

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 科目簡介

COURSES FOR 4-YEAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

MPA2002 Musicality and Well-being (3 credits)

Musicality is a term used by psychoanalysts to emphasise the generality of our musical and communicative ability in an interactive social environment. In other words, all of us can be musical even if we do not play an instrument. This course is designed to explore how participating in musical activities can offer many benefits - it can improve brain function, decrease stress levels and cope with traumatic experiences, boost emotion and self-esteem. As an activity-based course, it provides students with an introductory concept to well-being, how diverse aspects of well-being are experienced in, through and with music and musical interaction. The term-end project provides students the opportunity to gain work experience and field engagement, and to witness how the healing power of music could be delivered through experiential learning in a non-clinical environment, such as a care home, group setting, or schools.

MPA2003 The AI Band: Creativity, Marketing, and Technology (3 credits)

“What music do you listen to?”, “A bit of everything.”

This course transforms a common phrase into a journey of music appreciation and creative exploration. Students will develop listening skills, expand their creative potential, gain appropriate vocabulary using Generative AI (GenAI), and delve into the art of understanding and recreating songs.

Participants will design and manage their AI music band using a gamified approach. The band will include fictional personas, compelling backstories, instruments, social media, videos, and track releases.

Designed for non-musicians, this course offers a welcoming and safe environment to explore creativity while acquiring transferable GenAI skills. Students will engage with iconic songs that have defined music from the 1980s to today, diving into the concert cultures, fashions, technologies, and instruments tied to each musical era. Using text-to-lyrics, music, image, and video prompting, participants will reinterpret these styles and create entirely new ones.

This course invites students to bridge the past and future of music, discovering the vibrant interplay of technology, culture, and artistic expression. It also welcomes mature learners to take part as band managers.

No prior musical or technical experience is required—just curiosity and a willingness to explore.

MPA3001 Musical Expression in Film and Theatre (3 credits)

This course introduces students to the use of music in film and theatre. Film will be the primary medium within which music will be examined, while its roots, parallels, and contrasts with music in theatre will also be explored. The course enables students to understand both how music can be used by, and created for, film and theatre. In so doing, the course enhances students' ability to appreciate the meanings expressed by music, by film, by theatre, and by music in film and theatre, as well as to analyse the cultural and social contexts within which these meanings are constructed. With effect from 2021-22, this course will include service-learning component.

MPA3002 Instrumental Ensemble (Term-Based) (from 2020-21)/ Instrumental Ensemble (in 2019-20)
(1 credit)

(Restriction: Students cannot take this course and MPA3102 Instrumental Ensemble (Year-Based) in the same term.)

(Prerequisite: Previous experience on any instrument, assessed by audition or interview upon initial enrolment in the course)

This course provides an opportunity for students to play a variety of instrumental music together under the guidance of a music instructor. Students will improve their instrumental and musical skills, while learning the unique characteristics of ensemble music-making.

The course entails a 2-hour rehearsal per week (during scheduled class time), some personal study, and a final performance (which may occur outside of class time). The course is offered continuously (every 1st and 2nd terms of every year), studying different musical pieces each term (i.e. musical pieces will not repeat within any consecutive four-year period). Students are encouraged to enrol multiple times, and may enrol up to 8 times (accumulating a maximum of 8 credits). Credit is granted on a Pass/Fail basis. First-time enrollment is confirmed by audition or interview.

MPA3003 Choral Ensemble (Term-Based) (from 2020-21)/ Choral Ensemble (in 2019-20)
(1 credit)

(Restriction: Students cannot take this course and MPA3103 Choral Ensemble (Year-Based) in the same term.)

(Prerequisite: Previous musical experience (in any area, need not be choral), assessed by audition or interview upon initial enrolment in the course)

This course provides an opportunity for students to sing a variety of choral music together under the guidance of a music instructor. Students will improve their choral and musical skills, while learning the unique characteristics of choral music-making.

The course entails a 2-hour rehearsal per week (during scheduled class time), some personal study, and a final performance (which may occur outside of class time). The course is offered continuously (every 1st and 2nd terms of every year), studying different musical pieces each term (i.e. musical pieces will not repeat within any consecutive four-year period). Students are encouraged to enrol multiple times, and may enrol up to 8 times (accumulating a maximum of 8 credits). Credit is granted on a Pass/Fail basis. First-time enrollment is confirmed by audition or interview.

MPA3102 Instrumental Ensemble (Year-Based) (3 credits)

(Prerequisite(s): Previous experience on any instrument, assessed by audition or interview upon initial enrollment in the course)

(Restriction(s): Students cannot take this course and MPA3002 Instrumental Ensemble (Term-Based) (from 2020-21)/ Instrumental Ensemble (in 2019-20) in the same term.)

This year-long course provides an opportunity for students to play a variety of group instrumental music together under the guidance of a music instructor. On the one hand, students will improve their instrumental and musical skills; on the other hand, students will learn the characteristics and collaboration skills of ensemble music-making.

The course entails a 2-hour rehearsal per week (during scheduled class time), some personal study, a progress performance after the 1st term and a final performance at the end of the 2nd term (which may occur outside of class time). Students must enroll in the course for both Terms 1 and 2 within a given academic year in order to earn credits for the course.

Students are encouraged to enroll multiple times, and may enroll up to 4 times

(accumulating a maximum of 12 credits). Though the course is offered every year, different musical pieces will be studied and will not be repeated in consecutive years. First-time enrollment is confirmed by audition or interview.

With effect from 2021-22, this course will include service-learning component.

MPA3103 Choral Ensemble (Year-Based) (3 credits)

(Prerequisite(s): Previous musical experience (in any area, need not be choral), assessed by audition or interview upon initial enrollment in the course)

(Restriction(s): Students cannot take this course and MPA3003 Choral Ensemble (Term Based) (from 2020-21)/ Choral Ensemble (in 2019-20) in the same term.)

The year-long choral ensemble course provides an opportunity for students to sing a variety of choral music together under the guidance of a music instructor. On one hand, students will improve their choral and musical skills; on the other hand, students will learn the characteristics and collaboration skills of choral ensemble music.

The course entails a 2-hour rehearsal per week (during scheduled class time), some personal study, a progress performance after the 1st term and a final performance at the end of the 2nd term (which may occur outside of class time). Students must enroll in the course for both Terms 1 and 2 within a given academic year in order to earn credits for the course.

Students are encouraged to enroll multiple times, and may enroll up to 4 times (accumulating a maximum of 12 credits). Though the course is offered every year, different musical pieces will be studied and will not be repeated in consecutive years. First-time enrollment is confirmed by audition or interview.

MPA4001 Internship in Performing Arts Administration (3 credits)

This internship course equips students with the knowledge and skills pertinent to administration of the performing arts. Students may be involved in working for music ensembles, theatre companies, dance troupes, or other arts organizations, with focuses in areas such as community, creativity and participatory events. To supplement on-the-job training and mentorship under a professional supervisor, the course provides students with one-on-one academic supervision by a specified faculty member, who guides students to acquire and apply field-specific knowledge to a vocational dimension. Students are responsible for designing their own internship experience, and submitting the proposal to the Wong Bing Lai Music and Performing Arts Unit for consultation and approval.