In general, ensemble auditions are held during the first week of the fall semester. Please check for informational postings in the lobby of Howard Hall and on the music website: www.montana.edu/music.

School of Music Ensembles make periodic performance tours on a rotating basis. Recent tours have included the MSU Chorale in France and Spain, the MSU Symphony in Southeast Asia, the MSU One O’clock Jazz Band in Hawaii, and the Electric Monster Laptop Ensemble in China. Contact for specific ensemble directors can be found on the faculty page of the School of Music website: www.montana.edu/music.

F.A.Q.

Q. May I participate in an ensemble if I am not a music major?
A. Yes, all MSU students are welcome to audition for School of Music ensembles.

Q. May I enroll in private lessons if I am not a music major?
A. Non-majors are welcome to audition for placement in private studio lessons. Qualified majors will be placed first, and qualified non-majors will be accepted on a space-available basis which can vary from studio to studio.

Q. Are scholarships available to non-majors?
A. Yes. Scholarships are available for Music Majors and also for non-majors who make significant contributions to our ensembles. Qualified non-major applicants will be considered after all majors have been served. Scholarship information, requirements, and application forms are available on our website: www.montana.edu/music.

Q. May I rent an instrument from the School of Music?
A. Yes. The School of Music offers 5 survey classes which also fulfill university core requirements: Enjoyment of Music, Fundamentals of Music Composition, Music Theory, and World Music. Music Technology at MSU is the integration of music composition, sound design, audio engineering, and interdisciplinary collaboration. Contact Kristin McGarity: kristin.mcgarity@montana.edu

School of Music Ensembles are open to all MSU Students through the audition process when required.

- Spirit of the West Marching Band
- MSU Pep Band
- MSU Wind Symphony
- University Band
- Percussion Ensemble
- Jazz I: Funk Band
- Jazz II: One O’clock Band
- MSU Symphony Orchestra
- MSU Chamber Orchestra
- University Chorus
- MSU Chorale
- Montanans
- Gamelan
- Electric Monster Laptop Ensemble
- Chamber groups for various instruments & voice

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Q. May I rent an instrument from the School of Music?
A. Yes. The School of Music offers 5 survey classes which also fulfill university core requirements: Enjoyment of Music, Fundamentals of Musical Creation, History of Jazz, American Popular Music, and World Music.

Q. What exactly is Music Technology?
A. Music Technology at MSU is the integration of music composition, sound design, audio engineering, and interdisciplinary collaboration. The course sequence is listed in the MSU online catalog.

Q. Do you have Music Technology courses for non-majors?
A. We have a limited number of spaces for non-majors in MUST 112, Basic Home Recording, taught by Doc Wiley at Peach Street Studios (627 East Peach Street). Basic Home Recording requires each student to purchase an MBox interface and Pro Tools software, approximately $350 for students. For more information, please contact Doc Wiley: musicdoc@gmail.com.
Q. Can you help me record myself or my band?
A. No. Due to rapid growth in the School of Music, and the resulting demands on our staff and resources, our School Director has established policies governing the use of Music Technology facilities. By necessity our facilities must be reserved for teaching and Music Technology class projects.

Q. Why is Music Technology a gated program?
A. The gate is necessary to ensure that students have sufficient studio time and individual instruction, and to manage enrollment in School of Music courses. Music Technology Pre-Majors may apply for the gate after successfully completing the pre-major course sequence and qualifying to enter one of the performance studios. Evaluation for the gate is based upon: 1) GPA in the pre-gate course sequence, 2) Composition portfolio submitted with the application, and 3) Service credits for participation and volunteerism throughout the year.

Q. What kind of music will I write as a Music Technology Major?
A. You won't be required to write twelve-tone serial pieces the way academic composers once were, but you won't major in "recording your band," either. You will design your own sounds, using both real-world recordings and electronic synthesis, and will be asked to think about sound and music in ways you might not have considered before.

Q. Can I double-major in Music Technology and something else?
A. MSU allows students to officially declare two majors once they have reached senior year, but not before. You may not apply for the Music Technology gate unless Music Technology is your primary declared major. The Music Technology major is a full-time course sequence, and it is not expected that many students will double-major, though there are exceptions. Please see Prof. McGarity for specific advising.

Q. Is the Music Technology major right for me?
A. Please contact Prof. Kristi McGarity to schedule an advising meeting. Before registering for Music Tech classes you must take a music fundamentals pre-test, a brief aural skills test assessing your ability to sing and hear pitches and rhythms, and audition with faculty for your principal instrument or voice. We can also suggest ways to gain more experience composing music with computer software, so you will have enough information to know if Music Technology is the right fit for you. kristin.mcgarity@montana.edu (406) 994-5762

For detailed information about School of Music faculty, ensembles, scholarships, auditions, and curriculum information, please visit our website: www.montana.edu/music

www.montana.edu