

**Institutional Effectiveness Report  
2020-2021**

**Program:** Music BA

**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.

**Program Goals:**

PG 1. Through numerous performances, the School will provide a rich musical experience for students, members of the Tech community and beyond.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

SLO 1. The student will understand and apply Music Theory concepts and skills.

SLO 2. All music students will understand Music History.

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

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

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

A departmentally developed curriculum map can be found in Appendix 1 that shows the connections between courses and student learning outcomes.

**Assessment Methods:**

PG 1: Through numerous performances, the School will provide a rich musical experience for students, members of the Tech community and beyond.

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

SLO 1: The student will understand and apply Music Theory concepts and skills.

1. Music Theory:

- 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.

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

Achievement Target: 75% of students will meet minimum standards on the comprehensive final in Harmony IV

- b. The student will have the ability to read and analyze musical notation.

Measure: Two composition projects completed in Harmony IV (*Direct Measure of Learning*)

Achievement Target: 75% of students will meet minimum standards on the two composition projects in Harmony IV.

- c. *Completion and Success rates for Harmony sequence:* Success is defined as earning a C or better in the Harmony course.

SLO 2: All music students will understand Music History.

1. Music History & Literature

- a. The student will have the ability to synthesize and demonstrate the relationship of music within historical context.

Measure: Oral and written exam from Music History I and Music History II (*Direct Measure of Learning*)

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

- b. The student will have knowledge of non-western, popular, folk/primitive/ethnic genres.

Measure: Final grade in Music Appreciation (*Direct Measure of Learning*)

Achievement Target: 75% of students will meet minimum standards on the final grade in Music Appreciation.

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

1. Technology

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

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

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

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

1. Keyboard Skills

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

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

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

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

1. Teacher Education

- a. Students will demonstrate readiness to teach K-12 music.

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

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

**Results:**

*PG 1. Through numerous performances, the School will provide a rich musical experience for students, members of the Tech community and beyond.*

More than 150 music events were programmed during 2020-2021. 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 with 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 the concerts required a synthesis of the music students' academic music courses and their ensemble/applied study. The concepts taught in Music Theory, Aural Skills, Music History and overall musicianship combine in the rehearsal and performance process.

SLO 1. The student will understand and apply Music Theory concepts and skills.

20 students were enrolled in Harmony IV during Spring 2021. 20 (100%) met the minimum standard on the comprehensive final exam and 20 (100%) met the minimum standards on the two composition projects.

20 students were enrolled in Aural Skills IV during Spring 2021. 15 (75%) met the minimum standards on the comprehensive final exam.

Faculty have recently become concerned about completion and success rates of Harmony I (MUS 1120). Completion and success rates for Harmony I were significantly lower than other courses in the sequence. See tables below:

#### Completion Rates

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	5 yr average
MUS 1120	79%	69%	81%	84%	66%	77%	75%
MUS 1140	89%	75%	97%	97%	96%	97%	92%
MUS 2110	84%	80%	100%	89%	88%	86%	89%
MUS 2130	100%	92%	93%	90%	88%	100%	93%

#### Success Rates

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	5 yr average
MUS 1120	72%	64%	71%	79%	58%	71%	69%
MUS 1140	78%	88%	94%	97%	92%	94%	93%
MUS 2110	72%	80%	90%	89%	88%	86%	87%
MUS 2130	100%	92%	93%	84%	88%	100%	91%

SLO 2. All music students will understand Music History.

In Fall 2020, Music History I had 25 students enrolled. On the final comprehensive aural and written exam, 23 met minimum standards (92%).

In Spring 2021, Music History II had 22 students enrolled. Each exam was comprehensive for the certain time period of music history. 22 students met minimum standards (100%).

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

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

In Fall 2020, Computer Applications had 15 students enrolled. On the final comprehensive exam, 13 met minimum standards (87%).

In Spring 2021, Computer Applications had 10 students enrolled. On the final comprehensive exam, 8 met minimum standards (80%).

The results indicate that the material was understood and incorporated into a final project, and the assessment target was met.

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

In Spring 2021, 23 were enrolled in Piano Class IV. Seventeen of the students (74%) passed the course due to their level of skill. Five (5) students (22%) received an incomplete and will have the opportunity to successfully complete the course. The target was not met, primarily due to the large number of incompletes. These increase in incompletes can be attributed to students being unable to finish course requirements due to mandated quarantines related to COVID-19 exposures/illnesses.

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

In 2020-21, 28 students attempted the PRAXIS II – Music Content and Instruction exam. 13 students (46%) passed on the first attempt. Therefore, the target was not met.

### **Modifications for Improvement**

#### *Student Learning Outcome 1*

Due to significantly lower completion and success rates in Harmony I, the department has decided to implement the following actions.

1. Remedial Harmony I Course – Starting Fall 2021, all students in Harmony I will be required to complete a placement exam during the first week of classes. Students who receive lower than a 60% on the exam will be required to change to the remedial section of Harmony I (meets at the same time). These students will progress to Harmony II together and fortunately the content in Harmony II allows for catch-up. Students will be fully integrated into Harmony III by their third semester.
2. Tutoring Center – Starting in Spring 2021, Harmony tutors were hired to help struggling students. Currently, two tutors have been hired to provide individual assistance, at no cost to the students. Harmony instructors have been recommending that students with failing grades regularly attend tutoring sessions. This initiative has received favorable results and feedback from students and faculty alike.

#### *Student Learning Outcome 2:*

Due to a retirement, we have a new professor teaching music history courses. For FY 20, we chose to assess the course through an average of the final exams in each time period of music history. For FY 2021, we are exploring new ways to assess this course. It is our intention to utilize a pre- and post- test for these courses as an assessment tool in the future.

### *Student Learning Outcome 3*

Computer Apps and Recording Techniques provide the most pointed technology offerings in our curriculum. Although our assessment targets have been met in this area, our equipment was outdated and there were content areas that needed revision. In fall 2019, due to a retirement, the recording techniques class was assigned to a different instructor with a different approach to the course. The course now provides a more in-depth exploration of both the equipment and its use in sound technology. In the fall of 2020, a new instructor will be teaching the computer applications course, bringing a different perspective to that course as well. We were able to provide updated equipment and software for FY2020, and continue to explore ways in which to assist our technological offerings in the future.

### *Student Learning Outcome 4:*

During the Spring 2021 semester, our assessment targets in Piano IV were slightly below our 75% benchmark. This was largely attributed to an abnormally high number of incompletes due COVID-19 related absences. Moving forward, we will continue to allow students to make up the work during the summer time if COVID-19 continues to impact student attendance. This modification will compensate for difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### *Student Learning Outcome 5:*

In order to improve PRAXIS scores, Dr. Eric Harris (Associate Director of Bands) hosts weekend PRAXIS study sessions during the Spring semesters for students planning to take the PRAXIS. Further, Dr. Harris and Dr. Womack (Assistant Professor of Music History and Bassoon) have made curriculum changes to music history courses (Music Appreciation, Music History I, Music History II) to eliminate redundancies and ensure that the curriculum between these courses is cohesive and complimentary.

## **Appendices**

1. Curriculum Map

## Appendix 1: Curriculum Map

1 indicates core class	Learning Outcomes: I=Introduce R=Reinforce M=Mastery A=Assessment	Demonstrate growth in artistry, technical skills, solo and collaborative competence and knowledge of repertoire	Demonstrate keyboard competency	Develop skills necessary to assist in the development and advancement of a career in the musical field	Develop teaching skills, particularly as related to the major area of study	Demonstrate the ability to place music in historical, cultural and stylistic contexts	Demonstrate an understanding of the common elements and organizational patterns of music and their interaction	Demonstrate the ability to work independently to prepare performances at the highest possible level
	MUS 1000 Private Composition			I, R		R	I	R
	MUS 3000 Private Composition			R, M		R	M	M
1	MUS 1011 Beginning Class Piano I	I	I	I		R	I	R
1	MUS 1012 Beginning Class Piano II	I	I, R	I		R	R	R
1	MUS 1013 Recital Class	R		R		R		M
	MUS 1016 Accompanying	R	R, M	R		R	M	M
	MUS 1021 Class Voice Techniques I	I		I	I	R		
1	MUS 1023 Intermediate Class Piano III	R	I, R	I, R		R	R	R
1	MUS 1024 Intermediate Class Piano IV	M	M, A	M		R	M	M
1	MUS 1025 Wind Ensemble	R		R, M		R	R	M
	MUS 1031 / 1032 String Techniques I / II	I		I, R	I	R	R	R
1	MUS 1033 Marching Band	R		M		R	R	M
1	MUS 1040 Symphony Band	R		M		R	R	M
	MUS 1041 / 1042 Woodwind Techniques I / II	I		I, R	I	R	R	R
	MUS 1045 Concert Band	R		M		R	R	M
	MUS 1051 / 1052 Brass Techniques I / II	I		I, R	I	R	R	R
1	MUS 1060 Chorale	R		M		R	R	M
1	MUS 1070 Concert Choir	R		M		R	R	M
	MUS 1071 Percussion Techniques	I		I, R	I	R	R	R
	MUS 1074 Music to Meet Except Ed Needs			I, R			R	
	MUS 1081 / 1082 Improvisation I / II	I, R		I, R		R	R, M	R
1	MUS 1085 University Orchestra	R		M		R	R	M
1	MUS 1090 Jazz Ensemble	R		M		R	R, M	M
1	MUS 1091 Jazz Lab Band	R		M		R	R, M	M
	MUS 1100 Private Piano	I	I, R	I, R		R	R, M	M, A
	MUS 3100 Private Piano	M	R, M	M		R	R, M	M, A
1	MUS 1120 Harmony I	I		I, R		R	I	
1	MUS 1130 Aural Techniques I	I		I, R		R	I	
1	MUS 1140 Harmony II	I		I, R		R	R	
1	MUS 1150 Aural Techniques II	I		I, R		R	R	
	MUS 1195 Student Recital	M		M		M	M	M, A
	MUS 1200 Private Voice	I, A		I, R		R	R	M, A
	MUS 3200 Private Voice	M, A		M		M	M	M, A
	MUS 1210 Diction for Singers I	I		I, R		R		
	MUS 1300 / 3300 Private Violin	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A
	MUS 1301 / 3301 Private Violincello	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A
	MUS 1302 / 3302 Private String Bass	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A

	MUS 1303 / 3303 Private Viola	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A
	MUS 1400 / 3400 Private Flute / Piccolo	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A
	MUS 1401 / 3401 Private Oboe / English Horn	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A
	MUS 1402 / 3402 Private Clarinet	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A
	MUS 1403 / 3403 Private Bassoon	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A
	MUS 1404 / 3404 Private Saxophone	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A
	MUS 1500 / 3500 Private Trumpet	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A
	MUS 1501 / 3501 Private Horn	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A
	MUS 1502 / 3502 Private Trombone	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A
	MUS 1503 / 3503 Private Tuba/Euphonium	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A
	MUS 1600 / 3605 Private Organ	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A
	MUS 1700 / 3700 Private Percussion	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A
	MUS 1900 / 3900 Private Guitar	I / M, A		I, R / R, M		R / M	R / M	M, A
1	MUS 2110 Harmony III	I, R		I, R		R	R	
1	MUS 2120 Aural Techniques III	I, R		I, R		R	R	
1	MUS 2130 Harmony IV	M		M		R	M, A	
1	MUS 2140 Aural Techniques IV	M		M		R	M, A	
	MUS 3306 Opera Workshop	R		M		R	R	M
	MUS 3010 Music History & Lit I	R, M		R, M		M, A	R	
	MUS 3020 Music History & Lit II	R, M		R, M		M, A	R	
	MUS 3130 Form and Analysis	M		M		R	M	
	MUS 3210 Instrumentation	M		M		M	M	
	MUS 3220 Jazz Composition / Arranging I	M		M		M	M	
	MUS 3240 Choral Literature	M		M		M	M	
	MUS 3710 / 3720 Pedagogy/Literature I & II	M		M	R	M	M	
	MUS 3800 / 3810 Vocal Pedagogy and Lit I & II	M		M	R	M	M	
	MUS 3950 Junior Recital	M, A		M		M	M	M
	MUS 4000 Senior Recital	M, A		M		M	M	M
	MUS 4120 Contemporary Music	R, M		M		M	M	
	MUS 4250 Recording Techniques	I, M		M		R	M	
	MUS 4500 Conducting	I, R		M		R	M	
	MUS 4510 Computer App in Music	I, R		M		R	M	
	MUS 4710 / 4720 Supervised Teaching I / II	I / R		R	I, R, A	R	M	
	MUED 1820 Intro to Music Ed	I		I	I	R	I	
	MUED 3110 Mtrl & Meth in Music K-5	R, M		M	M	M	M	
	MUED 3130 Mtrls/Mthds - Instr Music 6-12	R, M		M	M	M	M	
	MUED 3230 Marching Band Techniques	M		M	M	M	M	
1	MUED 3620 Fundamentals of Conducting	I, R		I, R	I	R	M	
	MUED 3630 Instrumental Conducting & Lit	R, M		M	M	M	M	
	MUED 4871 Residency I	R		R	I, R, A	M	M	
	MUED 4872 Professional Seminar I	R		R	I, R, A	M	M	
	MUED 4881 Residency II	M		M	M, A	M	M	
	MUED 4882 Professional Seminar II	M		M	M, A	M	M	