

# RECORDING ARTS, NON-AUDITION TRACK

Bachelor of Science (B.S.) – Catalog Year 2026-2027

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The only program of its kind in the Rocky Mountain region, CU Denver offers an accredited music bachelor's degree that prepares undergraduates to work as audio engineers with acoustic recording and editing. Students learn from expert faculty and from each other, completing 6-7 semesters of audio production course work and developing a professional-level portfolio. Recording Arts covers technical fundamentals and then moves beyond the basics to explore theories supporting advanced problem-solving and technique, as well as creative music mixing strategies.

We offer more than a technical training program – we study the theories behind the practice and thereby promote an advanced understanding of the field. Moreover, CU Denver Recording Arts students are also music students, complementing their recording arts preparation with courses in music business, musicianship, and performance. Through this well-rounded education, our undergraduates develop their understanding of music, hone their critical listening skills, and are more competitive in the professional world.

## ACADEMIC ADVISING

Freshmen with fewer than 30 credits and/or CAM students who are Undeclared are assigned to the Center for Undergraduate Exploration and Advising (CUE&A). All other College of Arts & Media (CAM) students with more than 30 credits who have declared CAM majors are assigned to the CAM Office of Advising and Student Services.

*Students can connect with the internal CAM admissions team to learn more about the program, additional admission requirements, spaces, equipment and technology.*

*Students with a declared CAM major that have more than 30 credits are encouraged to meet with a CAM advisor every semester prior to registration.*

*Freshmen with fewer than 30 credits and/or CAM students that are Undeclared students are assigned to the Center for Undergraduate Exploration and Advising. These students are required to meet with an advisor every semester prior to registration.*

### CAM Recruitment and Enrollment

[CAMinfo@ucdenver.edu](mailto:CAMinfo@ucdenver.edu)  
Visit the CAM website [here](#)  
Arts Building, Suite 177  
303-315-7400 (option 1)

### CAM Office of Advising and Student Services

[CAMadvising@ucdenver.edu](mailto:CAMadvising@ucdenver.edu)  
Visit the CAM website [here](#)  
Arts Building, Suite 177  
303-315-7400 (option 1)

### Center for Undergraduate Exploration and Advising (CUE&A)

[CUEA@ucdenver.edu](mailto:CUEA@ucdenver.edu)  
Visit the CUEA website [here](#)  
Student Commons 1113  
303-315-1940

## GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

All CU Denver CAM students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements:

1. Complete a minimum of 120 semester hours
2. Achieve a minimum 2.0 CU cumulative grade point average (GPA)
3. Complete all college and major requirements
4. Residency: complete a minimum of 30 CU Denver hours in good standing at CU Denver

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

There is a competitive process for gaining admission to the overall CU Denver Music & Entertainment Industry Studies program. More information may be obtained by contacting [CAMInfo@ucdenver.edu](mailto:CAMInfo@ucdenver.edu).

**Students are responsible for meeting with a CAM advisor to confirm degree progress.** Students completing the Music B.S. Degree with an emphasis in Recording Arts (Audition Track) are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Complete 34 semester hours of **CU Denver Core Curriculum coursework**.
2. Complete a minimum of 80 semester hours of **major-area coursework** with a grade of C (2.0) or better in each course.
3. Complete a 3-credit Non-Major Arts course in the College of Arts & Media

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Courses	Credits	Notes
<b>Required CU Denver Core Curriculum Coursework</b>	<b>34</b>	<a href="#">CU Denver Core Curriculum</a>
<b>Required College of Arts &amp; Media graduation requirement</b> Non-Major Arts (Film & TV or Visual Arts)	<b>3</b>	
<b>General Elective</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Recording Arts Emphasis Courses</b>	<b>56</b>	
<i>TO BE TAKEN IN SEQUENTIAL ORDER</i>		
MUSC 1541 Audio Production I: Audio Foundations (Fall only)	3	Students must declare the Recording Arts emphasis to take this course.
MUSC 1542 ProTools 101 (Fall only)	1	*Co-requisite: MUSC 1541.
MUSC 1560 Audio Production II: Tracking Techniques (Spring only)	3	*Prerequisite: MUSC 1541. Co-requisite: MUSC 1800.
MUSC 1800 Acoustics for Audio Prod (Spring only)	3	*Prerequisite: MUSC 1541. Co-requisite: MUSC 1560.
MUSC 2580 Audio Production III: Mixing Techniques (Fall only)	3	*Prerequisite: MUSC 1560 + MUSC 1800. Co-requisite: MUSC 2550.
MUSC 2550 Critical Listening (Fall only)	3	*Prerequisite: MUSC 1560 + MUSC 1800. Co-requisite: MUSC 2580.
MUSC 2590 Mastering and Adv Dig Audio (Spring only)	3	*Prerequisite: MUSC 2550 + MUSC 2580.
MUSC 3530 Live Sound (Spring only)	3	*Prerequisite: MUSC 2550 + MUSC 2580.
MUSC 3505 Introduction to Audio Post Production (Fall only)	3	*Prerequisite: MUSC 2590.
MUSC 4580 Audio Senior Seminar (Spring only)	3	*Prerequisite: MUSC 3505.
Recording Arts Electives	28	*Prerequisites depend on courses chosen.
<b>Additional Required Music Courses</b>	<b>12</b>	
<i>MAY BE COMPLETED IN ANY ORDER, PENDING PREREQUISITES</i>		
PMUS 1100 Contemporary Music Theory I	3	Students must complete the Theory and Ear Training Best Fit Assessment before enrolling in PMUS 1100, PMUS 1110, and PMUS 1023. *Co-requisite: PMUS 1110 + 1023
PMUS 1110 Ear Training and Sight Singing I	1	Students must complete the Theory and Ear Training Best Fit Assessment before enrolling in PMUS 1100, PMUS 1110, and PMUS 1023. *Co-requisite: PMUS 1100 + 1023
PMUS 1210 Ear Training and Sight Singing II	1	*Pre-requisite: PMUS 1100 + 1110 + 1023. Co-requisite: PMUS 1200 + 1024.
PMUS 1023 Piano I	1	Students must complete the Theory and Ear Training Best Fit Assessment before enrolling in PMUS 1100, PMUS 1110, and PMUS 1023. *Co-requisite: PMUS 1100 + 1110
PMUS 1040 Guitar I PMUS 1024 Piano II PMUS 1041 Guitar II PMUS 1050 Voice I → Choose any one of the above	1	*Prerequisite for PMUS 1024: PMUS 1023. *Prerequisite for PMUS 1041: PMUS 1040.
PMUS 1500 Music Industry Insights #1	1	
PMUS 1500 Music Industry Insights #2	1	
Music Elective	3	
<b>Additional Required Music Courses</b>	<b>12</b>	
<i>MAY BE COMPLETED IN ANY ORDER, PENDING PREREQUISITES</i>		
PMUS 3832 Music in Culture	3	
PMUS ____ Music History Elective Consult CAM Advising for Music History recommendations.	3	
MUSC 2700 Intro to Music Business	3	
MUSC 3210/3220 Music Marketing OR Artist Management	3	*Prerequisite: MUSC 2700.
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM HOURS</b>	<b>120</b>	

## SAMPLE ACADEMIC PLAN OF STUDY

The following academic plan is a *sample* pathway to completing degree requirements for this major. The plan below is intended for first-time, First-Year students. This sample schedule can be adjusted to accommodate AP, IB, and/or CLEP credits, as well as courses taken during the summer sessions. In addition, students should tailor this plan based on transfer credit, course availability, and individual preferences related to course load, schedules, or add-on programs such as minors or double-majors. **Students deviating from this plan must fulfill course prerequisites and should meet with an advisor to confirm course sequencing and degree requirements.**

### YEAR ONE

Semester 1	CRS
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Semester 2	CRS
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MUSC 1541 Audio Production I <i>(Fall only)</i> <sup>M</sup>	3
MUSC 1542 Audio Production Lab	1
PMUS 1100 Contemporary Music Theory I <sup>M PR</sup>	3
PMUS 1110 Ear Training/Sight Singing I <sup>M PR</sup>	1
PMUS 1023 Piano I <sup>M</sup>	1
CU Denver CORE Math requirement	3
First-Year Seminar <i>(fulfills CU Denver CORE req't)</i>	3
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>15</b>

MUSC 1560 Audio Production II <i>(Spring only)</i> <sup>M PE</sup>	3
MUSC 1800 Acoustics for Audio Production <i>(Spring only)</i> <sup>M PE</sup>	3
MUSC 2700 Intro to Music Business <sup>M</sup>	3
PMUS 1211 Ear Training/Sight Singing II <sup>M PE</sup>	1
PMUS ____ Piano/Guitar/Voice Class <sup>M</sup>	1
ENGL 1020 Core Composition I	3
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>14</b>

## YEAR TWO

<b>Semester 3</b>	CRS
MUSC 2580 Audio Production III <i>(Fall only)</i> <sup>M PE</sup>	3
MUSC 2550 Critical Listening <i>(Fall only)</i> <sup>M PE</sup>	3
MUSC 3210/3220 Music Marketing OR Artist Mgmt <sup>M PE</sup>	3
ENGL 2030 Core Composition II	3
CU Denver CORE requirement	3
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>15</b>

<b>Semester 4</b>	CRS
MUSC 2590 Mastering and Adv Dig Audio <i>(Spring only)</i> <sup>M PE</sup>	3
MUSC 3530 Live Sound <i>(Spring only)</i> <sup>M PE</sup>	3
PMUS 1500 Music Industry Insights <sup>M</sup>	1
PMUS 3832 Music in Culture <sup>M</sup>	3
Non-Major Arts (Film & TV or Visual Arts)	3
CU Denver CORE requirement	3
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>16</b>

## YEAR THREE

<b>Semester 5</b>	CRS
MUSC 3505 Introduction to Audio Post Production <i>(Fall only)</i> <sup>M</sup>	3
Recording Arts Elective <sup>M</sup>	3
Recording Art Elective <sup>M</sup>	3
PMUS 1500 Music Industry Insights <sup>M</sup>	1
CU Denver CORE requirement <i>(suggest Lab Science)</i>	4
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>14</b>

<b>Semester 6</b>	CRS
Recording Arts Elective <sup>M</sup>	3
Recording Arts Elective <sup>M</sup>	3
PMUS ____ Music History Elective <sup>M</sup>	3
Music Elective <sup>M</sup>	3
CU Denver CORE requirement	3
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>15</b>

## YEAR FOUR

<b>Semester 7</b>	CRS
Recording Arts Elective <sup>M</sup>	3
Recording Arts Elective <sup>M</sup>	3
Recording Arts Elective <sup>M</sup>	3
Recording Arts Elective <sup>M</sup>	1
CU Denver CORE requirement	3
CU Denver CORE requirement	3
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>16</b>

<b>Semester 8</b>	CRS
MUSC 4580 Audio Production Seminar <i>(Spring only)</i> <sup>M PE</sup>	3
Recording Arts Elective <sup>M</sup>	3
Recording Arts Elective <sup>M</sup>	3
CU Denver CORE requirement	3
General Elective (student's choice)	3
<b>TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS</b>	<b>15</b>

<sup>M</sup> Major Course Available    <sup>PE</sup> Prerequisite Enforced    <sup>PR</sup> Prerequisite Recommended