

CAL POLY HUMBOLDT
University Senate

Resolution to Recommend New Concentration in Applied Music
012-23/24-ICC December 12, 2023 - Curriculum Reading

RESOLVED: That the University Senate of Cal Poly Humboldt recommends to the Provost that the Concentration in Applied Music program detailed in proposal [22-2074](#) be approved.

RATIONALE: In the Applied Music Concentration students can focus on developing their skills as performers or composers. An audition is required. Students who are Freshmen at Cal Poly Humboldt audition in the Spring semester of their sophomore year. Transfer students audition at the end of their first semester. Studio teachers help prepare students for the auditions.

Feedback from the department's accreditor, the National Association of Schools of Music, included a statement that the current Performance and Composition concentrations had so many units that they looked more like Bachelor of Music degrees than Bachelor of Arts degrees. In addition, the department currently don't have enough students to support all the courses that are part of the current Composition concentration.

To address those issues, the Music program decided to combine the Performance and Composition concentrations into a single Applied Music Concentration. In addition, they have substantially reduced the number of units required. They will no longer require Junior Recitals, and the concentration has only 10 required units beyond the Core (4 units of Studio lessons, Senior Recital, 3 units of electives, and 3 units of a GEAR Career Skills course).

Concentration in Applied Music Program Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to hear, identify, read, write, and work conceptually with the elements of music – rhythm, melody, harmony, and structure.
2. Students will demonstrate understanding of a wide selection of musical literature representing principal eras, genres, and cultural sources.
3. Students will demonstrate ability to perform a wide variety of musical styles in areas appropriate to the student's needs, interests, and degree path.
4. Students will demonstrate the ability to write clearly and effectively.

Concentration in Applied Music Program Curriculum:

Music Core (45-46 units)

Piano:

- MUS 218: Keyboard Musicianship (2)
- MUS 113: Piano I (1)
- MUS 130: Piano II (1)
- MUS 330 Piano III (1)

Total Piano Units: 5

Music Theory:

- MUS 219: Foundations of Harmony (3)
- MUS 341: Harmonic Connections: Voice-leading (3)
- MUS 342: Form and Analysis (3)
- MUS 343: Post-Tonal Theory (3) OR MUS 344: Jazz Harmony in Theory and Practice (3)

Total Theory Units: 12

Ear Training:

- MUS 216: Ear Training I (1)
- MUS 217: Ear Training II (1)
- MUS 316: Ear Training III (1)
- MUS 317: Ear Training IV (1)

Total Ear Training Units: 4

Music History and Repertoire:

- MUS 104: Exploring Classical Music: Music for Court and Stage

Choose 3 of the following:

- MUS301: Rock
- MUS 302: World Music
- MUS 305: Jazz
- MUS 444: 4-unit History of Music in the European Tradition *Required for Music Education and Applied Music Majors

Total History and Repertoire Units: 12-13

Applied Instruction:

Four semesters of group or individual applied instruction chosen from MUS 220-238. Students may substitute MUS 108 or 109 classes by advisement. (4)

OR

Two semesters of group or individual applied instruction chosen from MUS 220-238. Students may substitute MUS 108 or 109 classes by advisement. AND MUS 324: Contemporary Composition Techniques (2)

Total Applied Instruction Units: 4

Ensembles

- MUS 106-107: Ensembles (1 unit each, for a total of 4 units)
- MUS 406-407: Ensembles (1 unit each, for a total of 4 units)

Total Ensemble units: 8

Performance

- Four semesters of applied instruction chosen from MUS 420-438. (4)
- MUS 440: Senior Recital (0)

Total Performance units: 4

3 units of electives beyond the core: Chosen from

- MUS 301: Rock - An American Music (3)
- MUS 302: Music in World Culture (3)
- MUS 305: Jazz – An American Art Form (3)
- MUS 319: Elementary Music Methods (2)
- MUS 320: Composition: Film Scoring
- MUS 320C: Composition: Electronic Music (3)
- MUS 323: Jazz Pedagogy (2)
- MUS 324: Contemporary Composition (2)
- MUS 334: Fundamentals of Conducting (2)
- MUS 338: Vocal and Instrumental Scoring (3)
- MUS 342: Post-Tonal Theory (3)
- MUS 343: Jazz Harmony in Theory and Practice (3)
- MUS 360: Music Tech: Midi and Finale (2)
- MUS 361: Music Technology: Recording, Production, and Live Sound (3)
- MUS 384: Advanced Conducting and Choral Literature (2)
- MUS 385P: Piano Performance Seminar (1)
- MUS 385V: Vocal Performance Seminar (1)
- MUS 387: Advanced Conducting and Instrumental Literature (2)
- MUS 391: Piano Pedagogy (1)
- MUS 391L: Piano Pedagogy Lab (1)
- MUS 392: Vocal Pedagogy (1)
- MUS 392L: Vocal Pedagogy Lab (1)
- MUS 455: Secondary Music Methods (2)

Total Elective units: 4

Capstone

- MUS 477W: Career Skills for Performing Artists (3)

Total Capstone units: 4

Total Applied Music Degree Units: 56