17 May 2019 and 22 October 2019. No bookings will be scheduled prior to or after the scheduled audition booking dates.

- To schedule a date for the **audition**, please email uginfo.music@wits.ac.za
- For application enquiries, please contact the Student Call Centre on 011 717 1888

Audition Preparation and Requirements

Applicants are required to audition on an instrument, or as a vocalist, and must perform proficiently in either the Classical or Jazz genre.

Please bring with you to the audition: A pen and pencil; copies of sheet music (if you are using any) for the interview panel; your own instrument/s and other equipment (we do have an amp); your own accompanist (if applicable).

If you are using a backing track, please arrange it in MP3 format (iPad, iPhone,) so that it can be plugged into the PA system. No other format can be accommodated.

At the audition you will be requested to sign your name to the instrument (piano, guitar, voice, etc.) and genre of music (jazz or classical) you wish to study. This should be the same instrument and genre of music that you audition in. In other words, if you audition for jazz guitar, you can only be considered to study jazz guitar, not classical guitar or jazz voice. If you are uncertain about this process, please discuss it with the auditioning staff prior to the audition.

Audition Format and Conduct

Please arrive at least 45 minutes before the audition; **latecomers will not be permitted to participate in the audition.**

You will be required to write a statement about your musical interests, complete a music theory exercise, perform prepared pieces of music and have your aural abilities tested.

1. Critical Writing.

- Write in English, a short statement on a given topic. The topic will be given to you when you arrive for the audition. The academic staff will take a moment during the audition to engage with you about your statement.

2. Complete a **music theory exercise (An example is given on page 4 of this document).**

- If you have not had any formal education in Music theory, you may still be considered for the Music Extended Curriculum based on the performing abilities demonstrated in the audition.

3. **Perform** your prepared pieces. There is more specific information on this below.
4. Applicants will be requested to **sight read** a short passage of music. This does not require any preparation.
5. **Aural** tests. These do not require any preparation.

You will be assessed holistically on:

- Your ability to perform
- Your knowledge of music theory
- Your ability to discuss the above, both orally and in writing, in an insightful manner

You **must** bring the following with you to the audition:

1. A **1 page CV** detailing **your personal information**
 - Include your full name, address, telephone and email contact information, the name of the last school you attended, and year of matriculation (or planned year of matriculation).
2. Certified copy of ID.
3. **1 passport size photo** of yourself in either black and white or colour.
 - Staple this to the document with your personal information (do not cover the information)
4. A transcript of your most recent marks.
 - Certified copy of your final grade 11 results, Matric or academic transcript.

Applicants who fail to bring the documentation requested above to the audition will not be permitted to participate in the audition.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Whilst the department offers professional courses as part of the **BMus** degree, the University is foremost an academic institution. Applicants will be thoroughly assessed on their discursive and academic abilities.

Minimum Admission Requirements (*Meeting the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee admission for any applicant*).

National Senior Certificate (NSC):

Each candidate requires an APS of at least 34 points and a minimum of 60% for English Home Language OR English First Additional Language, as well as a successful audition in order to be *considered* for acceptance into the BMus degree. The Student Enrolment Centre communicates a FIRM offer only, and not the Wits School of Arts (WSoA).

Applicants with 30-33 APS points and at least **60% for English Home Language OR English First Additional Language**, as well as a successful audition will be wait-listed, subject to place availability in January.

International Qualifications:

Relevant exemption from the SA Matriculation Board
English Language O/IGCSE Level A-C | AS Level A-C | A Level A-C

Audition Specific Requirements

Classical

Applicants are required to perform **two** pieces from different genres or in different style in their chosen instrument.

1. Jazz Instrumental

Applicants are required to perform the following **three** pieces in their chosen instrument.

First piece **Blue Monk** by Thelonious Monk.

- The backing track MP3 of Blue Monk and the pdf lead-sheet will be sent to the applicant.

Second piece from the list of jazz tunes below.

- All blues
- Footprints
- Stella by Starlight
- Autumn leaves
- Song for my Father
- Have you met Miss Jones
- A foggy day
- Solar

One piece of your own selection in the style of your choice.

2. Jazz Vocal

Applicants are required to perform **three** pieces.

- Two contrasting pieces from the standard jazz repertoire that demonstrates stylistic jazz interpretation and includes basic improvisation.
- One piece of your own selection in the style of your choice.

3. Jazz Drum

Applicants are required to perform **three** pieces.

- Two contrasting pieces connected to the jazz idiom that show the ability to play swing with a good feel as well as lay down a steady pulse. The candidate should also demonstrate some improvisational skills.
- One piece of your own selection in the style of your choice.

Drummers must bring their own sticks and brushes, tuning key, and (if you are particular about it), pedal. Drummers are encouraged to bring someone who you can play with them; this will give us a better sense of your ability in a real musical situation.

Each performance should demonstrate characteristic jazz interpretation of the melody and chords as well as some improvisation.