



Entrance exam 2025

Master of Arts in Music Composition / Creative Practice  
Bachelor of Arts in Music Composition / Creative Practice

## General Information

- The [online application](#) is open until 17 March. On page 7 of the online application form under the section “Course-specific documentation” please upload your motivation letter. In the section “Further documents” do not upload anything. All the scores and other material need to be provided as explained down here.
- The entrance exams / interviews for the take place on 14 and 15 April, Room 160, Ostermundigenstrasse 103, 3006 Bern. You will be informed about your time slot by 31 March at the latest.
- If you are in an overseas country, we can exceptionally make an online interview on demand. In that case, please write to us by at the latest on 17 March.

## For composers applying for the Master in Composition / Creative Practice:

- Upload the scores of three of your works. At least one of them must be accompanied by an audio or video recording. Prepare and upload a 1-page PDF with all the necessary links. You can freely choose the location/platform for all the uploads. Make sure that all the files are downloadable and available to anyone with the link, and that the links are valid at least 30 days after the interview date. You will need to provide us with the link to the PDF using an online form that we will send to you. Do not send us the PDF per Email. Deadline: 7 April
- Develop a personal concept related to the assignment you will receive two weeks before the interview.
- The interview consists of:
  - A discussion on your professional goals and ideas (20 minutes).
  - A presentation of the assignment (10 minutes). Bring the accompanying documentation (drafts, scores, drawings, sound files etc.), no PowerPoint.
  - A presentation of one of the works you have submitted (10 minutes). Bring the accompanying documentation (drafts, scores, drawings, sound files etc.), no PowerPoint.

## For performers and composer-performers applying for the Master in Composition / Creative Practice:

- You have the following options:
  - you may perform your own pieces (solo or chamber).
  - you may perform repertoire pieces (solo or chamber).
  - other people may perform your pieces (solo or chamber).

You can choose to combine different modalities, but in at least one piece you need to be featured as a performer. At least one piece must be performed live at the interview. The total duration should not exceed 20 minutes (incl. live performance + the audio/video files).

You are responsible for bringing your performers with you. We can provide a piano and a PA stereo system, without a technician/sound engineer. Some percussion instruments are available on demand. If you need a more specific technical setup, please send us your detailed technical rider by 17 March.

- Upload the videos of your performances. If applicable upload the scores or other documentation (i.e. description of the pieces). Prepare and upload a 1-page PDF with all the necessary links. You can freely choose the location/platform for all the uploads. Make sure that all the files are downloadable and available to anyone with the link, and that the links are valid at least 30 days after the interview date. You will need to provide us with the link to the PDF using an online form that we will send to you. Do not send us the PDF per Email. Deadline: 7 April.
- Develop a personal concept or improvisation in relation to the assignment you will receive two weeks before the interview.

- The interview consists of:
  - A discussion on your professional goals and ideas (20 minutes).
  - A presentation of the assignment (10 minutes). You should play/perform, but you are also welcome to present your work orally. If needed, bring the accompanying documentation (drafts, scores, drawings, sound files etc.), no PowerPoint.
  - A live performance (10 minutes maximum).

### For composers applying for the Bachelor in Music Composition / Creative Practice:

- Upload the scores of three of your works. At least one of them must be accompanied by an audio or video recording. Prepare and upload a 1-page PDF with all the necessary links. You can freely choose the location/platform for all the uploads. Make sure that all the files are downloadable and available to anyone with the link, and that the links are valid at least 30 days after the interview date. You will need to provide us with the link to the PDF using an online form that we will send to you. Do not send us the PDF per Email. Deadline: 7 April
- Develop a personal concept related to the assignment you will receive two weeks before the interview.
- The interview consist of:
  - A discussion on your professional goals and ideas.
  - A presentation of the assignment (10 minutes). If needed, bring the accompanying documentation (drafts, scores, drawings, sound files etc.).
  - A presentation of one of your works that you have submitted (10 minutes). If needed, bring the accompanying documentation (drafts, scores, drawings, sound files etc.).
  - A presentation your analysis of a chosen repertoire piece written after 1950 (10 minutes, without PowerPoint). Bring three copies of the score and if needed, additional documentation.
  - A performance of a short improvisation on the instrument of your choice (5 minutes maximum). This can also be voice or electronics.
  - A short aural analysis of a musical excerpt from a recent work - describe the excerpt by using precise musical parameters (pitch, timbre, dynamics, rhythm, etc.).
- Separately from the interview there will be a music theory part. For the dates and more info please check: <https://www.hkb.bfh.ch/en/studies/bachelor/music-classical/> under Eligibility + Entry

If you have any questions regarding the procedure, please contact our assistant [nemanja.radivojevic@hkb.bfh.ch](mailto:nemanja.radivojevic@hkb.bfh.ch)

With kind regards,  
 Irene Galindo Quero  
 Head of MA in Music Composition Creative Practice  
 Bern, 28 Feb 2024

## Timeline:

17 March at the latest:

- You apply to our study program using the online form available [here](#).

31 March

- You receive:
  - the schedule for your interview
  - the assignment
  - the online form for providing us with the links to your works.

7 April, at the latest

- Using the online form, you provide us with the links to your works.

14 or 15 April

- The interview takes place in Room 160, Ostermundigenstrasse 103, 3006 Bern, according to the schedule.