

MEDIA SCORING AND PRODUCTION (MSP)

Department Overview

The Bachelor of Music in Media Scoring & Production (MSPD) is designed to provide the highest level of preparation for qualified writers and producers for media in order to help them thrive amidst the many issues facing today's industry. Successful students will complete diverse writing assignments, as well as develop technical and practical skills in the recording studio, all while gaining a higher understanding of the music industry. Prospective students should furnish evidence of outstanding writing and production creativity, as well as basic DAW and music notation skills.

The Department of Media Scoring and Production offers the following undergraduate programs:

- The Bachelor of Music in Media Scoring and Production (<https://bulletin.miami.edu/undergraduate-academic-programs/music/music-scoring-production/music-scoring-production-bm/>) is designed to provide the highest level of preparation for qualified composers and producers for media. Successful students will complete diverse writing (composing, scoring, producing) assignments, as well as develop technical and practical skills in the recording studio. In addition, students will increase their knowledge of current trends in the music industry.
- The Minor in Media Scoring and Production (<https://bulletin.miami.edu/undergraduate-academic-programs/music/music-scoring-production/music-scoring-production-minor/#text>) is intended for students who are pursuing majors in other fields within the Frost School of Music. The curriculum in Media Scoring and Production is designed for those students intending to pursue a career as a writer and/or producer, as well as pursuing a graduate degree in Media Writing and Production. Students interested in this minor are required to submit a writing/production portfolio to the program director for approval before declaring the minor. This minor is available to Frost School of Music only.

Department website: <https://mediascoring.frost.miami.edu/degrees/index.html> (<https://mediascoring.frost.miami.edu/degrees/>)

MSP 139. Recording Ensemble. 1 Credit Hour.

An ensemble of student-generated recording musical repertoire.

Components: ENS.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

MSP 17. Media Scoring and Production Forum. 1 Credit Hour.

This course provides a weekly forum for sharing information about issues, current developments, and other matters related to commercial music composition and production as a field of study and as a profession. The course is required for all undergraduate MWP majors during each semester.

Requisite: Frost School of Music only.

Components: FOR.

Grading: CNC.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

MSP 250. Essential Technologies for Musicians. 3 Credit Hours.

Basic MIDI and digital audio principles from set-up to final mix, recording of live Instruments using basic microphone techniques, MIDI sequencing, software synthesizers, basic editing, and audio looping.

Requisite: Frost School of Music only.

Components: DIL.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

MSP 259. Digital Audio and MIDI Production. 3 Credit Hours.

Weekly lab focused on Pro Tools proficiency and the intricacies of audio technology relating to a modern producer/film composer. Topics include Digital Audio definitions and uses, Pro Tools understanding, shortcuts, and proficiency, and MIDI.

Requisite: MADE_BM or MSPD_BM majors only.

Components: LAB.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

MSP 260. Virtual Orchestration. 3 Credit Hours.

Weekly lab focused on the creation of sample-based orchestral mock-ups. Particular emphasis is placed on technical considerations as they apply to MIDI programming, sample selection, and mixing.

Requisite: MADE_BM or MSPD_BM majors only.

Components: LAB.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall.

MSP 261. Media Scoring I: Music for Media. 3 Credit Hours.

Project-based lecture course designed to provide students the opportunity to compose and realize a varied array of music projects for media applications including music branding "logos" radio/television ID packages

Prerequisite: MSP 282 or departmental consent.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall.

MSP 262. Media Scoring II: Video Game Scoring. 3 Credit Hours.

Project based seminar/workshop designed to provide students the opportunity to gain the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to produce a variety of musical works for use in video games. Students will also be instructed in the concepts and subtleties of using a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) specifically designed for video games.

Prerequisite: MSP 261 or MMI 261.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

MSP 280. Synthesstration. 3 Credit Hours.

Weekly lab focused on Sound Design/synthesis as it applies to the modern producer. Topics include different synthesis techniques, different waves, modulation controls, signal flow as it applies to modular synthesis, hardware synths vs "softsynths," and FX processing common to synth instruments.

Requisite: MADE_BM or MSPD_BM majors only.

Components: LAB.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

MSP 281. Production I: Recording and Production Techniques. 3 Credit Hours.

Project based seminar/workshop designed to provide students the opportunity to gain the skills and knowledge to properly record acoustic audio into a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation). Particular emphasis will be placed on the proper use and implementation of microphones, microphone cables, direct boxes, microphone pre-amplifiers and consoles. In addition, students will be versed in the basics of acoustics, signal flow and basic mixing techniques within a DAW.

Pre/Corequisite: MDE 141 OR MMI 141 OR MTC 141 OR MSJ 141.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall.

MSP 282. Production II: Audio Processing and Critical Listening. 3 Credit Hours.

Project-based practicum course designed to provide students the opportunity to explore, discover and articulate the elements needed to successfully model and emulate music of any genre by examining popular music of selected decades. Particular emphasis is placed on critical listening, the understanding of signal flow and processing, and the skills required to properly apply each of these concepts in order to enhance the commercial viability of their final projects.

Prerequisite: MSP 281 or MMI 281, or MADE_BM with senior standing, or by departmental consent.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

MSP 363. Media Scoring III: Film Scoring Foundations. 3 Credit Hours.

Seminar in the aesthetics and psychology of mood music, sound-film synchronization, timing techniques, and scoring procedures. Analysis and performance of student projects is included.

Prerequisite: MSP 261 or MMI 261.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall.

MSP 364. Media Scoring IV: Film Scoring Extensions. 3 Credit Hours.

Adaptation of previous semester's techniques to television scripts and performed music. Pre-recording, direct recording, and dubbing procedures are included as well as preparation and performance of complete film cues. Each student is required to conduct his/her project.

Prerequisite: MSP 363 or MMI 363.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

MSP 383. Production III: Audio Editing. 3 Credit Hours.

Project-based practicum course designed to provide students the opportunity to compose, record and reproduce a wide variety of music projects that combine the use of pre-existing as well as new musical elements. Particular emphasis is placed on technical considerations, aesthetic issues, and the commercial viability of the end product.

Prerequisite: MSP 282 or MMI 282.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall.

MSP 384. Production IV : Mixing and Mastering. 3 Credit Hours.

Weekly lab focused on mixing and mastering music for commercial release. Topics include psychoacoustics, a variety of audio effects and their uses in a mix, how rooms and equipment affect your ability to listen critically, and loudness requirements for commercial releases. Students will be mixing 1 song a week, with increased level of difficulty as new subjects are introduced.

Prerequisite: MSP 383 or MMI 383.

Components: LAB.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

MSP 445. Senior Project/Portfolio. 1 Credit Hour.

This course is the capstone of the Media Scoring and Production major and Program. Students will will develop a portfolio of recordings of original songs. Students will also be required a public performance of their original songs.

Requisite: MSP majors AND senior standing.

Components: THI.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

MSP 493. Special Projects in Media Media Scoring & Production. 1-3 Credit Hours.

Advanced individual instruction pertaining to faculty member's area expertise and student's area of interest. This course includes a culminating project.

Requisite: Frost School of Music only.

Components: IND.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

MSP 494. Special Topics in Media Scoring & Production. 1-3 Credit Hours.

Advanced group/classroom instruction pertaining to faculty member's expertise and students' areas of interest.

Components: SEM.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

MSP 593. Special Projects in Media Scoring & Production. 1-3 Credit Hours.

Advanced individual instruction pertaining to faculty member's area expertise and student's area of interest. This course includes a culminating project.

Requisite: Frost School of Music only.

Components: IND.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

MSP 594. Special Topics in Media Scoring & Production. 1-3 Credit Hours.

Advanced group/classroom instruction pertaining to faculty member's expertise and students' areas of interest.

Components: SEM.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.