

Music

Faculty: Sears (chair), Diggs, Heisler, Kanamaru, Laprade, Leonard, McBride, Nakra

Adjunct faculty: Our adjunct faculty includes studio instructors who are artist-teachers, distinguished as performers with prestigious ensembles of regional and national importance as well as academic faculty. A full listing of the Department of Music faculty, including adjunct faculty, is [available online](#).

Mission Statement

The Department of Music at The College of New Jersey promotes music study in a program where performance, music education, technology, creativity, and scholarship are closely integrated. Our core curriculum emphasizes comprehensive performance opportunities, rigorous academic inquiry, and professional certification. Our programs offer a range of music curricula, including individualized and innovative interdisciplinary options.

Background of the Department

The Department of Music has been a center for the study of music since 1918. Its graduates not only enjoy an excellent placement record for employment and graduate school, but they also consistently attain leadership positions in the varied fields of musical endeavor. The College of New Jersey is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM). The Department offers various programs of musical study which are consistent with the high standards, ideals, and philosophy of this organization.

The Department of Music, with its large roster of artist-teachers and -scholars, offers diverse types of private studio and musical ensemble experience, inspiring academics, state-of-the-art equipment, and strong library holdings. In addition, its varied curricula provide a wide selection of courses designed as academic, artistic, and professional preparation for work in a variety of music careers. The College has a state-of-the-art music building that serves as the primary facility for concerts and recitals. The Music Building contains the 300+ seat Mildred and Ernest E. Mayo Concert Hall, critically acclaimed for its aesthetic and acoustical properties, as well as instrumental and choral rehearsal halls, a keyboard laboratory, numerous classrooms, small ensemble suites, and practice rooms. There is also a computer and synthesizer lab located in the adjacent Art and Interactive Multimedia Building.

Requirements for All Music Majors:

All students must audition for entrance into the Department of Music and when requesting a change in major applied area or degree program.

- All music majors must pass the required Sophomore Review.
- All Music Education and Performance majors must present a senior recital in their primary performance area. Before beginning to prepare for the senior recital, all students must pass a junior hearing in front of their applied area faculty. Performance majors must present a sophomore and junior recital, in addition to the senior recital. Students must register for

applied study and the recital course during the semester of their recital performance.

- Every recital presented must have a recital hearing one month before the event. Only the successful completion of the hearing will ensure a recital performance.
- All music majors must pass a Keyboard Proficiency Exam as a requirement for graduation. Music Education students must pass the Keyboard Proficiency Exam by the end of their junior year to be eligible to student teach.
- Upon the recommendation of the major applied instructor, every music major who is registered for private studio at the 300 level or higher will perform in the Tuesday afternoon student recital series at least one time each academic year.
- All Performance and Music Education majors must enroll in a large ensemble each semester in which they are registered as full-time students and successfully complete the course with a grade of C– or higher. This requirement is waived only during the semester in which a Music Education student is student teaching. Part-time students (those taking fewer than three course units of study per semester) must petition the departmental Performance Affairs Committee for a special exemption from primary ensemble participation on a semester-by-semester basis.

Private Lessons

Private lesson requirements vary by music degree program; please see specific program requirements below. All music majors taking private applied lessons must perform once each academic year in the Department's Tuesday Recital Series, and they must complete a performance jury for each semester of enrollment in lessons in order to receive credit.

Program Entrance, Retention, and Exit Standards

Every degree program at the College has set standards for allowing students to remain in that program, to transfer within the College from one program to another, and to graduate from a program. The following are the standards for Department of Music programs:

1. Retention in music programs is based on the following standards in these content areas:
 - a. *Applied Study.* The lowest passing grade for studio lessons for Performance Majors (400 level lessons) is B-. The lowest passing grade for studio lessons for 200 and 300 level lessons is C-.
 - b. *Teacher Preparation.* Music Education majors must achieve a grade of C+ or above in the following teacher preparation courses: MUS 241, MUS 392, MUS 394, MUS 397/398, and MUS 492. Music Education majors must also achieve a minimum passing grade of B- in MUS 490, Student Teaching.
 - c. *All other Music Courses.* A grade of C- is the minimum passing grade for all other courses taken toward completion of programs in music.

2. Additionally, retention in the B.A. in Music and B.M. in Performance programs requires a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 for every semester. Retention in the B.M. in Music Education requires a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 at the end of the first and second semesters, 2.75 at the end of the fourth semester, and 3.0 when applying for and participating in student teaching.
3. Transfer into the Department of Music from another program within the College is based upon satisfactory completion of an audition process, including a performance audition, aural skills exam, and degree program interview.
4. Music majors may be put on departmental probation or dismissed from their degree program for any one, or a combination, of the following reasons: low GPA (below required standards), failure to progress toward a degree, unacceptable or failing result on the Sophomore Review, and/or failing to meet expectations for TCNJ's School of Education *Educator Disposition Assessment* (EDA, for Music Education). Duration of the probation period will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Department of Music Academic Affairs Committee after a conference with the student.

Bachelor of Arts: Music

The Bachelor of Arts in Music degree (B.A. in Music) includes a core of intensive music study: Musicianship (music theory and aural skills), Historical and Cultural Studies in Music, and an array of Music Electives (including private studio, large and small ensemble performance, Music Technology). At the same time, the B.A. degree emphasizes the study of music in the context of TCNJ's competitive Liberal Arts experience. In addition to fulfilling the College Core requirements for all TCNJ students, B.A. in Music students plan a course of Free Electives and are mentored to pursue interdisciplinary academic and creative perspectives on music. Secondary majors, minors, and/or concentrations are also possible, and encouraged, as is study abroad. Ultimately, the B.A. in Music degree prepares students for a diverse range of careers depending on their individualized courses of study. Applicants for the B.A. in Music degree must demonstrate that they possess the skills to participate successfully in a curricular ensemble and in an applied studio as determined through an audition with the applicable area coordinator and ensemble director.

The precise sequence of courses will be determined through individualized advisement.

Required Music Courses and Proficiencies (9 course units)

Musicianship 1–4	4 course units
Historical and Cultural Studies in Music*	4 course units
Bachelor of Arts in Music Capstone	1 course unit
Keyboard Proficiency Exam**	
Sophomore Review	

Music Electives (minimum 4 course units) ***

Any non-required music offerings, including Applied Studio, Ensembles, Keyboard Skills, Conducting (Choral and/or Instrumental), Diction (recommended for vocalists), Music Technology, Liberal Learning in music, Advanced Theory, and Instrumental Methods classes. A minimum of 4 course units is required.

College Core (10–13 course units)******Free Electives (6–9 units)****Total Courses****32 course units**

**Two Historical and Cultural Studies in Music requirements cross-count with College Core Multidisciplinary Perspectives: “Music in Global Perspective” fulfills one Social Science & History (Behavioral, Social or Cultural Perspectives) requirement, and completion of the remaining three Historical and Cultural Studies in Music course fulfills a Social Science & History (Historical Perspectives) requirement.*

***Keyboard Proficiency is determined by exam in Keyboard Skills II or by an equivalent exam. B.A. in Music students should plan Music Electives accordingly. All students are strongly encouraged to complete the Keyboard Proficiency by the end of the sophomore year to correspond with the Sophomore Review.*

**** B.A. in Music students must complete a minimum of one unit of applied studio study and one unit of ensemble participation as part of their elective course of study. Completing four ensemble experiences fulfills one College Core requirement in Arts & Humanities (Literary, Visual or Performing Arts).*

*****Includes an FYS, College Core Requirements, and up to three semesters of a second language as needed to demonstrate proficiency in a second language at the intermediate level. Students who qualify to take less than three semesters of a second language may increase their number of free electives accordingly to a maximum of nine units of free electives.*

Recommended First-Year Program of Study for Bachelor of Arts (Music) Students

AMM 099 Arts and Communication Seminar	0 course units
MUS 246/Music in Global Perspective	1 course unit
MUS 351/Music from 600 to 1750	1 course unit
MUS 261/Musicianship I	1 course unit
MUS 262/Musicianship II	1 course unit
FYS First-Year Seminar	1 course unit
College Core	1 course unit
College Core and Music Electives	2 course units
Total	8 course units

Bachelor of Music: Music Education

The Bachelor of Music in Music Education prepares students to be certified public school teachers. There are three tracks in this degree: Instrumental (Wind, Strings, and Percussion), Keyboard, and Vocal. (Keyboard, Guitar, and Harp have either a vocal or instrumental emphasis in determining large ensemble requirements.) Successful completion of the degree qualifies students to sit for the Music Content Knowledge Praxis Examination prior to student teaching. Graduates of this program also qualify for certification in other states, subject to the individual processes of each state. The Bachelor of Music in Music Education degree is constructed on a solid core of

performance experiences and, as such, also prepares students for potential graduate study. Certification qualifies students to teach K-12 music in the New Jersey Public Schools.

Teacher Preparation Requirements

- 1) A cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 is required for students to complete the Music Education program successfully and be recommended for certification and licensure. To help assure that students at The College of New Jersey meet this requirement by graduation, the following procedures will be strictly followed:
 - (a) Admission to full candidacy (junior-level courses and above) in the Music Education program may be awarded following the successful completion of the commissioner-approved Praxis Core Academic Skills Exam, Sophomore Review, Keyboard Proficiency, TCNJ's School of *Education Educator Disposition Assessment* (EDA), and a 2.75 minimum cumulative GPA. Students with a cumulative GPA below 2.75 at the end of their fourth semester will be placed on Academic Probation and will not be permitted to continue with teacher education courses until the cumulative GPA is raised to 2.75 and may be dismissed from the program for failure to progress.
 - (b) Admission to upper-level courses, MUS 392 and MUS 397/398, requires a 2.75 minimum cumulative GPA. In addition, admission to MUS 397/398 requires successful completion of MUS 340 or 380. When applying for and participating in student teaching, a student must have successfully completed MUS 330 and MUS 452, and attained a 3.0 minimum cumulative GPA. In order to apply for state teaching certification through The College of New Jersey, students must have a 3.0 cumulative GPA at the time of program completion.
- 2) Students also must meet the state hygiene/physiology requirement; the state Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Prevention (HIB) training certificate requirement; and the appropriate basic skills requirement (satisfied through SAT, ACT, or PRAXIS CORE cut scores), and Music Content Knowledge PRAXIS before the New Jersey State Department of Education will issue the appropriate certificate. Teacher Education candidates will receive a "certificate of eligibility with advanced standing" which requires a candidate to be provisionally certified for his or her first year of teaching. After one year of successful teaching, the candidate is eligible for a permanent certificate. Note that State certification requirements are often in flux. The music education degree program will immediately adapt to any state mandates that are issued within a given academic year.
- 3) A Mantoux, or tuberculosis test is required by the state of all students prior to the first day of student teaching. This test can be obtained through The College of New Jersey Health Center.
- 4) Because of the number of concentration specializations that can be pursued in this major, only the core courses of a student's program of study are set out below. Students should consult with their departmental academic advisors in planning the remainder of their academic program. These plans should take into account

requirements for the major, College Core, professional courses, and state certification.

- 5) All Music Education students are required to take SPE 203 in order to meet requirements of the New Jersey State Department of Education.

Required Core Courses: Music Education

MUS 111/222 Keyboard Skills I & II

or

MUS 281/482 Keyboard Harmony & Piano

Pedagogy (piano majors only)

1 course unit

MUS 233/344 Keyboard Skills III (choral track only)

MUS 330 Keyboard Proficiency Exam

MUS 151 Woodwinds II AND MUS 244 Jazz Pedagogy

and

MUS 486/Art of Accompanying (piano)

.5-1 course unit

MUS 124/125 Diction for Singers I& II (vocal)

1 course unit

MUS 241/Introduction to Music Education

.5 course unit

MUS 240 or 280/Conducting I (instrumental/choral)

.5 course unit

MUS 246/Music in Global Perspective

1 course unit

MUS 261/Musicianship I

1 course unit

MUS 262/Musicianship II

1 course unit

MUS 263/Musicianship III

1 course unit

MUS 264/Musicianship IV

1 course unit

MUS 290/Vocal Methods

.5 course units

MUS 335 or 336 or 337 or 345/Music Technology

1 course unit

MUS 340 or 380/Conducting II (instrumental/choral)

.5 course units

MUS 351/Music from 600 to 1750

1 course unit

MUS 353/Music from 1750 to 1945

1 course unit

MUS 452/Music from 1945 to the Present

1 course unit

MUS 392/Contemporary Issues in Music Education

1 course unit

MUS 394/K-8 Practicum

1 course unit

MUS 397/7-12 Practicum: Choral

MUS 346/347/Choral or Instrumental Literature

.5 course unit

*or**

MUS 398/ 7-12 Practicum: Instrumental

1 course unit

MUS XXX/Teaching Instrumental Music (instrumental)

1 course unit

*or**

MUS XXX/Teaching Instrumental Music (choral)

1.25 course units

Private Applied Lessons

3.5 course units

Primary Ensemble

1.75 course units

Vocal Ensemble (instrumental)

.5 course unit

Senior Recital

0 course units

MUS 490/Student Teaching

2 course units

MUS 492/Student Teaching Seminar

1 course unit

Total

26 -26.75 course units

**Selection of courses by advisement*

Recommended First-Year Program of Study for Bachelor of Music (Music Education) Students

AMM 099/Arts and Communication Seminar	0 course units
FYS First-Year Seminar	1 course unit
MUS 111/Keyboard Skills I	
<i>or*</i>	
MUS 281/Keyboard Harmony (piano only)	.5 course unit
MUS 290/Vocal Methods (instrumental only)	
<i>or*</i>	
MUS 124/Diction I (vocal only)	.25-.5 course unit
MUS 125/Diction II (vocal only)	.25 course unit
MUS 261/Musicianship I	1 course unit
MUS 262/Musicianship II	
MUS 246/ Music in Global Perspective	1 course unit
MUS 351/ Music from 600 to 1750	1 course unit
1 course unit	
Private Applied Lessons	1 course unit
Primary Ensemble	.5 course unit
Vocal Ensemble	.5 course unit
Total	7-7.25 course units

**Selection of courses by advisement.*

Bachelor of Music: Performance

There are three tracks in the Bachelor of Music in Performance degree, determined by the primary instrument of study: Instrumental (Wind, Strings, and Percussion), Keyboard, and Vocal. (Keyboard, Guitar, and Harp have either a vocal or instrumental emphasis in determining large ensemble requirements.) The performance degree program prepares students for performance and related music careers, and also serves as preparation for graduate or conservatory study in performance and related music fields.

Required Core Courses:

MUS 111/Keyboard Skills I <i>or</i> MUS 281*	.5 course unit
MUS 222/Keyboard Skills II <i>or</i> MUS 482*	.5 course unit
MUS 233/Keyboard Skills III (non-piano concentrations only)	.5 course unit
MUS 330/Keyboard Proficiency Exam	0 course units
MUS 240, 280/Conducting I	.5 course unit
MUS 246/Music in Global Perspective	1 course unit
MUS 261/Musicianship I	1 course unit
MUS 262/Musicianship II	1 course unit
MUS 263/Musicianship III	1 course unit
MUS 264/Musicianship IV	1 course unit
MUS 290/Vocal Methods	.5 course unit
MUS 335 or 336 or 337 or 345/Music Technology	1 course unit
MUS 351/Music from 600 to 1750	1 course unit

MUS 353/Music from 1750 to 1945	1 course unit
MUS 452/Music from 1945 to the Present	1 course unit
MUS 455/ Issues in Music Performance Studies	1 course unit
Private Applied Lessons	4 course units
Primary Ensemble	2 course units
Vocal Ensemble	.5 course unit
Sophomore Recital	0 course units
Junior Recital	0 course units
Senior Recital	0 course units
Total	18.5-19 course units

**MUS 281 and 482 for piano concentration only*

Specialized Concentrations for Performance Program

Vocal Concentration

MUS 344/Keyboard Skills IV	.5 course unit
MUS 124/125 Diction for Singers I& II	1 course unit
MUS 325/Vocal Literature	.5 course unit
Elective Ensemble/Chamber Music	1 course unit
Music Options by Advisement	1 course unit
Total	4 course units

Keyboard Concentration

MUS 486/Art of Accompanying	.5 course unit
Elective Ensemble/Chamber Music	1.5 course units
Music Options by Advisement	2.5 course units
Total	4.5 course units

Instrumental Concentration

Instrumental Pedagogy or Class Lessons	.5 course unit
Elective Ensemble/Chamber Music	1.5 course units
Music Options by Advisement	2 course units
Total	4 course units

Recommended First-Year Program of Study for Bachelor of Music (Performance) Students

AMM 099/Arts and Communication Seminar	0 course units
FYS First-Year Seminar	1 course unit
MUS 111/Keyboard Skills I	
<i>or*</i>	
MUS 281/Keyboard Harmony (piano only)	.5 course unit
MUS 290/Vocal Methods (instrumental only)	
<i>or*</i>	
MUS 124/Diction I (vocal only)	.5 course unit
MUS 125/Diction II (vocal only)	.5 course unit
MUS 261/Musicianship I	1 course unit

MUS 262/Musicianship II	1 course unit
MUS 246/ Music in Global Perspective	.5 course units
Private Applied Lessons	1 course unit
Primary Ensemble	.5 course unit
Vocal Ensemble	.5 course unit
College Core	1 course unit
Total	8 course units

**Selection of courses by advisement.*

Music Minor

The Music Minor requires a **total of five course units**, taken from the lists below in consultation with the assigned Department of Music advisor. Students are encouraged to start the Music Minor in the second semester of their freshman year and must start no later than the first semester of their second year. There is no performance audition required to declare the Music Minor.

1 course unit of Musicianship: MUS 261/Musicianship I (Fall). Alternatively, MUS 262/Musicianship II (Spring), MUS 263/Musicianship III (Fall), or MUS 264/Musicianship IV (Spring) may be taken depending upon placement assessment.

2 course units of Historical and Cultural Studies in Music, Music Technology, College Core courses in Music, and/or additional music courses.

0.5 course units of Applied (200- or 300-level) Studio (Private) or Class Lessons:

Note: Applied Studio (Private) Lessons at the intermediate (200s) or advanced (300s) levels require a qualifying audition before the initial registration. Beginner level lessons are not available for collegiate credited studies. There is a per-credit tuition fee for the Applied Studio (Private) Lessons.

Class Lessons include MUS 102 (Beginning Class Piano), 103 (Beginning Class Piano II), and 228 (intermediate class guitar).

1.5 Electives of any of any MUS courses, including instrumental and vocal ensembles and/or an Independent Study.

NOTE:

- **A minimum of one course unit at the 300-level (or above) is required.**
- Up to 1.5 course units (six credits) from other institutions may be transferred upon appropriate accreditations. (“Credit by Exam” may be available.)
- No more than one course unit may be taken as an independent study.

For full descriptions, including a list of courses, please visit the Department of Music’s website.

1. Courses taken must be in consultation with a Department of Music advisor.
2. There is an audition for applied lessons. Lessons for beginners are not offered. In addition, there is a fee for the applied lessons. This fee varies depending on the number of credit hours taken.

Theatre Minor

Housed in the Department of Music, TCNJ's Theatre Minor provides students with immersive creative experiences in theater, including musical theatre, enhanced by course options in technical and literary aspects of theatre. An audition is not required to enter the Theatre Minor.

Students are encouraged to start the Theatre Minor no later than the first semester of their second year. Students will be assigned a Department of Music advisor and must consult with their advisor in the selection of courses.

Completion of the Theatre Minor requires a 5-unit/20-credit sequence of courses selected from the following:*

Minimum of 1 unit/4 credits (4 semesters) of:

MUS 229 Lyric Theatre - .25 course unit (When taken four times will yield one full unit)
Lyric Theatre may include performed roles as well as technical participation. Auditions may be required for performed roles in productions.

2 units/8 credits drawn from the following:

VPA 101 Integrated Visual and Performing Arts – 1 course unit
MUS 200 Intermediate Private Voice lessons - .25 course unit (may be taken up to two times for a total of .5 unit. Requires an audition)
VPA 201 Dance and Movement Fundamentals - .5 course unit (may be taken up to two times for a total of one unit)
MUS 229 Lyric Theatre - .25 course unit (may be taken up to four times for a total of one unit)
LIT 233 World Drama – course 1 unit
COM 255 Acting for Stage and Screen – 1 course unit
LIT/WGS 255 Shakespeare and Gender – 1 course unit

2 units/8 credits at the 300- or 400-level, drawn from the following:

MUS 300 Advanced Private Voice lessons - .5 course unit (may be taken up to two times for a total of one unit. Audition required.)
LIT 347 European Drama - 1 course unit

LIT 421 Shakespeare: Comedies & Histories – 1 course unit

LIT 422 Shakespeare: Tragedies & Romances – 1 course unit

MUS 391 Independent Study in Music - .25 to 1 course unit

*Only one course taken toward a student's major program may be double-counted toward a minor.

**A private lesson qualifying audition is required. Generally, lessons for beginners are not offered. Private studio lessons carry a fee of \$500.00 per semester at the 200-level.

*** A private lesson qualifying audition is required. Private studio lessons carry a fee of \$1,000.00 per semester at the 300-level.