

**Institutional Effectiveness
2024-2025**

Program: Music BM/BS

College and Department: College of Fine Arts, School of Music

Contact: Colin Hill

Mission:

The mission of the School of Music is to provide the best possible preparation for careers and/or graduate studies in teaching and music performance. The offerings of the School of Music also enable students to build and share in an enriched life through participation in activities in music; to broaden the cultural perspective of the community, state, and region; and to instill in all University students a keen appreciation of music.

Attach Curriculum Map (Educational Programs Only):

Attached Files: See Appendices 1 and 2

Program Goal: Musical Enrichment

Define Outcome:

Through numerous performances, the School will provide a rich musical experience for students, members of the Tech community and beyond.

Assessment Methods:

The School maintains a list of events such as recitals, concerts, large ensembles, masterclasses, chamber groups and guest artists.

Criteria for Success (Thresholds for Assessment Methods):

The more events that are attended, the greater the musical experience.

Link to 'Tech Tomorrow' Strategic Plan:

1.A Experiential Learning, 2.B Research, Scholar, Intellect, and Creativity

Results and Analysis:

More than 200 music events were programmed during the 2024-2025 academic year. The majority of these events are free for students and the public. Included were performances by professionals as well as students, and the concerts provided a rich cultural opportunity for the TTU campus and local community. Music students had the opportunity to perform in solo recitals, ensemble performances, and alongside guest artists.

The School of Music scheduling system supports the complex task of reserving rehearsal and performance spaces. A full-time staff member manages this system.

The preparation required for these concerts synthesizes the music students' academic music courses and their ensemble/applied experiences. The concepts taught in Music Theory, Aural Techniques, Music History, and overall musicianship are utilized in the rehearsal and performance process.

Use of Results to Improve Outcomes:

The School of Music releases a bi-monthly newsletter that advertises all concerts and events for the next two weeks. Additionally, the School of Music has employed student workers to advertise events and concerts on our social media pages.

All music majors are required to attend 7 concerts per semester and 7 dead hour events as part of their recital class requirements, MUS 1013. Dead hour events include guest artist presentations, professional development sessions, and student performances.

SLO 1 CORE: The student will understand and apply music theory concepts and skills.

Define Outcome:

- A. The student will be able to hear, identify and work conceptually with the elements of music such as rhythm, melody, harmony, structure, timbre and texture.
- B. The student will have the ability to read and analyze musical notation.

Assessment Methods:

- A. Final exam in Harmony demonstrating the ability to identify, analyze, and assess the elements of music. (*Direct Measure of Learning*)
- B. Final exam in Aural Training 4 demonstrating the ability to hear, identify and work conceptually with the elements of music. (*Direct Measure of Learning*)

Criteria for Success (Thresholds for Assessment Methods):

- A. Achievement Target: 75% of students will meet minimum standards on the comprehensive final in Harmony IV.
- B. Achievement Target: 75% of students will meet minimum standards on the comprehensive final in Aural Techniques IV.

Link to 'Tech Tomorrow' Strategic Plan:

1.E Stackable Credentials, 2.B Research, Scholar, Intellect, and Creativity

Results and Analysis:

The student will understand and apply Music Theory concepts and skills.

In Spring 2025, 42 students were enrolled in Harmony IV. 30 students (71%) met the minimum standard on the comprehensive final exam. The results indicate that the target was not met.

In Spring 2025, 49 students were enrolled in Aural Techniques IV. 44 students (90%) met the minimum standard on the comprehensive final exam.

The results indicate that the target was met. More than 75% of the students are demonstrating an understanding of music theory concepts and skills.

Use of Results to Improve Outcomes:

SLO 1: While 90% of the students enrolled in Aural Techniques IV met the minimum standard on the comprehensive final exam, the results for Harmony IV fell a little short of our goal of 75%.

In order to improve these results, the music theory faculty is in the process of transitioning to a new textbook and is restructuring the four-semester harmony curriculum.

The theory faculty received an OER grant to move away from the textbook we have used historically. This has given our theory faculty more control and freedom over the assignments and pacing of course material. The new textbook is available online and maps our lecture content to reading assignments from the text, so students do not have to purchase a textbook. Over the next few semesters, the goal is to completely move to OER-based materials, eliminating text/materials expenses for students.

The theory faculty has spent the 2024-2025 academic year rewriting the curriculum for Harmony I and Harmony II so that the pacing is more accommodating to our students' abilities. We have found that Harmony I and II move too quickly, resulting in weak fundamental skills. Instead, we now move at a slower pace in Harmony I and Harmony II, with more emphasis on repetition and practice. For this reason, the scope and pacing of Harmony III and Harmony IV will need to be altered accordingly over the next two semesters.

Other curriculum edits include revising the list of topics covered in each course, sometimes bringing in material from previous semesters. We also reallocated the time allotted for various topics depending on student need for practice and review and created a complete set of new homework exercises and in-class practice exercises.

SLO 2 CORE: All music students will understand music history.

Define Outcome:

- A. The student will have the ability to synthesize and demonstrate the relationship of music within historical context.
- B. The student will have knowledge of non-western, popular, folk/primitive/ethnic genres.

Assessment Methods:

- A. Oral and written exam from Music History I and Music History II (*Direct Measure of Learning*)
- B. Measure: Final grade in Music Appreciation (*Direct Measure of Learning*)

Criteria for Success (Thresholds for Assessment Methods):

- A. Achievement Target: 75% of students will meet minimum standards on the final exams in Music History I and Music History II.
- B. Achievement Target: 75% of students will meet minimum standards on the final grade in Music Appreciation.

Link to 'Tech Tomorrow' Strategic Plan:

1.B General Education Curriculum, 2.B Research, Scholar, Intellect, and Creativity

Results and Analysis:

In Fall 2024, Music History I had 43 students enrolled. On the final comprehensive exam, 40 met the minimum standards (93%).

In Spring 2025, Music History II had 41 students enrolled. On the final comprehensive exam, 39 met the minimum standards (95%).

The results indicate that the target was met. Over 75% of the students are demonstrating an understanding of music history and literature.

In Spring 2025, Music Appreciation had 45 students enrolled. 41 met minimum standards (91%) on the final grade in Music Appreciation.

The results indicate that the target was met. Over 75% of the students have demonstrated sufficient knowledge of non-western, popular, folk/primitive/ethnic genres.

Use of Results to Improve Outcomes:

SLO 3 CORE: The student will understand current music software, including visual and audio media relevant to music making and music teaching.

Define Outcome:

The student will demonstrate understanding of current music software, visual and audio media relevant to music making and music teaching.

Assessment Methods:

Measures: Final project in Computer Applications Class demonstrating the use of music software and visual/audio media. (Direct Measure of Learning)

Criteria for Success (Thresholds for Assessment Methods):

Achievement Target: 75% of students will meet minimum standards on the final project in Computer Applications Class

Link to 'Tech Tomorrow' Strategic Plan:

2.A Technology Infused Programs

Results and Analysis:

In Fall 2024, 14 students were enrolled in the Computer Applications course and 14 (100%) met minimum standards on the final project in the Computer Applications course. In Spring 2025, 13 students were enrolled and 10 (77%) met minimum standards on the final project. The results indicate that the material was understood and incorporated into a final project, and the assessment target was met.

Use of Results to Improve Outcomes:

SLO 4 BM: Students will have basic piano keyboard skills required to be able to work in a classroom setting.

Define Outcome:

Students will demonstrate basic piano keyboard skills required to be able to work in a classroom setting.

Assessment Methods:

Measures: Piano proficiency in Class Piano IV (Direct Measure of Learning)

Criteria for Success (Thresholds for Assessment Methods):

Achievement Target: 75% of students will take and pass the Piano Proficiency upon first attempt.

Link to 'Tech Tomorrow' Strategic Plan:

1.A Experiential Learning, 1.E Stackable Credentials

Results and Analysis:

In Spring 2025, 27 students were enrolled in Piano Class IV. 20 students (74%) passed the proficiency on their first attempt. The results indicate that the target was not met.

Use of Results to Improve Outcomes:

SLO 4: While less than 75% of the students passed the Piano Proficiency on the first attempt, this is still vast improvement from three years ago, in which 27% passed. Our actions of diversifying our instructors, extending office hours, and establishing tutoring, have yielded positive results for the last three years.

Year	Number of Students	Percentage Pass on 1 st Attempt
2022	15	27%
2023	17	77%
2024	24	79%
2025	27	74%

SLO 5 BM: Music education students will be prepared for a career in music education and music teaching.

Define Outcome:

Students will demonstrate readiness to teach K-12 music.

Assessment Methods:

Measures: PRAXIS II – Music: Content and Instruction (*Direct Measure of Learning*)

Criteria for Success (Thresholds for Assessment Methods):

Achievement Target: 75% of students will take and pass the PRAXIS II upon first attempt.

Link to 'Tech Tomorrow' Strategic Plan:

1.A Experiential Learning,4.B Programs, Certificates, and Training,4.C Network of Scholars

Results and Analysis:

In 2024-25, 17 students attempted the PRAXIS II – Music Content and Instruction exam. 12 students (71%) passed on the first attempt. Therefore, the target was not met.

Use of Results to Improve Outcomes:

SLO 5: Over the past two years, there has been significant changes to the Music Education curriculum that we hope will vastly improve our students' success on the PRAXIS II exam. Last year, Residency I (MUED 4871) was eliminated from our music education degree and replaced with two classes, Workshop in Music Ed (MUED 4850) and Practicum in Music Education (MUED 3811). While these courses were very successful and received positive feedback from students (conducted student survey and IDEA teacher evaluations), the music ed faculty plans to make several improvements to these courses during the 2025-2026 academic year.

First, the music ed faculty will solicit additional mentor teachers for our Practicum in Music Education course during the Fall 2025 semester. While students rotated between three mentor teachers last year, we are hoping to increase this to 4 or 5 mentor teachers, providing a more diverse experience for our music education students. We understand students have a variety of teaching interests, so this change aims to provide increased teaching models and experiences.

Second, we are changing the class time for Music Ed Workshop. This new course time will alleviate course conflicts for many of our music education students, thus increasing the size of the lab ensembles. Larger lab ensembles provide students with a more accurate experience, simulating the benefits and challenges of a larger program.

Lastly, the music ed faculty is restructuring the curriculum of instrumental, string, and voice pedagogy and repertoire classes (MUED 3130, MUED 3140, MUED 3735) to better align with the curriculum of Music Ed Workshop. The pedagogy and repertoire course material will be altered to directly correspond to the individual assessments in Music Ed Workshop.

We hope these changes will have a significant impact on our student learning outcomes in music education.

SLO 6 BS: Students will have basic conducting skills, enabling them to work in a variety of musical settings.

Define Outcome:

Students will have basic conducting skills, enabling them to work in a variety of musical settings.

Assessment Methods:

Final Conducting Project

Criteria for Success (Thresholds for Assessment Methods):

75% of students will meet minimum standards on the final project in Conducting Class.

Link to 'Tech Tomorrow' Strategic Plan:

1.A Experiential Learning, 1.D High Impact Practices

Results and Analysis:

Data for SLO 6 was not gathered during this reporting cycle.

Use of Results to Improve Outcomes:

Data for SLO 6 was not gathered during this reporting cycle.

SLO 7 BS: Students will synthesize their skills, knowledge, and perspectives from various areas of study through the creation of a capstone project.

Define Outcome:

Students will synthesize their skills, knowledge, and perspectives from various areas of study through the creation of a capstone project.

Assessment Methods:

Senior Project Final Presentation

Attached Files: See Appendix 3

Criteria for Success (Thresholds for Assessment Methods):

75% of students will meet expectations on the final project, in accordance to the assessment rubric.

Link to 'Tech Tomorrow' Strategic Plan:

1.A Experiential Learning,1.E Stackable Credentials,2.B Research, Scholar, Intellect, and Creativity

Results and Analysis:

Data for SLO 7 was not gathered during this reporting cycle.

Use of Results to Improve Outcomes:

Data for SLO 7 was not gathered during this reporting cycle.

Summative Evaluation:

With regard to SLO #1, the faculty have found dividing the freshman class into two separate cohorts based on a theory placement exam to be cumbersome and difficult to navigate. While we believe it has been effective for retention and learning outcomes, since starting in 2022, the workload during the first week of classes is proving to be too much for faculty. In addition to testing all of the freshman, the exam must be graded, and class schedules must be shifted. These logistical obligations occur during the first week of classes, when faculty have many other obligations and duties, have become a major burden. Additionally, this has resulted in uneven class sizes, creating classroom availability issues and grading workload inequalities. For this reason, we have decided to alter this approach once again. Starting in the Fall 2025 semester, we will discontinue theory placement exams and students will no longer be divided into two cohorts. We will monitor our results over the next few years to determine how this change positively or negatively impacts our student learning outcomes.

Assessment Plan Changes:**List of Appendices:**

Appendix 1: BM Curriculum Map

Appendix 2: BS Curriculum Map

Appendix 3: Rubric for Music BS Senior Project

Appendix 1: BM Curriculum Map

1 indicates core class	Learning Outcomes: I=Introduce R= Reinforce M= Mastery A= Assessment	SLO I Core: The student will understand and apply Music Theory concepts and skills.	SLO II Core: All music students will understand Music History.	SLO III Core: The student will understand current music software including visual and audio media relevant to music making and music teaching.	SLO IV: Students will have basic piano keyboard skills required to be able to work in a classroom setting.	SLO V: Music education students will be prepared for a career in music education and music teaching.
	MUS 1011 Beg Class Piano I				I	
	MUS 1012 Beg Class Piano II				R	
	MUS 1013 Recital Class					I
	MUS 1023 Intrm Class Piano III				M	
	MUS 1024 ntrm Class Piano IV				M, A	
1	MUS 1030 Music Appreciation		I			
	MUS 1031 String Techniques I					I
	MUS 1032 String Techniques II					R
	MUS 1041 Woodwind Techniques I					I
	MUS 1042 Woodwind Techniques II					R
	MUS 1051 Brass Techniques I					I
	MUS 1052 Brass Techniques II					R
	MUS 1070 Concert Choir					I
	MUS 1071 Percussion Techniques I					I
	MUS 1081 Improvisation I	I, R		R	R	
	MUS 1082 Improvisation II	R, M		R	R	
1	MUS 1120 Harmony I	I				
1	MUS 1130 Aural Techniques I	I			I	
1	MUS 1140 Harmony II	R				
1	MUS 1150 Aural Techniques II	R			R	
	MUS 1200 Lower-level Private Study					I, R
1	MUS 2110 Harmony III	M				
1	MUS 2120 Aural Techniques III	M			R	
1	MUS 2130 Harmony IV	M, A		R		
1	MUS 2140 Aural Techniques IV	M, A			R	
	MUS 2210 Psychology of Music					I
1	MUS 3010 Music History and Literature I		R			
1	MUS 3020 Music History and Literature II		M, A			
	MUS 3030 Musical Theatre History		R			
	MUS 3130 Form and Analysis	R, M		R	R	
	MUS 3200 Upper-level Private Study					R, M
	MUS 3210 Instrumentation	R, M		M	M	R
	MUS 3710 Pedagogy and Literature I			R		R
	MUS 3720 Pedagogy and Literature II			R		M
	MUS 3950 Junior Recital	M				R
	MUS 4000 Senior Recital	M				M
	MUS 4120 Contemporary Music	R, M	R	R		

1	MUS 4510 Computer Applications in Music			I, R, M, A	R	
	MUS 4710 Supervised Teaching Exp I			I	R	R
	MUS 4720 Supervised Teaching Exp II			R	R	M
	MUED 1820 Intro to Music Education			I		I
	MUED 3110 Material and Methods, K-5			R		R
	MUED 3140 Material and Methods, 6-12			R		R
	MUED 3230 Marching Band Tech			R		I
	MUED 3620 Fundamentals of Conducting	R	R			I
	MUED 3630 Instrumental Conducting and Lit	R, M	R, M		R	R
	MUED 3640 Choral Conducting and Lit	R, M	R, M	R	M	R
	MUED 3735 String Ped					I
	MUED 3800 Vocal Pedagogy and Lit I			R	M	R
	MUED 3811 Practicum in Music Education			R		R
	MUS 4250 Recording Techniques			M	M	
	MUED 4850 Workshop in Music Education	M		M	M	M
	MUED 4872 Professional Seminar I	M		M	M	M
	MUED 4881 Residency II	M	M	M	M	M, A
	MUED 4882 Professional Seminar II	M	M	M	M	M, A

Appendix 2: BS Curriculum Map

1 indicates core class	Learning Outcomes: I=Introduce R= Reinforce M= Mastery A= Assessment	SLO I Core: The student will understand and apply Music Theory concepts and skills.	SLO II Core: All music students will understand Music History.	SLO III Core: The student will understand current music software including visual and audio media relevant to music making and music teaching.	SLO IV: Students will have basic conducting skills, enabling them to work in a variety of musical settings.	SLO V: Students will synthesize their skills, knowledge, and perspectives from various areas of study through the creation of a capstone project.
	MUS 1011 Beg Class Piano I	I				
	MUS 1012 Beg Class Piano II	R				
	MUS 1013 Recital Class				I, R	I, R
1	MUS 1030 Music Appreciation		I			
	MUS 1070 Concert Choir	R	R		I	
1	MUS 1120 Harmony I	I				
1	MUS 1130 Aural Techniques I	I			I	
1	MUS 1140 Harmony II	R				
1	MUS 1150 Aural Techniques II	R			R	
	MUS 1200 Lower-level Private Study	R				I, R
1	MUS 2110 Harmony III	M				
1	MUS 2120 Aural Techniques III	M			R	
1	MUS 2130 Harmony IV	M, A		R		
1	MUS 2140 Aural Techniques IV	M, A			M	
1	MUS 3010 Music History and Literature I		R			
1	MUS 3020 Music History and Literature II		M, A			
	MUS 3200 Upper-level Private Study					R, M
	MUS 4010 Senior Project	M			M	I, R, M, A
1	MUS 4510 Computer Applications in Music			I, R, M, A		
	MUED 3620 Fundamentals of Conducting	R	R		I, R, M, A	
	MUS 4250 Recording Techniques			M	M	

Appendix 3: Rubric for Music BS Senior Project

	Excellent (3)	Above Expectations (2)	Meets Expectations (1)	Needs Improvement (0)
Content and Understanding	The content demonstrates the student has a comprehensive understanding of the subject.	The content demonstrates the student has a strong understanding of the subject.	The content demonstrates the student generally understands the subject but does not know the necessary details.	The content demonstrates that the student does not understand the subject.
Preparation	The project was thoroughly prepared and well-executed.	The project was well prepared but details at times.	The project was completed by the deadline, but preparation was inconsistent	The project was not prepared by the mandated deadlines and lacked progress.
Organization	All materials are well-ordered and information is easy to understand.	Most materials are located in a logical location and information is understandable.	Some materials lack organization, and information is difficult to understand at times.	Most materials lack organization and information is hard to understand.
Creativity	The project shows tremendous creativity and is uniquely artistic.	The project shows good creativity and a strong voice.	The project has minimal creativity and is not unique.	The project uses other people's ideas and shows no signs of individual thinking.
Presentation	The presentation is captivating and keeps the audience engaged.	The presentation is interesting but not always polished.	The presentation lacks engagement but meets basic requirements.	The presentation is uninteresting and poorly delivered.