

Music majors and minors entering the theory sequence, should expect a test on the first day of class. The Diagnostic Exam serves to place students in the appropriate class, and to assess students' knowledge and readiness for Music Theory I and Ear Training I at the beginning of the semester.

The Theory faculty recommends that students who earn a score below 70% to drop Music Theory I and Ear Training I and enroll in Fundamentals of Music Theory – MU 1003, in the Spring semester. Meanwhile, to replace the 4 credit hours, take other classes pertinent to your major.

IF YOU ARE A MUSIC MAJOR OR MINOR:

You should enroll in Music Theory I (MU 1213) and Ear Training I (MU 1321) at the same semester. Both classes are co-requisite and pre-requisite for all theory classes, and they are offered only in the Fall semesters. You can only take the second section in the Spring if you have taken and passed both classes in the Fall.

IF YOU ARE A MINOR:

We encourage you to take both classes together, but if you decide to take one class at a time, you can take Theory I, MU 1213, without taking Ear Training I, MU 1321. However, the opposite is not recommended, and you will not proceed to Theory II unless taking and passing the first semester sequence. You still will need to take the Diagnostic Exam on the first day of class to assure readiness.

IF YOU ARE A NON-MUSIC MAJOR:

The music theory sequence is designed for music majors and minors only. If you are not a major or minor and want to learn more about music, please take Fundamentals of Music Theory – MU 1003, offered in the Spring.

WHERE TO TAKE THE EXAM?

On the first day of class, students should attend class at the indicated location listed in Banner:

- MU 1213 section 1: Music Building C
- MU 1213 section 2: Choral Hall, room 108 (Band and Choral Rehearsal Hall)
- MU 1213 section 3: Symphonic Band Hall, room 130 (Band and Choral Rehearsal Hall)

WHAT TO BRING?

There is no need to bring anything but a pencil and an eraser for the first day of class. **Please do not purchase any textbook** until you learn your exam results.

WHAT TO EXPECT ON THE DIAGNOSTIC EXAM?

Beginning music majors and minors at any university should be able to:

- Identify note names on the treble clef, and to a lesser extent, on the bass clef (10 of 30 points = 33.33%)
- Recognize the names of major key signatures (4 of 30 points = 13.33%)
- Identify common musical symbols like dynamic symbols, accents, ties, duration names, etc. (10 of 30 points = 33.33%)
- Demonstrate a grasp of rhythm and meter/time signature by completing measures with notes or rests (12 of 30 points = 40%)
- Distinguish half-steps from whole steps using sharps and flats as well as natural signs on the staff (6 of 30 points = 20%)

On the test you will find:

- Six notes on the treble clef and four on the bass clef to be identified by supplying letter names
- Four key signatures (ex.: D major, B \flat major) to identify from 5 multiple-choice options
- Four musical notation symbols to identify by name from 5 multiple-choice options
- Four measures requiring completion by supplying single note value (5 possibilities listed, simple time signature only)
- Four measures requiring completion by supplying single rest value (5 possibilities listed, simple time signature only)
- Four half- and whole-steps to distinguish on treble clef (B-C and C-D given as treble clef examples)

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE EXAM: To get ready for the exam you can go to:

eMusicTheory <http://www.emusictheory.com>

teoria <http://www.teoria.com>

The Tonal Centre <http://www.tonalcentre.org>

Music Theory Online <https://www.musictheory.net/products/lessons>

One Minute Music Lesson <youtube.com/user/oneminutemusiclesson>

Understanding Basic Music Theory

http://www.opentextbooks.org.hk/system/files/export/2/2180/pdf/Understanding_Basic_Music_Theory_2180.pdf

TREBLE CLEF:

Video [How to Read Music - Lesson 2 - Treble Clef \(with FREE DOWNLOAD\)](#)

Instructions <http://www.musictheory.net/lessons/10>

Practice www.musictheory.net/exercises/note/bbzyryyyyny

BASS CLEF:

Video [How to Read Music - Lesson 3 - Bass Clef \(with FREE DOWNLOAD\)](#)

Instructions <http://www.musictheory.net/lessons/10>

Practice www.musictheory.net/exercises/note/nbzyryyyyny

LEDGER LINES:

Video [How to Read Music - Lesson 7 - Ledger Lines](#)

ENHARMONIC SPELLING:

Video [How to Read Music - Lesson 5 - Enharmonics \(Flats and Sharps\)](#)

KEY SIGNATURES FOR MAJOR KEYS:

Videos [Understanding Music Theory - Lesson 25 - Major](#)

[Scales](#) and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xY9Q0R0G2jM>

Instructions <https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/24> and <https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/25>

Practice <https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/keysig>

KEY SIGNATURES FOR MINOR KEYS:

Video [Understanding Music Theory - Lesson 26 - Minor](#)

[Scales](#) and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xY9Q0R0G2jM>

Instructions <https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/24> and <https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/25>

Practice <https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/keysig>

HALF STEPS VS WHOLE STEPS:

Video [\[1-3\] Half Steps and Whole Steps](#)

Instructions <https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/20> and

http://musictheoryfundamentals.com/MusicTheory/intervals_part1.php

Practice <http://static1.1.sqspcdn.com/static/f/801966/23104230/1373756418073/Music-Theory-Worksheet-18-Whole-Half-Stepsv2.pdf?token=eDyP%2F19FAuS35%2BgmfzQTWnJEWdQ%3D>

INTERVALS:

Video [How to Read Music - Lesson 21 - Specific Intervals \(with free download\)](#)

Instructions <https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/30> and <https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/31> and

<https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/32>

Practice <https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/interval-construction>

RHYTHMS:

Video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=73hKwh07F3U&list=PL7A25C4AC62B024BF&index=9>

Instructions <https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/11> and <https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/13> and <https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/14>

Practice <https://shedthemusic.com/rhythm-worksheets> and <https://www.scribd.com/doc/312110506/Rhythm-Exercises-pdf>

SIMPLE AND COMPOUND TIME SIGNATURES:

Video [How to Read Music - Lesson 15 - Simple Meter](#) and [How to Read Music - Lesson 17 - Eastman Counting System Simple Meters](#) and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtvx57P4oKo>

Instructions <https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/15> and <http://learnmusictheory.net/PDFs/pdffiles/01-01-05-TimeSignaturesSimple.pdf>

Practice https://www.musicfun.com.au/pdf_files/time_signatures.pdf