



# **MUSIC THEORY DEPARTMENT**

ENGLISH EDITION



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## CONTACT PERSON

**HEAD OF DEPARTMENT SCHOOL YEAR 2025-2026**

Daniel Lang ([dlang@vdl.lu](mailto:dlang@vdl.lu))

## **ATELIER DE COMPOSITION (COMPOSITION WORKSHOP)**

### **DESCRIPTION**

A creative framework in which students gain their first experiences with composition. From the initial idea to the final score, students are guided by the teacher. The tools needed to realize a musical idea are learned through the "learning by doing" method, analysing and listening to works relevant to the student's current project. In this way, students discover the world of musical writing in a creative way.

### **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Minimum age: none

Admission test: according to a schedule to be determined by the conservatory.

- All candidates must submit a portfolio with several original compositions, allowing the instructor to assess the student's potential and intentions.
- The admission test includes an interview with the course teacher.

Prerequisites for enrolling in this course:

- Having already composed music (written), be curious and passionate about musical writing.

Course format: individual lesson (30 minutes/week)

Lesson organisation: schedule to be fixed together with the teacher

Teacher : M. Ivan Boumans

## **STUDY PLAN**

### **DEGRÉ INFÉRIEUR**

Inférieur 1

Inférieur 2

Inférieur 3 - **CERTIFICAT DU DEGRÉ INFÈRIEUR**

## **ANALYSE MUSICALE (MUSIC ANALYSIS)**

### **DESCRIPTION**

Musical analysis is the discipline of studying a musical work to understand its elements and structure, from melodies and harmonies to rhythms and form. It allows students to interpret the composer's intention and appreciate the work's historical and cultural context. By studying a variety of works, students develop a critical ear and a deep understanding of the different styles and forms of classical music.

### **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Minimum age: none (however, it is recommended to be at least 13 years old)

Admission test: NO

Prerequisites for enrolling in this course:

- It is recommended to have a solid background in musical training to enrol in the “Inférieur” Level Analysis Course.
- Knowledge of harmony is also an asset.
- It is recommended to have, at least, a “2<sup>ème</sup> cycle” diploma in Harmony to register for the “Degré Moyen” Analysis Course.
- It is recommended to be enrolled, or have obtained, at least a “Division Moyenne” in Harmony to register for the “Degré Supérieur” Analysis Course.

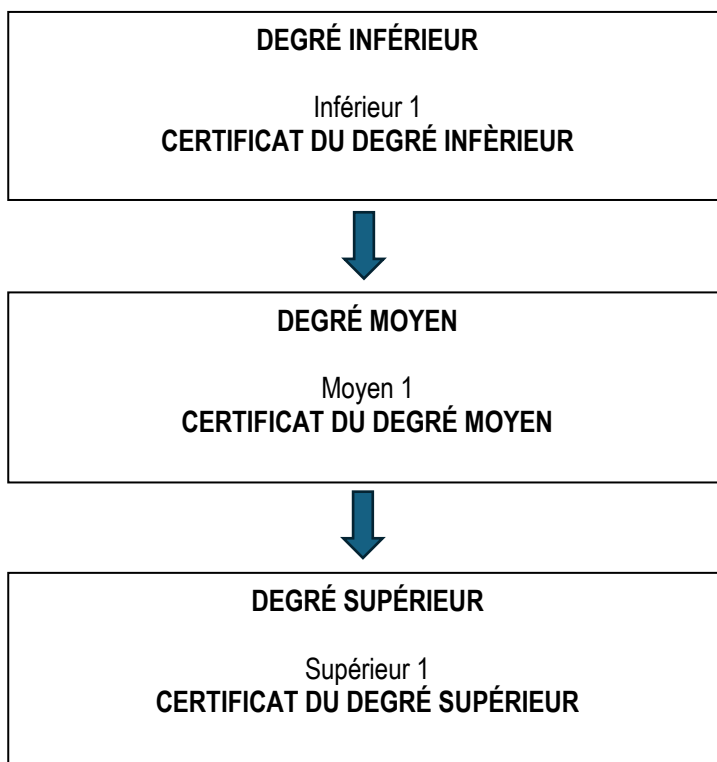
Course format: collective lesson

Lesson organisation (schoolyear 2026/2027):

- Inférieur 1 : Tuesdays from 17h to 19h
- Moyen 1 : Thursdays from 17h to 19h
- Supérieur : schedule to be fixed together with the teacher

Teacher: M. Ivan Boumans

## STUDY PLAN



# COMPOSITION

## DESCRIPTION

The composition course teaches the profession of composer, combining theoretical learning and artistic research.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum age: none

Admission test: YES. If applicable: presentation of a Portfolio with examples of the student's compositions.

Prerequisites for enrolling in this course:

- This course is intended for students with a solid foundation in harmony, counterpoint, analysis, and orchestration. Any student lacking sufficient knowledge in these areas, or not enrolled in these courses, will be systematically rejected.
- Obviously, having previous experience in the field of composition is an asset.

Course format: individual lesson

Lesson organisation: schedule to be fixed together with the teacher

Teacher: M. Ivan Boumans

## STUDY PLAN

### DIVISION INFÉRIEURE – 1<sup>er</sup> CYCLE

Inférieur 1

Inférieur 2 – **DIPLÔME DU 1<sup>er</sup> CYCLE**



### DIVISION INFÉRIEURE - 2<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Inférieur 3

Inférieur 4 - **DIPLÔME DU 2<sup>e</sup> CYCLE**



### DIVISION MOYENNE SPÉCIALISÉE – 3<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Moyen spécialisé 1

Moyen spécialisé 2 – **DIPLÔME DU 1<sup>er</sup> PRIX**



### DIVISION SUPÉRIEURE

Supérieur 1

Supérieur 2 – **DIPLÔME SUPÉRIEUR**

## CONTREPOINT (COUNTERPOINT)

### DESCRIPTION

Counterpoint is the writing technique that allows the development and control of polyphony, that is, a superposition of melodic lines. In counterpoint, writing focuses on both the horizontal dimension of music, the melodic line, and its vertical dimension, harmony. Students will be guided in this area through practical work based on styles and works from the Baroque and Renaissance periods.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum age: none (however, it is recommended to be at least 12 years old)

Admission test: NON

Prerequisites for enrolling in this course:

- Have successfully completed the Formation Musicale 3 course and/or be registered, at least, for the Formation Musicale 4 course.
- Exceptions, upon study of the candidature, may be considered.

Course format: individual lesson

Lesson organisation: schedule to be fixed together with the teacher

Teachers : M. Ivan Boumans  
M. Hy-Khang Dang  
M. Wolfgang Gangkofner

## STUDY PLAN

### DIVISION INFÉRIEURE – 1<sup>er</sup> CYCLE

Inférieur 1

Inférieur 2 – **DIPLÔME DU 1<sup>er</sup> CYCLE**



### DIVISION INFÉRIEURE - 2<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Inférieur 3

Inférieur 4 - **DIPLÔME DU 2<sup>e</sup> CYCLE**



### DIVISION MOYENNE SPÉCIALISÉE – 3<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Moyen spécialisé 1

Moyen spécialisé 2 – **DIPLÔME DU 1<sup>er</sup> PRIX**



### DIVISION SUPÉRIEURE

Supérieur 1

Supérieur 2 – **DIPLÔME SUPÉRIEUR**

## **CULTURE MUSICALE – COURS D'ÉCOUTE (MUSIC CULTURE – LISTENING COURSE)**

### **DESCRIPTION**

This course aims to establish a transition between the “Formation Musicale” curriculum and the Music Theory courses. Indeed, it offers a first approach to the branches of writing and music history. The introduction of this course, of only a school year, allows to group interests and to promote the "theoretical" branches in order to give them the place they deserve within the musical education. In addition, this course gives students the means to orient themselves in the world of musical expression and the chance to broaden their musical horizons.

### **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Minimum age: 13 years old

Admission test: NO

Prerequisites for enrolling in this course:

have notions of tonality and cadences, and be able to read the treble and bass clefs

Course format: collective lesson

Lesson organisation (schoolyear 2026/2027):

Tuesdays from 19h30 to 20h30

Teacher: M. François Marcaud

## **STUDY PLAN**

### **DEGRÉ INFÉRIEUR**

Inférieur 1 (Test)

## DIRECTION CHORALE (CHORAL CONDUCTING)

### DESCRIPTION

Choral conducting requires skills in singing, vocal technique, group management, and knowledge of the world of music. These aspects are covered in this course.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum age: none

Admission test: YES

Course format: individual lesson

Lesson organisation: schedule to be fixed together with the teacher

Teacher: M. Marc Dostert

### STUDY PLAN

#### DIVISION INFÉRIEURE – 1<sup>er</sup> CYCLE

Inférieur 1

Inférieur 2 – **DIPLÔME DU 1<sup>er</sup> CYCLE**



#### DIVISION INFÉRIEURE - 2<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Inférieur 3

Inférieur 4 - **DIPLÔME DU 2<sup>e</sup> CYCLE**

## DIPLÔME DU 2<sup>e</sup> CYCLE



### DIVISION MOYENNE – 3<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Moyen 1

Moyen 2 - **DIPLÔME DU 3<sup>e</sup> CYCLE**

### DIVISION MOYENNE SPÉCIALISÉE – 3<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Moyen spécialisé 1

Moyen spécialisé 2 – **DIPLÔME DU 1<sup>er</sup> PRIX**



### DIVISION SUPÉRIEURE

Supérieur 1

Supérieur 2 – **DIPLÔME SUPÉRIEUR**

### Details

- To be admitted to the first cycle of the Division Inférieure of choral direction, the student must follow or have followed the courses of the specialized middle division of Formation Musicale, as well as follow or have followed the courses of an instrumental branch or vocal training - singing.
- To be admitted to the examination for obtaining the second Cycle Diploma in choral direction, the student must hold the first prize in musical training and hold either the diploma of the middle division, or the first prize of an instrumental or singing branch.

## DIRECTION ORCHESTRE (ORCHESTRA CONDUCTING)

### DESCRIPTION

Conducting an orchestra requires skills in gesture technique, instrumental knowledge, group management, and knowledge of the world of music. These aspects are covered in this course.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum age: none

Admission test : **Information will be know soon**

Course format: individual lesson

Lesson organisation: schedule to be fixed together with the teacher

Teachers: Ms. Emmanuelle Bizien

## STUDY PLAN

### DIVISION INFÉRIEURE – 1<sup>er</sup> CYCLE

Inférieur 1

Inférieur 2 – **DIPLÔME DU 1<sup>er</sup> CYCLE**



### DIVISION INFÉRIEURE - 2<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Inférieur 3

Inférieur 4 - **DIPLÔME DU 2<sup>e</sup> CYCLE**



### DIVISION MOYENNE – 3<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Moyen 1

Moyen 2 - **DIPLÔME DU 3<sup>e</sup> CYCLE**



### DIVISION MOYENNE SPÉCIALISÉE – 3<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Moyen spécialisé 1

Moyen spécialisé 2 – **DIPLÔME DU 1<sup>er</sup> PRIX**



### DIVISION SUPÉRIEURE

Supérieur 1

Supérieur 2 – **DIPLÔME SUPÉRIEUR**

## **Details**

- To be admitted to the first cycle of the Division inférieure of orchestral conducting, the student must follow or have followed the courses of the Division Moyenne or the Division Moyenne spécialisée of Formation Musicale.
- To be admitted to the first cycle diploma examination, the student must hold the second cycle diploma of instrumental training and either the Division Moyenne diploma or the Premier Prix in Formation Musicale.
- To be admitted to the examination for obtaining the second cycle diploma, the student must hold the Premier Prix diploma in Formation Musicale and the third cycle diploma, or the Premier Prix diploma in a branch of instrumental training.
- To be admitted to the Division Moyenne Spécialisée, the student must hold a Premier Prix diploma in a branch of instrumental training and have obtained their second cycle diploma with a final grade greater than or equal to fifty points.

# FUGUE

## DESCRIPTION

The Fugue course is the natural continuation of the Counterpoint course. Considering the fugue genre to be highly technical and complex, students, guided by the teacher, will learn all its secrets of writing and analysis.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum age: none

Admission test: NO

Prerequisites for enrolling in this course: Be at least registered in the Division Moyenne Spécialisée in counterpoint and harmony.

Course format: individual lesson

Lesson organisation: schedule to be fixed together with the teacher

Teacher: M. Ivan Boumans

## STUDY PLAN

### DIVISION MOYENNE SPÉCIALISÉE – 3<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Moyen spécialisé 1

Moyen spécialisé 2 – **DIPLÔME DU 1<sup>er</sup> PRIX**



### DIVISION SUPÉRIEURE

Supérieur 1

Supérieur 2 – **DIPLÔME SUPÉRIEUR**

## HARMONIE (HARMONY)

### DESCRIPTION

The art of harmony studies the construction of chords, the principles that govern them, and their sequences. Unlike counterpoint, which focuses primarily on the horizontal dimension (melody) of music, harmony focuses more on the vertical aspect.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum age: none (however, it is recommended to be at least 12 years old)

Admission test: NO

Prerequisites for enrolling in this course:

- Have successfully completed the Formation Musicale 4 course and/or be registered, at least, for the Formation Musicale 5 course.
- Exceptions, upon study of the candidature, may be considered.

Course format: individual lesson

Lesson organisation: schedule to be fixed together with the teacher

Teachers:	M. Ivan Boumans	M. Daniel Lang
	M. Hy-Khang Dang	M. François Marcaud
	Ms. Josiane Diefferding	Ms. Sonja Neumann
	M. Wolfgang Gangkofner	Ms. Nigji Sanges

## STUDY PLAN

### DIVISION INFÉRIEURE – 1<sup>er</sup> CYCLE

Inférieur 1

Inférieur 2 – **DIPLÔME DU 1<sup>er</sup> CYCLE**



### DIVISION INFÉRIEURE - 2<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Inférieur 3

Inférieur 4 - **DIPLÔME DU 2<sup>e</sup> CYCLE**



### DIVISION MOYENNE – 3<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Moyen 1

Moyen 2 - **DIPLÔME DU 3<sup>e</sup> CYCLE**



### DIVISION MOYENNE SPÉCIALISÉE – 3<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Moyen spécialisé 1

Moyen spécialisé 2 – **DIPLÔME DU 1<sup>er</sup> PRIX**



### DIVISION SUPÉRIEURE

Supérieur 1

Supérieur 2 – **DIPLÔME SUPÉRIEUR**

## HARMONIE PRATIQUE (PRACTICAL HARMONY)

### DESCRIPTION

The course seeks to develop the harmonic ear, and the reflexes linked to it on the keyboard.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum age: none (however, it is recommended to be at least 13 years old)

Admission test: NO

Prerequisites for enrolling in this course:

- Have successfully completed at least the Level 3.2" level of study in piano

Course format: individual lesson

Lesson organisation: schedule to be fixed together with the teacher

Teachers: Ms. Josiane Diefferding  
M. Wolfgang Gangkofner

### Remarks:

**The Keyboard Department manages the registrations for the "Practical Harmony" for Accordion and Organ courses.**

**The Early Music Department manages the registrations for the "Practical Harmony (Basso Continuo) for Harpsichord" course.**

## STUDY PLAN



# HISTOIRE DE LA MUSIQUE (MUSIC HISTORY)

## DESCRIPTION

The main stages in the history of music are presented, illustrated by the study of key works, and highlighting the stylistic and aesthetic transformations and developments over time.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum age: none

Admission test: NO

Course format: collective lesson

Lesson organisation (schoolyear 2026/2027):

- Moyen 1 : Mondays from 17h to 18h
- Moyen 2 : Mondays from 18h to 19h

Teacher: M. Andreas Wagner

## STUDY PLAN

### DEGRÉ MOYEN

Moyen 1

Moyen 2 - **CERTIFICAT DU DEGRÉ MOYEN**

# INFORMATIQUE MUSICALE ET CRÉATION (MUSIC INFORMATICS AND CREATION)

## DESCRIPTION

Computer music is a discipline that includes aspects of sound synthesis, musical composition assistance, and unassisted musical composition. Emphasis is placed on the creative side of the student.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum age: none

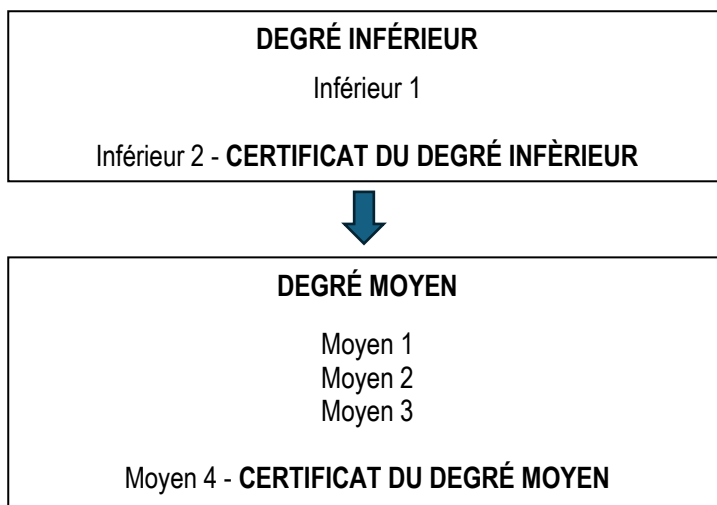
Admission test: NON

Course format: individual lesson

Lesson organisation: schedule to be fixed together with the teacher

Teacher: M. Nik Bohnenberger

## STUDY PLAN



# **INSTRUMENTATION ET ORCHESTRATION (INSTRUMENTATION AND ORCHESTRATION)**

## **DESCRIPTION**

This course covers the sound colour and technical qualities of all the instruments in the symphony orchestra, enabling composers, arrangers (and others) to utilize them in their creative endeavours. This course is also highly recommended for students interested in pursuing orchestral conducting.

## **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Minimum age: none

Admission test: NO

Prerequisites for enrolling in this course:

- Have obtained the certificate of the Division Moyenne or Division Moyenne Spécialisée of Formation Musicale
- Attend or have attended the harmony course until obtaining the first Cycle diploma

Course format: collective lesson

Lesson organisation: schedule to be fixed together with the teacher

Teacher for the schoolyear 2025/2026: M. Ivan Boumans

## STUDY PLAN

### DIVISION INFÉRIEURE – 1<sup>er</sup> CYCLE

Inférieur 1

Inférieur 2 – **DIPLÔME DU 1<sup>er</sup> CYCLE**



### DIVISION INFÉRIEURE - 2<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Inférieur 3

Inférieur 4 - **DIPLÔME DU 2<sup>e</sup> CYCLE**



### DIVISION MOYENNE SPÉCIALISÉE – 3<sup>e</sup> CYCLE

Moyen spécialisé 1

Moyen spécialisé 2 – **DIPLÔME DU 1<sup>er</sup> PRIX**



### DIVISION SUPÉRIEURE

Supérieur 1

Supérieur 2 – **DIPLÔME SUPÉRIEUR**

## NOTATION MUSICALE (MUSIC NOTATION)

N.B.: From an administrative perspective, this course is part of the "Musiques Actuelles" Department, although it would be highly interesting and relevant for students in the "Musich Theory" Department. If you have any questions, please contact M. David Laborier: [dlaborier@vdl.lu](mailto:dlaborier@vdl.lu)

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum age: 13 years old before September 1<sup>st</sup>

Admission test: NO

Course format: collective lesson

Lesson organisation: schedule to be fixed together with the teacher

Teachers: M. David Laborier  
M. Jean-Jacques Maillet

### STUDY PLAN

#### DEGRÉ MOYEN

Moyen 1

Moyen 2 - **CERTIFICAT DU DEGRÉ MOYEN**