

MUSIC DEPARTMENT
University of California, Santa Cruz
Room 244 Music Center
Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
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<http://music.ucsc.edu>
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INFORMATION FOR NEW UCSC FROSH AND TRANSFERS WITH A PROPOSED MUSIC MAJOR

The Music Department would like to welcome you to Santa Cruz and introduce you to aspects of our program. We are one of the strongest undergraduate programs in the country. The curriculum is rigorous and demanding, preparing you for a professional career or graduate study. The faculty are devoted to the undergraduate curriculum and always available for help and advice.

• **Requirements:** Prospective B.A. majors begin their course of study by taking the Core Curriculum Placement Examination (see next page). Students complete a two-year core curriculum in theory, literature, and musicianship (Music 30A/L-B/M-C/N, and Music 100A-B-C); a four-quarter historical survey of Western art music (Music 101A-B-C-D); one world music course (Music 180A or 180B); and another course selected from composition, intermediate electronic sound synthesis, orchestration (Music 120, 124, or 130), or another world music course not already taken (Music 180A or 180B). A minimum of six quarters of individual instrumental or vocal instruction taken simultaneously with six quarters of evaluated ensembles is also required. However, most music majors elect to take private lessons and participate in ensembles every quarter they are in residence. Basic keyboard skills are required for the core curriculum. Therefore, many students need to enroll in group piano instruction (Music 60) concurrently with Music 30. Other requirements include an Advisory Audition in one's major instrument or in voice at the end of Music 30A, a Proficiency Audition at the end of Music 100A (an upper-intermediate level of skill must be shown), and the senior comprehensive requirement. Although not required for graduation, students are encouraged to prepare senior projects—a senior recital, a senior thesis, or a partial recital with a related shorter thesis.

In addition to the Bachelor of Arts degree (described above), we also offer the Bachelor of Music. The B.M. is for exceptionally advanced musicians who wish to pursue a career in performance. This degree indicates specialized excellence, whereas the B.A. connotes greater breadth of academic achievement. Acceptance into the B.M. program is by audition during the student's freshman, sophomore, or junior year. We also offer minors electronic music, and jazz. For more information, please contact the Music Department.

• **Major Status:** There are three components involved in the process of becoming an official music major. You will need to be enrolled in one of the music theory classes. A "Primary Instrument Instruction Authorization" form, verifying your potential to reach an upper-intermediate level of competency at the Proficiency Audition, must be signed by your lesson instructor. A "Proposed Study Plan/Declaration of Major" must be filed (available from the Registrar's homepage). Also, during this declaration process, you will meet one-on-one with a music faculty member and the music undergraduate adviser to determine your course of study. (A list of music faculty advisers is posted in the Music Center and is included in the Music Student Handbook.)

PREPARING FOR THE BEGINNING OF FALL QUARTER

As you enter your first year, you will want to be particularly aware of our ensemble and private-instruction offerings and of our theory courses, the first courses required for the major. As soon as you come to campus in the fall, you should arrange for lessons, sign up for an audition for ensembles, and take the placement exam in order to be assigned to the appropriate level of theory. We hope that by introducing you to these details now, we can lessen the confusion of your first week.

• **Orientation:** If you are unable to attend the campus summer orientation program in music, we will have our fall orientation meeting for all students interested in the music majors and minors on **Tuesday, September 22, at 9:00 AM**, in the Music Center Recital Hall.

• **Core Curriculum Placement Examination:** Placement in the theory sequence is based on an examination that is primarily aural in nature. Recorded examples present melodic intervals, chords, and rhythmic patterns. For each example, you will be asked to choose which of several notated passages is played. In addition, there will be a brief assessment of sight-singing. The only way to prepare for this exam is to review the basics of music theory (scales, chords, intervals) and to hone your skills in reading both bass and treble clef and complex rhythmic patterns. (A sample of the exam is on the Music Department website: <http://music.ucsc.edu>. Go to the Placement Exam heading under the Undergraduate Program.) Based on your performance, you will be placed into the theory class most appropriate to your skill level. Students with weak aural skills may be placed in a preparatory theory class prior to admittance into Music 30. (Music 30 is a three-quarter sequence starting with Music 30A/L in fall quarter). Students deficient in music history will be encouraged to enroll in Music 11A, Classical Music from the Middle Ages to the Present. The exam is offered at the beginning of fall quarter. It will be given on **Tuesday, September 22, 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM**, in the Music Center Recital Hall. (Note: The beginning of the fall quarter is the only time the department administers the exam.)

• **Important Information for Transfer Students:** The Music Department strongly encourages **transfer students** to take the Music Placement Examination prior to enrollment at UCSC. Since we do not waive requirements for courses taken elsewhere, it is the way we determine the appropriate level of entry into our core theory courses. Transfer students with some background in music theory normally test into Music 14 or Music 30A/L (the first quarter of required theory for majors/minors). Reminder: This three-quarter sequence, Music 30A/L-B/M-C/N, begins with Music 30A/L offered in fall quarter **only**. Transfer students who place into Music 14, and who have completed all of the General Education requirements, may very well have only one quarter's worth of work to do in the major prior to taking Music 30A/L in the fall. Students should also note that upon completion of Music 100A, *Theory, Literature, and Musicianship II*, they need to perform on a musical instrument or voice at an upper-intermediate level. Prospective transfer students wishing to have their performance skill level assessed by faculty in preparation for entry to the program may send a recording for faculty review or contact the faculty member in their area to discuss their skills and experience. **Transfers are strongly encouraged to call the Undergraduate Adviser, Alice Szeto, for phone advising prior to the Fall.**

• **Applied Music Lessons:** When you arrive on campus in the fall, stop by the Music Center. On the bulletin board outside of Room 127, you will see information on lessons and ensembles. Most instrumental and vocal instructors will be on campus on **Tuesday, September 22, 1:30-4:30 PM**; you should plan to meet with, and play for, the instructor in your area. Students enrolling in music lessons must also enroll in an ensemble appropriate to their instrument (see below). (There is a fee for private instruction, and some scholarship help is available for advanced students. Scholarship auditions are held at the end of fall quarter for new students, and in spring quarter for continuing students.)

• **Ensembles:** Auditions for most ensembles, such as the orchestra, chamber singers, concert choir, opera workshop, wind ensemble, and jazz groups, are also held in the **first few days of each quarter**. **Audition Information/sign-up lists will be posted on the bulletin board outside of Room 127 in the Music Center.** Many of these groups keep the same membership all year long, so you are encouraged to audition in the fall. Indonesian ensembles do not require an audition. You should plan to attend the first class meeting (see the *Schedule of Classes* for time and place). In addition, University Opera Theater will be held in the spring. The ensemble program at UCSC is extremely varied and active. Our orchestra and chamber singers, for example, have made several professional recordings that have been issued on commercial compact discs. We strongly urge you to take advantage of these wonderful opportunities.

• **Enrollment in Courses:** In most cases, students entering in the fall will not be able to enroll in music classes until you have received permission from the instructor, i.e., after you take the Music Placement Examination, meet with applied music faculty, and audition for ensembles.

• **Questions:** If you have questions, please call. Phone advising is preferred over email. You are also always welcome to call or stop by the Music Department Office during the summer. If you plan to visit, please call ahead for an appointment with Alice Szeto, Music Department undergraduate adviser, (831) 459-2292.

Once again, welcome to UCSC. We are looking forward to working with you.