

Master of Music in Film Scoring Rig Requirements

The general rig requirements for the Master of Music in Film Scoring are outlined in this document. Note that each individual course may have **additional requirements (or exceptions) listed in the Course-Specific Requirements**.

You can find special deals on several products through the [Student Deals](#) page. The Course-Specific Requirements page in the *Getting Started* section may also contain deals exclusive to that course.

Your **COMPUTER** must be powerful enough to run your chosen software and large orchestral film scoring sessions smoothly. We recommend at least **32GB of RAM**, Solid State Drives (**SSDs**), and a recent **Intel i7** processor or better.

HARDWARE

- **MIDI controller**, with a minimum of 49 keys, mod wheel, and other MIDI CC knobs/faders, such as:
 - [Novation Launchkey 49](#)
 - [Nektar Impact LX49+](#)
- **Professional quality mixing headphones**, suitable for orchestral mockup production and mixing.
 - *Recommended:* [Sennheiser HD600](#) or better
 - *Minimum:* [Audio-Technica ATH-M50x](#)
- **Professional quality studio monitor speakers (pair)**
 - *Recommended:* [JBL 308P](#) or better
 - *Minimum:* [JBL 305P](#)

Note: Some courses will require *either* headphones *or* monitors, but having *both* is highly recommended for the entire program.

- **Audio interface**, for the purpose of driving your monitors (or high-impedance headphones).

SOFTWARE

- **Digital Audio Workstation (DAW)**
 - [Avid Pro Tools version 2018.12](#) or higher is a *hard requirement* for OCOMP-588, 599, and 637.
 - One of the following as your primary DAW for composing and sequencing is *required*:
 - [Steinberg Cubase Pro](#) or [Nuendo](#)
 - [Apple Logic Pro X](#) (*Mac only*)
 - [MOTU Digital Performer](#)
 - [Reaper](#)
 - [\(Avid Pro Tools\)](#)

Note: While Pro Tools *can* serve as your single primary DAW for the program, we recommend having an additional DAW from the above list for sequencing. Cubase or Logic are highly recommended.

- **Notation software**, one of the following:
 - [Steinberg Dorico Pro](#)
 - [Avid Sibelius | Ultimate](#)
 - [MakeMusic Finale](#) (full version)
- **High-quality algorithmic reverb**, such as:
 - [iZotope Exponential Audio R4](#) or [Symphony](#)
 - [Lexicon Native PCM Reverb Bundle](#)
 - [ValhallaDSP Room](#)
 - Note: [Altiverb](#) or [LiquidSonics Seventh Heaven Pro](#) (both convolution reverbs) could be used in lieu of an algorithmic reverb.
- **Sample libraries**, as listed on the next page. You may choose to start the program with the more affordable Option 1 listed below, and then build your collection from there as you go.

Orchestral Sample Libraries Requirement

Option 1 (cheapest): EastWest ComposerCloud for Students (\$20/mo or \$10/mo with annual plan)

Option 2: Vienna Symphonic Library (VSL) VI or SYNCHRON-ized Special Edition Volumes 1 & 2

Option 3: Spitfire Audio BBC Orchestra Professional + 1 Piano library from below

Option 4: Pick 1 from EACH category below (Options 1, 2, or 3 above can also be used to fill gaps):

Woodwinds:

- Orchestral Tools Berlin Woodwinds
- Cinesamples CineWinds (Core & Pro)
- EastWest Hollywood Winds (Gold or Platinum)
- Spitfire Symphonic Woodwinds or Studio Woodwinds
- VSL VI Woodwinds I & II

Brass:

- Audiobro Modern Scoring Brass
- Orchestral Tools Berlin Brass
- Cinesamples CineBrass (Core & Pro)
- Cinematic Studio Brass
- EastWest Hollywood Brass (Gold or Platinum)
- Spitfire Symphonic Brass or Studio Brass
- VSL VI Brass I & II or Dimension Brass I & II

Percussion:

- Orchestral Tools Berlin Percussion + Timpani Bundle
- Cinesamples CinePerc
- EastWest Hollywood Percussion
- Spitfire Percussion
- VSL VI Percussion or Synchron Percussion
- Project Sam True Strike 1

Harp:

- Cinesamples CineHarp
- EastWest Hollywood Harp
- VSL VI Harp I
- Orchestral Tools Symphonic Sphere (Harp)
- Spitfire Harp

Any multi-sampled piano library, such as:

- Cinesamples CinePiano
- EastWest Pianos
- Spectrasonics Keyscape
- Spitfire Orchestral Grand Piano or Hans Zimmer Piano
- Synthogy Ivory
- Pianoteq Grand Piano (Stage, Standard, or Pro)
- Native Instruments Komplete

Strings:

- Orchestral Tools Berlin Strings
- Cinesamples CineStrings
- EastWest Hollywood Strings
- Spitfire Symphonic Strings or Chamber Strings or Studio Strings
- VSL Orchestral Strings I & II or Appassionata Strings I & II or Synchron Strings
- Cinematic Studio Strings or Cinematic Strings 2
- Audiobro LA Scoring Strings Lite or Full
- NI Symphony Series String Ensembles (note: NOT Symphony Essentials!)

Please note:

Several libraries listed here may also require the full version of Native Instruments **Kontakt** to run, which can be purchased standalone, or as part of the NI Komplete or Komplete Ultimate bundles.

Contact Support at support@online.berklee.edu for any questions.

Note: We recommend storing sample library content in a secondary or external SSD (especially if not using a more complicated network solution, such as Vienna Ensemble Pro, to host and manage your samples).

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