



## Qualification Objectives for the Bachelor's Degree Programme in Music Theory

### Occupational field

Most work in this field centres around higher education institutions. Some music theorists also teach at music schools, secondary schools, and trade schools for music. In addition, there are a wide range of fields of activity in the field of freelance work: Music theorists research and publish, arrange and compose music, and work at publishing companies.

University teaching in the field of music theory usually includes lessons in counterpoint, harmony, form and analysis, ear training, and in some cases improvisation, instrumentation/arrangement. Some courses are for music theory majors, while others are required basic theory for students of other subjects; depending on the institution, these courses are mixed or divided into theory, analysis, and ear training. The work also includes overseeing student research projects in the field of music theory. The location of music theory between art, academics, and pedagogy offers a wide range of connections to other disciplines. At the same time, it enables individual focal points to be set, which can open opportunities to cooperate with academic colleagues, ensembles, schools, or cultural institutions.

### Qualification goals

The Bachelor's degree programme "Music Theory" aims at acquiring profound artistic and academic competence as well as the ability to teach it. The degree programme prepares its graduates in the best possible way for a working life in diverse professional fields as well as for a further specialization in corresponding graduate and postgraduate degree programmes.

The first focus of the curriculum is to develop each student into an independent and discerning, artistically and academically educated personality: someone who embraces the composition and aesthetics of music in a wide stylistic range from the end of the Medieval Period up to the 20th/21st centuries. Graduates of this programme can imitate a wide range of styles, understand complex music in detail, describe its structure and ef-

fect, and gain a precise idea of the sound of a composition by reading the score. In addition to a broad knowledge of music history and the knowledge of musical aesthetic concepts, they have gained an overview of the history of music theory and its questions and methods. They can understand the character of individual works in their historical and stylistic context, work out and adequately describe their overall characteristics, formulate their own questions, and pursue them on an academically professional level.

The second focus is on developing cutting-edge pedagogical and didactic skills. Graduates of this programme can structure lesson material for different target groups in a meaningful way and flexibly deal with the varying abilities of students in a group setting. The aim is to incorporate a wide variety of methods and learning forms on a case-by-case basis, considering the individual prerequisites of the learners and optimally promoting their progress in independent music-theoretical thought.

Further qualification goals contribute to the artistic profile of the degree track: Graduates of this programme have mastered their main instrument at a high level and have gained profound skills in realizing figured bass and playing from scores, in vocal practice, chamber music, and conducting. They are also able to recognize and develop their individual strengths and interests, work independently in terms of content and organisation, but also as part of a team, and organise themselves in their later professional lives.

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