A WELCOME FOR NEW BLAIR SCHOOL OF MUSIC STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Lorenzo Candelaria, Dean
Melissa Rose, Senior Associate Dean
Welcome to the Vanderbilt Blair School of Music! Today we would like to provide you with an overview of the next four years at VU.

Please ask any questions in the chat.
TRANSITIONS & PARTNERSHIP

• You are in the midst of a major transition to adulthood and independence as a person and as a musician
• You will chart your own course through the Vanderbilt years, with the support of your advisers and faculty
• Students will take the lead and be responsible for themselves.
• This is a major shift for not only students but also for their families.
TRANSITIONS & PARTNERSHIP

We believe that parents and other caring adults are extremely important to the success of students, and we want to partner with you to facilitate that success. Together, our job is to guide and support students in their journeys.
BLAIR PARTNERS

Lorenzo Candelaria
Dean

Melissa Rose
Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Seth Soloway
Associate Dean for Presenting and External Relations
BLAIR PARTNERS

Rachel Hobbs
Office of Academic Services

Amy Jarman
Head of Academic Advising

Brittany Chase
Student Engagement
OAS can assist students with...

- Registration
- Changes to degree program
- External credit
- Backup academic advising
- Any general questions about resources or programs at Vanderbilt

You can find OAS

- by phone at 615-322-7655, and
- by email at rachel.hobbs@vanderbilt.edu
BLAIR PARTNERS: FACULTY

• Faculty teach, hold office hours, assess student achievement, and assign both mid-term and final grades.

• We encourage you to meet with every professor you have and to do so early in the semester.

• Student initiative is expected; instructors might not prescribe all study activities a student may need to do to be successful.

• Studio faculty teach individual lessons in composition and performance each week.
ACADEMIC ADVISERS

• Academic advisers help students navigate the curriculum.
  • Students must meet with their academic adviser once every semester to review course selections for the next semester.

• Studio advisers are great resources to students for information about their discipline and its applications to future careers.

• Wise students read adviser emails carefully and cultivate a good relationship.
FOUR YEARS IN A

• Students will get to know each other and faculty via Vanderbilt Visions, the Commons, music courses and ensembles, & co-curricular engagement.
  • They will start with the music core in years 1 and 2.
  • They will complete a capstone (Immersion Vanderbilt) project in their senior year.
  • They will complete a liberal arts core.
• The Blair Class of 2025 will graduate the second Friday* in May 2025
  • We look forward to celebrating with you!
GETTING INVOLVED

• AnchorLink – online resource to find and connect with VU student organizations; anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu

• Student Involvement Fair - Friday, August 27 from 3:00 – 5:00 pm on the Commons Lawn
FALL 2021 CALENDAR

• Wed. Aug. 25 – first day of classes
• Thurs. Oct. 14 & Fri. Oct. 15 – fall break
• Sat. Nov. 20 – Sun. Nov. 28 – Thanksgiving break
• Sat. Dec. 18 at 10:00 pm – end of last final exam
  • Students must remain on campus through their last exams
    https://registrar.vanderbilt.edu/documents/Fall_2021_exam_schedule.pdf
• Please do not make travel plans that would cause you to miss an exam or classes before a break.
CURRICULUM

• Students follow the curriculum for their desired major as specified in the Undergraduate Catalog and the Blair Student Handbook.

• All entering students have been contacted by Prof. Amy Jarman with guidance about what courses to take in Fall 2021 and how to register via the YES system. YES opened for registration changes on July 21st.

• All students have been assigned a Blair faculty academic adviser and will meet that person at least once each semester to discuss progress through the curriculum.
CURRICULUM

• Students will get the courses they need to graduate with their major in eight semesters if they do the following:
  • Meet prerequisites
  • Follow the guidance of the Undergraduate Catalog and their academic adviser
  • Follow directions and register in a timely fashion
• Students with difficulty registering for a class they need should reach out to the Office of Academic Services.
  • We cannot guarantee that a student can fit multiple majors/minors into eight semesters.
FERPA

- The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records.
- Students must submit the **Consent to Release Academic Information** form *from their VU email address* to let us know whether we may discuss their academic records with anyone, including families.

• YES is the portal for the most critical applications that support students’ VU progress.

• It is a **serious violation** of the VU Student Computing Policy for a student to share their Vanderbilt University passwords with anyone, including parents, or to allow another person access to systems requiring their VUnetID and password.
  • Please do **NOT** put your student in jeopardy of serious sanctions by asking them for access to their VU passwords or computing systems.
  • [https://www.vanderbilt.edu/enrollmentbulletin/policies/student-computing-policy/](https://www.vanderbilt.edu/enrollmentbulletin/policies/student-computing-policy/)
DETOURS

• To change a major within Blair, students discuss with their advisers and submit a form to rachel.hobbs@Vanderbilt.edu.

• Changing your school/college within VU is permitted for students in good standing via IUT application at end of first year or later.

• Leaves of absence (LOA) are permitted and in certain circumstances required.
  • These will alter a student’s expected graduation term.
  • Students considering a LOA should contact Associate Dean Rose to discuss.
Students with an IEP or 504 Plan in high school will most likely request accommodations while at Vanderbilt.

- Students needing accommodations should register with Student Access Services ASAP. The process can take up to three weeks.
- The student is responsible for requesting accommodations and for informing Student Access if there are implementation issues.
- Student Access uses the **Commodore Access Portal** for accommodation management.
  - Student logs in each semester to send their pre-generated accommodation letters to instructors of their choosing.
  - The portal is also where accommodation change requests can be made and where students can schedule proctored exams.
STUDENT ACCESS SERVICES

• In addition to academics, Student Access also provides accommodations for dining, housing, and transportation.

• Applying for Accommodations: https://www.vanderbilt.edu/student-access/how_to/get_accommodations/index.php

• Questions about Student Access Services – studentaccess@vanderbilt.edu
The Student Care Network is a holistic network of services and resources pertaining to health and wellness available to all Vanderbilt students.

The Student Care Network:  https://www.vanderbilt.edu/studentcarenetwork/
Questions: studentcare@vanderbilt.edu
STUDENT CARE NETWORK

- Student Care Network encompasses a wide range of resources pertaining to health & wellbeing; bolstered by 4 primary offices:
  - Office of Student Care Coordination
  - University Counseling Center
  - Center for Student Wellbeing
  - Student Health Center

- The **Office of Student Care Coordination** is the first and central point of contact to help students identify their needs and navigate the many resources around campus. Students can meet with a care coordinator at the OSCC by completing the intake form found on their website, [www.vanderbilt.edu/carecoordination](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/carecoordination).
STUDENT CARE NETWORK

- As parents/concerned adults, you have the unique opportunity to be a strong partner in your student’s health and wellbeing. Learn more about support available by visiting the Student Care Network website. [https://www.vanderbilt.edu/studentcarenetwork/](https://www.vanderbilt.edu/studentcarenetwork/)

- Listen for cues that your student may be facing challenges, share campus resources that may help, and encourage your student to reach out for help proactively.

- All offices of the Student Care Network value student’s privacy. While we welcome parents’ input and information, we may not be able to provide specific information about your student without written consent. This can be waived in the case of an emergency where safety is a concern.
VU Student Health serves the primary care needs of students. [https://www.vumc.org/student-health/welcome](https://www.vumc.org/student-health/welcome)

- No charge for office visits
- Charges at cost may be incurred for in-house diagnostic testing, procedures, vaccines, medications, and supplies
- Vanderbilt Student Health Center does not bill insurance & is out of network for insurance plans

Info for new students at [https://www.vumc.org/student-health/information-new-students](https://www.vumc.org/student-health/information-new-students)

- Students with chronic health conditions are encouraged to make an appointment now to help ensure continuity of care
STAYING HEALTHY

• Please prepare for a healthy transition to a new location and environment
  - We are never too old to be reminded about the importance of handwashing
  - If relevant, arrange for continued supply of any maintenance prescriptions
  - Exercise! – Student Recreation Center, Commons mini-gym, walking, intramural sports, etc.
  - Remember that making new friends takes time and is something everyone goes through
SERIOUS DISRUPTIONS

★ Students should reach out to their professors to discuss addressing academic work in the context of the crisis.

★ If your student is unable to self-advocate, please notify melissa.rose@vanderbilt.edu so that we may notify your student’s professors.
  • Documentation may be requested.

★ Check out “Helping Others” page which includes a link to the Student of Concern reporting form:

https://www.vanderbilt.edu/carecoordination/sample-page/assisting-students-of-concern/

Note – this form is not intended to be an emergency response notification.
STUDENT ACCOUNTS

• All billing is electronic. The e-bill for fall was sent on August 2nd with a due date of August 31st.

• E-bills are automatically sent to the student. If families wish to also receive the e-bills, please have your student add you as a payer. Instructions are available on the website https://www.vanderbilt.edu/stuaccts/.

• VU offers an optional payment plan. The Vandy Plan enrollment for Fall 2021 has already begun. More information regarding the plan can be found on the website https://www.vanderbilt.edu/stuaccts/payments/options-fall.php
STUDENT ACCOUNTS

• It is essential that students set-up direct deposit to receive refunds. Please do this now. Students login to YES, click “direct deposit” and save their preferred US checking account details.

• Past-due balances are subject to financial holds and late fees. Late fees accrue monthly at 1.5% (minimum late fee is $5).

• Important checklist of student account-related items: https://www.vanderbilt.edu/stuaccts/undergraduate/checklist.php

• Please direct questions to student.accounts@vanderbilt.edu
FINANCIAL AID

• Students must read emails from the VU Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (OFAS) and pass them to families as needed.

• Students and parents must reapply for need-based financial aid each year. Priority deadlines & other info are included on the website https://www.vanderbilt.edu/financialaid/.

• While Vanderbilt's cost of attendance may increase annually, if family circumstances remain relatively unchanged, students can expect to receive comparable aid in future years.
  • Minimum contribution expected from student summer and academic year earnings may increase from year to year.

• Financial aid is awarded for a maximum of 8 semesters.
STUDY ABROAD

- Blair students are encouraged to study abroad.
- Planning ahead is essential.
- VU financial aid can be used to study abroad.
- Students should visit VU’s Global Education Office (www.Vanderbilt.edu/geo) and look for information sessions.

Trolldhaugen in Bergen, Norway
WHAT SHOULD FAMILIES DO NOW?

• Talk with your student; ask them how they would like you to help them during their Vanderbilt years.

• Discuss expectations, both yours and theirs, regarding matters such as:
  • Communication
  • Dealing with academic challenges
  • Conduct

• Ask your student to review their lists of things to complete including the FERPA form.

• Start them on the road to independence.
QUESTIONS?

• Please type your questions into the chat

• A pdf of the slides will be posted at blair.vanderbilt.edu/academics