

MA in Acoustics



The Master of Arts in Acoustics is a two-year graduate program which prepares students to work in the specialized and growing fields of architectural acoustic design and consulting, acoustical product design, and audio systems design and integration. The program provides a thorough grounding in acoustics fundamentals, design practices, and advanced analysis applications, to enable graduates to pursue careers in these specialized fields.

peabody.jhu.edu/acoustics

Program Highlights

As the only graduate program in acoustics situated within a music conservatory, the program has a specific focus on the design and analysis of spaces for performance. The degree offers courses in architectural acoustics, noise control, psychoacoustics, musical acoustics, acoustic and audio measurements, computer modeling, electroacoustics, audiovisual systems design, and professional practices. The program culminates with an acoustic design practicum, whereby each student develops, executes, and defends an individualized research and application project.

- Small classes, from academics and professionals with varied perspectives on acoustics, offering direct faculty-student engagement.
- Students visit, engage with, and analyze performance spaces in Baltimore-Washington region.
- Opportunities to travel with faculty to listen to, assess, and compare performance spaces, both domestically and abroad.
- Visiting lectures from industry leaders in acoustics, audio systems design, recording, and new media.
- Situated within a premiere conservatory of music, offering countless listening, recording, and analysis opportunities.
- Access to specific courses and research in the broader Johns Hopkins University community, including physics, signal processing, psychology, drawing, and medicine.



Recent graduates have gone on to positions at:

Acoustics and Audiovisual Design

- Threshold Acoustics
- Shen, Milsom & Wilke
- Pershing Technologies
- Convergent Systems Design Group
- Acoustical Design Collaborative
- Veneklasen Associates
- Cerami Associates
- Stantec
- Arup Acoustics

Broadcast, Recording and Production

- National Public Radio
- Tanglewood Music Festival
- Aspen Music Festival
- Brevard Summer Music Festival

Product Design and Application

- Apple Inc. (Beats)
- Bose
- RPG Diffusor Systems
- Polk Audio / Sound United
- Definitive Technologies



Admissions Requirements

Students come to the Acoustics program with varied backgrounds, including undergraduate degrees in architecture, audio technology, electrical or mechanical engineering, physics, computer science, recording sciences, or music. Undergraduate level coursework must include one year of college physics, one year of calculus, one year of audio fundamentals and basic audio engineering, or equivalent. A background in music is expected, although a Bachelor of Music is not required.

Acoustics Faculty



Eric Echols



Ian Hoffman,
chair



John Horne



Scott Orth



Conservatory Admissions

1 E. Mount Vernon Place
Baltimore, MD 21202
peabody.jhu.edu/admissions
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