

GUIDE FOR APPLICATION, SELECTION & ADMISSION FOR 2021

The process to be admitted to undergraduate music study at North-West University consists of two successive parts, with a separate application for each of these parts:

FIRST — a prospective student must apply for general admission to the *North-West University* (see 1. below);

THEN — a prospective student must apply for an audition and other selection procedures at the *NWU School of Music* (see 2.2 below).

The selection process will only start once **both** these applications have been completed.

Please read this guide carefully for full information on the requirements and processes for application, selection and admission to undergraduate study at the NWU School of Music.

1. Application for admission to the North-West University

Visit the NWU website at < <http://studies.nwu.ac.za/studies/apply> > for full information and instructions to submit your online application.

The closing date for applications for all selection courses, *which include all music programmes*, is **31 July 2020**.

2. Selection

2.1 Admission requirements

<i>Diploma in Music</i>	<i>BA Music & Society</i>	<i>Baccalaureus Musicae (BMus)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed Matric / National Senior Certificate with an endorsement for diploma study APS of at least 18 At least 50% (level 4) for English in Grade 12 Successful completion of a musical aptitude test and audition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed Matric / National Senior Certificate with an endorsement for degree study, <u>and</u> an APS of at least 21 <u>OR</u> A diploma in music or an equivalent qualification in which the modules for the final year have been passed with an average of at least 60% At least 50% (level 4) for English in Grade 12 Successful completion of a practical audition (Grade 3 standard) and a theoretical placement test (Grade 2 standard) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed Matric / National Senior Certificate with an endorsement for degree study APS of at least 24 Successful completion of a practical audition (Grade 6 standard) and a theoretical placement test (Grade 5 standard)

Students who do not fully comply with the admission requirements (e.g. regarding university exemption), can *still* apply and present themselves for selection, since conditional arrangements to allow admission could be made in cases of merit.

2.2 Application for selection at the NWU School of Music

As soon as application has been made for general admission to the North-West University, prospective students must also *immediately* apply for selection at the NWU School of Music. Application for selection must be completed online at < <http://nwumusic.co.za/2020-audition-application> > by the closing date of **31 July 2020**.

2.3 Dates for selection / audition

The only opportunities to audition will be on **Saturday 22 August & Saturday 29 August 2020** at the NWU School of Music & Conservatory in Potchefstroom.

As soon as the application for selection has been received, a specific date for each prospective student's selection / audition will be determined and confirmed.

2.4 Selection requirements

Diploma in Music	BA Music & Society	Baccalaureus Musicae (BMus)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Musical aptitude test, comprehension test, Oxford placement test, and practical audition (2.4.1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theoretical placement test (2.4.2), written assignment, comprehension test, and Oxford placement test (2.4.3) Practical audition (2.4.4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theoretical placement test (2.4.5), written assignment and comprehension test (2.4.6) Practical audition (2.4.7)

2.4.1 Musical aptitude test, comprehension test, Oxford placement test, and practical audition for *Diploma in Music*

- Prospective students will be tested in groups for musical aptitude.
- Prospective students will complete a comprehension test in English.
- Prospective students will write the Oxford placement test to measure English language skills.
- Prospective students who already have some knowledge of music notation (staff notation) will write a theory placement test.
- Three works of different genres/styles and tempi must be performed for the practical audition. Accompaniment will be provided, if required.
- Prospective students that will audition for CCM must prepare three songs of different genres/styles and tempi, e.g. one ballad, one medium tempo, and one up-tempo. Backing tracks should preferably be used; singing with the artist on a CD is strictly prohibited. Only one of the three songs may be sung a capella. No own compositions are allowed. There will also be a prescribed song for all the candidates. Candidates may use their own accompanists. An accompanist could be provided if the sheet music (no chord charts) is submitted at least three weeks before the audition.
- Prospective students wishing to audition for Choral Conducting will have to prepare two prescribed, contrasting pieces. These pieces will be forwarded to candidates after the close of applications (31 July 2020).

All Diploma in Music students that have been accepted must also attend the bridging course that is presented before the classes commence in February. If you already have some knowledge of music notation, you will write several tests, and your aural skills will be judged during this week. At the end of the week, the subject chairman will use your placement test and all evaluations completed during the

bridging course to determine for which music theory modules you should register. It is important to prove that you can work hard to develop your skills and comprehension.

Students who have been accepted but have no knowledge of music notation will participate in other music activities during the bridging course.

2.4.2 Theoretical placement test for BA Music & Society

The theoretical placement test will be on Unisa Grade 2 / Royal Schools Grade 3 standard.

All BA Music & Society students that have been accepted must also attend the bridging course that is presented before the classes commence in February. During this week several tests will be written, and your aural skills will be judged. At the end of the week, the subject chairman will use your placement test and all evaluations completed during the bridging course to determine for which music theory modules you should register. It is important to prove that you can work hard to develop your skills and comprehension.

2.4.3 Written assignment, comprehension test, and Oxford placement test for BA Music & Society

- Prospective students will receive a subject on which a short essay must be written.
- Prospective students will complete a comprehension test in English.
- Prospective students will write the Oxford placement test to measure English language skills.

2.4.4 Practical audition for BA Music & Society

Three contrasting works on Unisa Grade 3 / Royal Schools Grade 4 standard must be performed for the practical audition. Accompaniment will be provided, if required.

Prospective students that will audition for CCM must prepare three songs of different genres/styles and tempi, e.g. one ballad, one medium tempo, and one up-tempo. Backing tracks should preferably be used; singing with the artist on a CD is strictly prohibited. Only one of the three songs may be sung a capella. No own compositions are allowed. There will also be a prescribed song for all the candidates. Candidates may use their own accompanists. An accompanist could be provided if the sheet music (no chord charts) is submitted at least three weeks before the audition.

Prospective students wishing to audition for Choral Conducting will have to prepare two prescribed, contrasting pieces. These pieces will be forwarded to candidates after the close of applications (31 July 2020). There will also be aural tests on Unisa Grade 3 level.

2.4.5 Theoretical placement test for Baccalaureus Musicae (BMus)

The placement test is not an admissions test. The result of the placement test does not determine whether you can be admitted to the study programme as a whole. However, it does determine whether you can start with the BMus Music Theory modules in the first year of study.

The placement test lasts one hour and consists of three sections:

- (i) In the first section (20 minutes) questions will be asked about the basic building blocks of music: triads, intervals, scales, rhythmical patterns, cadences and time signatures. A large number of short questions must be completed.
- (ii) The second section also lasts 20 minutes and the questions will be on harmonic progressions. You will be asked to write a number of progressions and to harmonize a simple melody.
- (iii) In the third section you have to analyse part of a composition by naming and indicating certain aspects of the music, and by highlighting similarities and differences. The last section must be completed in 15 minutes.

Each section of the placement test is approximately on Unisa Grade 5 standard.

After the tests have been marked, each student will receive feedback on his/her standard as shown in the test and recommendations will be made for work that should be done to develop music theory skills and music comprehension before the start of the first study year.

All BMus students that have been accepted must also attend the bridging course that is presented before the classes commence in February. During this week several tests will be written, and your skills in practical harmony (“harmony at the piano”) will be judged. At the end of the week, the subject chairman will use your placement test and all evaluations completed during the bridging course to determine for which music theory modules you should register. It is important to show that you can work hard to develop your skills and comprehension.

2.4.6 Written assignment and comprehension test for *Baccalaureus Musicae (BMus)*

- Prospective students will receive a subject on which a short essay must be written.
- Prospective students will complete a comprehension test in English.
- Prospective students will write the Oxford placement test to measure English language skills.

2.4.7 Practical audition for *Baccalaureus Musicae (BMus)*

The practical audition will last a maximum of 20 minutes.

Winds	
Pieces:	Three contrasting pieces on Unisa / Royal Schools Grade 6 standard.
Scales:	As for Unisa / Royal Schools Grade 6.
Aural tests:	As for Unisa / Royal Schools Grade 6.
Sight-reading:	Grade 5 level.
General:	The selection panel will focus on good technique, pure intonation, a variety of pieces, good sound production and musicality / interpretation. Avoid pieces that are too difficult and above your performance ability. Rather choose pieces which you are familiar with to make a better impression.

Strings	
Pieces:	Three contrasting pieces on Unisa / Royal Schools Grade 6 standard.
Scales:	As for Unisa / Royal Schools Grade 6.
Aural tests:	None.
Sight-reading:	None.
General:	The selection panel will listen for pure intonation, good resonant sound, and a performance with character.

Piano	
Pieces:	Three pieces from different style periods, at least Unisa / Royal Schools Grade 6 standard.
Scales:	As for Unisa / Royal Schools Grade 6.
Aural tests:	None.
Sight-reading:	As for Unisa / Royal Schools Grade 6.
General:	The selection panel will listen for a polished performance, interpretation, style comprehension, musicality, sound production and control, technical development and skills, and rhythmic stability.

Organ	
Pieces:	Three pieces from different style periods, including a prelude & fugue and a chorale prelude, at least Unisa / Royal Schools Grade 6 standard.
Chorales:	Three chorales, in four parts with pedal.
Scales:	As for Unisa / Royal Schools Grade 6.
Aural tests:	As for Unisa / Royal Schools Grade 6.
Sight-reading:	As for Unisa / Royal Schools Grade 6.
General:	The selection panel will listen for a polished performance, technical control and style comprehension.

Voice: Western classical	
Pieces:	Three pieces in different languages, styles and tempi. Please note that the selection panel may choose from the different pieces, will not necessarily listen to all the pieces, and may stop you at any time.
Aural tests:	A range of aural tests.
Sight-reading:	Sight-reading will be tested on the appropriate level.
General:	The selection panel will listen for a polished performance, interpretation, style comprehension, musicality, intonation, technical development and skills, and rhythmic stability.

Choral Conducting	
Pieces:	Two prescribed contrasting pieces.
Aural tests:	As for Unisa / Royal Schools Grade 6.
General:	The focus will be on good technique, musicality, interpretation and rhythmic stability.

Voice: Contemporary commercial music	
Pieces:	Three songs of different genres/styles and tempi, e.g. one ballad, one medium tempo, and one up-tempo. The selection panel may choose from the different pieces, will not necessarily listen to all the pieces, and may stop you at any time. Backing tracks should preferably be used; singing with the artist on a CD is strictly prohibited. Only one of the three songs may be sung a capella. No own compositions are allowed. There will also be a prescribed song for all the candidates. Candidates may use their own accompanists. An accompanist could be provided if the sheet music (no chord charts) is submitted at least three weeks before the audition.
Aural tests:	A range of aural tests.
Sight-reading:	Sight-reading will not be tested.
General:	The selection panel will listen for a polished performance, interpretation, style comprehension, musicality, intonation, technical development and skills, and rhythmic stability.

2.4.8 Accompaniment for practical auditions

Vocalists and instrumentalists for *BMus* must do their practical auditions with accompaniment (unless unaccompanied pieces are presented). If it is not possible to bring your own accompanist, we can refer you to local freelance accompanists that might be available. Please contact the receptionist (018 299-1692) in this regard.

2.4.9 One or two (or more) instruments

Only one practical instrument is required for the music programmes at the NWU School of Music. However, there is the possibility to receive instruction in additional instruments, dependent on the skill

level already attained. In that case, an audition must be successfully completed in each additional instrument as well.

3. Admission

After the selection process has been completed, all applications are considered on merit. Prospective students will be informed by **16 October 2020** if they have been provisionally accepted for music study. Final admission can only be confirmed after the results of the Matric exams are available.

4. Bursaries

All prospective students who complete the practical auditions in August are automatically considered for one of two PUK Prestige Bursaries of R20,000 each. Bursary winners will be informed by **30 November 2020**. The bursaries are only paid into the students' student accounts after registration in February.

For further bursaries and financial support, contact Financial Support Services at (018) 299-4062, or visit the FSS website at < <http://www.nwu.ac.za/about-fss> >.

5. Undergraduate Curriculum 2021

Diploma in Music ~ 1 st Year	
Music Notation	[2 × 16 credits]
Music Education	[8 + 12 credits]
Keyboard Skills	[12 credits]
Performance & Ensemble Studies	[16 + 8 credits]
Introduction to Music Research	[12 credits]
Community Music	[8 credits]
Academic Literacy	[12 credits]

Diploma in Music ~ 2 nd Year	
Music Theory	[2 × 16 credits]
Music Education	[2 × 8 credits]
Keyboard Skills	[12 credits]
Performance & Ensemble Studies	[16 + 8 credits]
African Music	[8 credits]
Music in Society	[2 × 8 credits]
Community Music	[2 × 8 credits]

Diploma in Music ~ 3 rd Year	
Music Theory	[2 × 16 credits]
Music Education	[2 × 8 credits]
Keyboard Skills	[12 credits]
Performance & Ensemble Studies	[16 + 8 credits]
African Music	[8 credits]
Music in Society	[2 × 8 credits]
Community Music	[2 × 8 credits]

BA Music & Society ~ 1 st Year	
Music Theory	[2 × 16 credits]
Music Education	[2 × 8 credits]
Keyboard Skills	[12 credits]
Performance & Ensemble Studies	[16 + 8 credits]
Introduction to Music Research	[12 credits]
African Music	[8 credits]
Community Music	[2 × 8 credits]
Academic Literacy	[12 credits]

BA Music & Society ~ 2 nd Year	
Music Theory	[2 × 12 credits]
Music Education	[2 × 8 credits]
Performance & Ensemble Studies	[24 + 8 credits]
Music Technology	[8 credits]
African Music	[2 × 8 credits]
Music in Society	[2 × 8 credits]
Community Music	[2 × 8 credits]
Understanding the Cultural World	[12 credits]

BA Music & Society ~ 3 rd Year	
Music Theory	[2 × 8 credits]
Music Education	[2 × 8 credits]
Performance & Ensemble Studies	[24 + 8 credits]
Arts Management	[2 × 8 credits]
African Music	[2 × 8 credits]
Music in Society	[8 credits]
Community Music	[2 × 8 credits]
Aesthetics	[12 credits]

Baccalaureus Musicae (BMus) ~ 1 st Year	
Aural Training	[8 credits]
Musicology	[3 × 8 credits]
Music Education	[8 credits]
Music Theory	[16 + 8 credits]
Performance & Ensemble Studies	[24 + 8 credits]
Academic Literacy	[12 credits]
BA subject on level 1 chosen from: <i>Afrikaans & Nederlands</i> <i>English</i> <i>French</i> <i>German</i> <i>Psychology</i>	[2 × 12 credits]

Baccalaureus Musicae (BMus) ~ 2 nd Year	
Aural Training	[8 credits]
Musicology	[4 × 8 credits]

Music Education	[2 × 8 credits]
Music Theory	[16 + 8 credits]
Methodology	[2 × 8 credits]
Performance & Ensemble Studies	[24 + 8 credits]
Understanding the Cultural World	[12 credits]

Baccalaureus Musicae (BMus) ~ 3 rd Year	
Aural Training	[8 credits]
Performance & Ensemble Studies	[32 + 8 credits]
Philosophy of Culture	[12 credits]
Two subjects on level 3 chosen from: <i>Arts Management</i> <i>Music Technology</i> <i>Methodology</i> <i>Community Music</i> <i>Music Education</i> <i>Music Theory</i> <i>Musicology</i> <i>Composition</i>	[4 × 16 credits]

Baccalaureus Musicae (BMus) ~ 4 th Year	
Research Methodology	[8 credits]
Research Essay	[28 credits]
Two main subjects on level 4 chosen from: <i>Music Technology</i> <i>Methodology</i> <i>Community Music</i> <i>Music Education</i> <i>Music Theory</i> <i>Musicology</i> <i>Composition</i> <i>Performance</i>	[4 × 16 credits]

<i>Instruments for Performance in all curriculums</i>
<i>Voice (Western classical & contemporary) & Choral Conducting</i> <i>Keyboard instruments: piano & organ</i> <i>Wind instruments: flute, clarinet, saxophone & bassoon</i> <i>Brass instruments: trumpet, french horn, euphonium, trombone, tuba</i> <i>String instruments: violin, viola & cello</i> <i>Classical guitar</i>

6. Contact information

For enquiries and further information, please contact any of the following staff members.

6.1 Programme manager — *Diploma in Music*

Prof Santisa Viljoen: (018) 299-1709 / 1692 • < santisa.viljoen@nwu.ac.za >

Programme manager — *BA Music & Society*

Mr Jaco van der Merwe: (018) 299-1699 / 1692 • < jaco.vandermerwe@nwu.ac.za >

Programme manager — *Baccalaureus Musicae (BMus)*

Dr Mignon van Vreden: (018) 299-1700 / 1692 • < mignon.vanvreden@nwu.ac.za >

6.2 Receptionist

Ms Jané Muller: (018) 299-1692 • < jane.muller@nwu.ac.za >

6.3 Internet

Mailing list: eepurl.com/bVRYN1

Website: humanities.nwu.ac.za/music

Blog: nwumusic.co.za/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NWU.Music

YouTube: www.youtube.com/user/NWUMusic

Instagram: www.instagram.com/nwumusic