Department of Music

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The Department of Music at Valley City State University is known for its innovative programs, dedicated faculty, and generous scholarships. The Department of Music at VCSU offers numerous opportunities for performance, including Concert Band, Athletic Band, Concert Choir, University Singers, Jazz Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, and numerous chamber and solo performances. Generous scholarships are offered to music majors, music minors, and participants in the various ensembles. Valley City State University is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM).

Mission of the Department of Music

• Provide superior training for public school music teachers
• Assist musicians to perform at their highest possible level of ability
• Develop in students a broad understanding of music within the context of a liberal arts education
• Lead in innovative online music programs
• Contribute to the cultural environment of campus and community

Music Learning Outcomes

VCSU Music Majors will:

1. Demonstrate competence in basic musicianship skills.
2. Develop requisite performance skills as a soloist and ensemble member, consistent with the objectives of their degree plan.
3. Interpret and analyze music from a variety of cultures and time periods.
4. Demonstrate teaching skills consistent with the objectives of their degree plan.

Allebach, Robin (2007) Instructor; B.S. Bemidji State University, M.M. Northwestern University; Certificate DePaul University
Becker, Daniel (2018) Assistant Professor; B.M. Central Washington University, M.M., D.M.A University of Arizona
Heide, Jerrold (2018) Instructor; A.F.A. Dawson Community College, B.M. Dickinson State University, M.M. University of South Dakota
Jimenez, Kenneth (2017) Assistant Professor; B.M. University of Wyoming, M.M. University of Minnesota Duluth, D.M.A. North Dakota State University
LeTellier, John (2015) Assistant Professor; B.M. University of Tennessee at Martin, M.M. University of Miami
Redfearn, Christopher (2012) Associate Professor; B.M. Brigham Young University, M.M. Michigan State University, D.A. University of Northern Colorado

Majors

• Music - Composite (B.A., B.S.)
  • General Studies Concentration (http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/programs/majors/music-general-studies-concentration/)
  • Performance Concentration (http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/programs/majors/music-performance-concentration/)
  • Recording and Production Concentration (http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/programs/majors/music-recording-production-concentration/)
• Music Education – Composite (B.S. in Education) (http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/programs/majors/music-education/)

Minors

• Music (http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/programs/minors/music/)
• Music Education (http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/programs/minors/music-education/)
• Music Production & Sound Recording (http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/programs/minors/music-production-recording/)
• Piano Pedagogy (http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/programs/minors/piano-pedagogy/)

Certificates

• Music Composition (http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/programs/certificates/music-composition/)
• Music Production & Recording (http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/programs/certificates/music-production-recording/)
• Piano Pedagogy (http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/programs/certificates/piano-pedagogy/)

MUS 100. Music Appreciation. 3 Credits.
An introduction to some of the world's greatest music. Students learn to react to music on emotional and intellectual levels. Emphasis is placed on listening for basic elements of music, with a goal of establishing a life-long enjoyment of this art form.
Typically Offered: Fall, Summer.

MUS 101. Music Fundamentals. 3 Credits.
The study of fundamental music skills, including: reading notes, scales, and chords; listening skills; and music terminology. The course is open to all students.
Typically Offered: Spring, Summer.

MUS 104. Group Piano for Non-Majors. 1 Credit.
The first course in a two semester option intended for non-music majors who wish to learn to play the piano. Topics include basic note and rhythm reading, ensemble playing, and repertoire. Class instruction is given in an electronic piano laboratory.
Typically Offered: Fall.
MUS 105. Group Piano for Non-Majors. 1 Credit.
The second course in a two semester option intended for non-music majors who wish to learn to play the piano. Topics include basic note and rhythm reading, ensemble playing, and repertoire. Class instruction is given in an electronic piano laboratory.
**Typically Offered:** Spring.
**Prerequisite:** MUS 104.

MUS 109. Music Theory I. 3 Credits.
A sequence designed to develop the basic musicianship skills required to analyze, read, write, and perform music. These courses will use portfolios to document work, to demonstrate competencies, and to apply concepts to real musical situations.
**Typically Offered:** Fall.

MUS 110. Music Theory II. 3 Credits.
The second course in a two-semester sequence designed to develop the basic musicianship skills required to analyze, read, write, and perform music. This course uses portfolios to document work, to demonstrate competencies, and to apply concepts to real musical situations.
**Typically Offered:** Spring.
**Prerequisite:** MUS 109.

MUS 111. Class Piano I. 1 Credit.
The first course in a four-semester sequence which supplements music theory with class instruction in an electronic piano laboratory. Activities include sight-reading, transposing, improvising, score-reading, accompaniment coaching, ensemble playing, keyboard harmony, and keyboard facility.
**Typically Offered:** Fall.
**Prerequisite:** MUS 109.

MUS 112. Class Piano II. 1 Credit.
A continuation of the development of skills introduced in MUS 111.
**Typically Offered:** Spring.

MUS 120. Composition. 1-2 Credits.
Elaboration of weekly projects using simple compositional techniques to improve fluency of ideas and expand skills in writing both melody and harmony. Acquired skills will be applied in the final composition project. Composition lessons may not be audited.
**Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.
**Prerequisite:** MUS 109.
**Repeatability:** Up to 4 Credits.

MUS 121. Aural Skills I. 1 Credit.
A companion course to Theory I, designed to develop the visual and aural skills of the student. Content includes rhythm and meter exercises; singing in scale degrees and solfege; and rhythmic, melodic and harmonic dictation.
**Typically Offered:** Fall.

MUS 122. Aural Skills II. 1 Credit.
A companion course to Theory II and a continuation of the development of skills introduced in MUS 121.
**Typically Offered:** Spring.
**Prerequisite:** MUS 121.

MUS 130. Valkyries. 0-1 Credits.
The study, rehearsal, and performance of choral literature for women's voices. The choir presents on- and off-campus concerts throughout the year. Open to all female students. May be repeated for credit.
**Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring.
**Repeatability:** Up to 10 Credits.

MUS 131. Concert Choir. 0-1 Credits.
The study, rehearsal, and performance of music for larger choral ensembles. The choir presents on- and off-campus concerts throughout the year. Open to all students with prior experience or by permission of the instructor. May be repeated for credit.
**Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring.
**Repeatability:** Up to 10 Credits.

MUS 132. University Singers. 0-1 Credits.
The development of individual and group musicianship and vocal skills through the study, rehearsal, and performance of chamber music, madrigals, and contemporary popular music, including vocal jazz and musical theatre. The group presents on- and off-campus concerts throughout the year. Open to all students by permission of the instructor. May be repeated for credit.
MUS 132 may not be substituted by music education majors for MUS 131.
**Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring.
**Repeatability:** Up to 10 Credits.

MUS 133. Opera Ensemble. 0-1 Credits.
The study, rehearsal, and performance of music specific to opera, oratorio, and musical theatre. Admission is by audition only. May be repeated for credit.
**Typically Offered:** Fall-even yrs, Spring-odd yrs.
**Repeatability:** Up to 10 Credits.

MUS 134. Piano Ensembles. 1 Credit.
The study, rehearsal, and performance of music for all types of piano ensembles. Permission of instructor required. May be repeated for credit.
**Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring.
**Repeatability:** Up to 10 Credits.

MUS 135. Accompanying. 1 Credit.
Studio accompanying during one private lesson and one studio class weekly, as well as in the lessons, studio classes, recitals, and/or juries of various student performers. May be repeated for credit.
**Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring.
**Repeatability:** Up to 10 Credits.

MUS 140. Athletic Band. 0-1 Credits.
The Athletic Band rehearses weekly and represents the VCSU Music Department at football and basketball athletic events, serving student athletes, the Athletic Department, and the University. Repertoire will focus on standard and modern popular genres and styles, with an emphasis on musical energy.
**Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring.
**Repeatability:** Up to 10 Credits.

MUS 141. Concert Band. 0-1 Credits.
The study and performance of fine quality symphonic wind and percussion literature. The group presents concerts on- and off-campus annually. Open to all students by permission of the instructor. May be repeated for credit.
**Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring.
**Repeatability:** Up to 10 Credits.
MUS 142. Jazz Ensemble. 0-1 Credits.
The study and performance of big band music from the blues to modern jazz. The band presents concerts on-campus and tours each season. Open to all students by permission of the instructor. May be repeated for credit. MUS 142 may not be substituted by music education majors for MUS 141. Typically Offered: Fall, Spring. Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 143. Garage Band. 1 Credit.
The study and performance of popular music for guitarists, drummers, singers, and keyboardists. The group presents concerts on-campus and tours annually. Open to all students by permission of the instructor. May be repeated for credit. Typically Offered: Fall, Spring. Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 144. Percussion Ensemble. 1 Credit.
The study and performance of percussion music representing various style periods. Admission is by permission of the instructor. May be repeated for credit. Typically Offered: On sufficient demand. Repeatable: Up to 10 Credits.

MUS 145. Brass Ensemble. 1 Credit.
The study and performance of brass music representing various style periods. Admission is by permission of instructor. May be repeated for credit. Typically Offered: Fall, Spring. Repeatable: Up to 10 Credits.

MUS 146. Woodwind Ensemble. 1 Credit.
The study and performance of woodwind music representing various style periods. Admission is by permission of the instructor. May be repeated for credit. Typically Offered: Fall, Spring. Repeatable: Up to 10 Credits.

MUS 147. Handbell Choir. 1 Credit.
The study, pedagogy, rehearsal, and performance of music for Handbell Choir. This ensemble serves as basic preparation for leading Handbell Choirs. Admission is by permission of instructor. May be repeated for credit. Typically Offered: Fall, Spring. Repeatable: Up to 10 Credits.

MUS 148. Orchestra. 1 Credit.
The study and performance of symphonic and orchestral literature. The group presents concerts on- and off-campus annually. The course is open to all students, faculty, staff, and community members who play string, wind, or percussion instruments by permission of the instructor and may be repeated for credit. Typically Offered: Fall, Spring. Repeatable: Up to 10 Credits.

MUS 150. Applied Piano. 1-2 Credits.
1 credit music lessons (a weekly half hour of private instruction) are open to all students, regardless of program of study; and to music majors and minors depending upon the requirements of their program. 2 credit music lessons (a weekly hour of private instruction) are open only to music majors and minors. Music majors and minors will complete at least two semesters of 100-level applied music before passing to the next level. Applied lessons may not be audited. Typically Offered: Fall, Spring. Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 152. Voice Class. 1 Credit.
The fundamentals of vocal production for students with little or no previous vocal training, instead as a preliminary to individual applied study or choral ensemble participation. Vocal secondaries may substitute MUS 152 for one semester of MUS 153. Admission is by permission of the instructor. Typically Offered: Fall, Spring. Repeatable: Up to 2 Credits.

MUS 153. Applied Voice. 1-2 Credits.
1 credit music lessons (a weekly half hour of private instruction) are open to all students, regardless of program of study; and to music majors and minors depending upon the requirements of their program. 2 credit music lessons (a weekly hour of private instruction) are open only to music majors and minors. Music majors and minors will complete at least two semesters of 100-level applied music before passing to the next level. Applied lessons may not be audited. Students with little or no previous vocal training will enroll in MUS 152 Voice Class. Vocal secondaries may substitute MUS 152 for one semester of MUS 153. Typically Offered: Fall, Spring. Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 154. Applied Guitar. 1-2 Credits.
All music majors and minors are required to take applied music. Non-music students may take applied music (1 credit per semester) if time is available in the Instructor’s teaching schedule. Typically Offered: Fall, Spring. Repeatable: Up to 2 Credits.

MUS 155. Applied Strings. 1-2 Credits.
Applied music in orchestral strings: violin, viola, cello, or bass. 1 credit music lessons (a weekly half hour of private instruction) are open to all students, regardless of program of study; and to music majors and minors depending upon the requirements of their program. 2 credit music lessons (a weekly hour of private instruction) are open only to music majors and minors. Music majors and minors will complete at least two semesters of 100-level applied music before passing to the next level. Applied lessons may not be audited. Typically Offered: Fall, Spring. Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 159. Applied Percussion. 1-2 Credits.
1 credit music lessons (a weekly half hour of private instruction) are open to all students, regardless of program of study; and to music majors and minors depending upon the requirements of their program. 2 credit music lessons (a weekly hour of private instruction) are open only to music majors and minors. Music majors and minors will complete at least two semesters of 100-level applied music before attempting the proficiency exam and passing to the next level. Applied lessons may not be audited. Typically Offered: Fall, Spring. Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.
MUS 160. Applied Brass. 1-2 Credits.
Applied music in brass instruments: trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, or tuba. 1 credit music lessons (a weekly half hour of private instruction) are open to all students, regardless of program of study; and to music majors and minors depending upon the requirements of their program. 2 credit music lessons (a weekly hour of private instruction) are open only to music majors and minors. Music majors and minors will complete at least two semesters of 100-level applied music before passing to the next level. Applied lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 165. Applied Woodwinds. 1-2 Credits.
Applied music in woodwinds: flute, clarinet, saxophone, oboe, or bassoon. 1 credit music lessons (a weekly half hour of private instruction) are open to all students, regardless of program of study; and to music majors and minors depending upon the requirements of their program. 2 credit music lessons (a weekly hour of private instruction) are open only to music majors and minors. Music majors and minors will complete at least two semesters of 100-level applied music before passing to the next level. Applied lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 170. Jazz Improvisation. 1-2 Credits.
Development of the ability to improvise music based upon a variety of chord structures. Instruction is in individual lessons or small groups. May be repeated for credit.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 199. Special Topics. 1-4 Credits.
Courses not offered in the regular catalog that provide an opportunity to extend student learning.
Typically Offered: On sufficient demand.
Repeatable: Up to 12 Credits.

MUS 200. Music Convocation. 0 Credits.
This course meets during the semester for student recital hours and music student meetings. The course is required of all music majors and minors for the duration of the program. Exceptions are made only for students who are practicing teaching, or for majors and minors who have completed all program requirements.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Grading: S/U only.
Repeatable: Up to 0 Credits.

MUS 201. Music Theory III. 3 Credits.
The study of harmonic and contrapuntal procedures used in western music from 1500 to the present. Emphasis is placed on formal structure, style characteristics, visual and aural analysis, and part-writing.
Typically Offered: Fall.
Prerequisite: MUS 110.

MUS 202. Music Theory IV. 3 Credits.
A continuation of MUS 201. Emphasis is placed on formal structure, style characteristics, visual and aural analysis, and part-writing.
Typically Offered: Spring.
Prerequisite: MUS 201.

MUS 203. Aural Skills III. 1 Credit.
A companion course to Theory III, designed to develop the visual and aural skills of the student. Content includes rhythm and meter exercises; singing in scale degrees and solfege; and rhythmic, melodic and harmonic dictation.
Typically Offered: Fall.
Prerequisite: MUS 122.

MUS 204. Aural Skills IV. 1 Credit.
A companion course to Theory IV and a continuation of development of the skills introduced in MUS 203.
Typically Offered: Fall.
Prerequisite: MUS 203.

MUS 205. Basic Conducting. 2 Credits.
A study of basic conducting techniques, score preparation, and interpretation of choral and instrumental literature.
Typically Offered: Fall.
Prerequisite: MUS 203.

MUS 206. World Music. 3 Credits.
A survey course concerning music of the world in relation to the trajectory of Western Art Music. Topics include folk, popular, and other musical forms of both North and South America, Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East. Music is studied within the context of its respective social-cultural epoch.
Typically Offered: Spring.

MUS 207. History of Rock and Roll. 3 Credits.
A historical survey of American popular music, expressly the Rock and Roll genre from the turn of the 20th century to the present day.
Typically Offered: Fall.

MUS 209. Introduction to the Modern Recording Studio. 3 Credits.
An introduction to the modern recording studio, including recording, editing and mixing creative work, as well as principles of acoustics and psycho-acoustics. Computer-based recording equipment is used to demonstrate modern recording theory and practice. Basic use of virtual instruments, MIDI sequencing and loops are also covered in this course. In addition, students will gain experience with recording live events.
Typically Offered: Fall-even years; Spring.
Prerequisite: Sophomore Standing or higher.

MUS 211. Class Piano III. 1 Credit.
A course that supplements music theory with class instruction in an electronic piano laboratory. Activities include sight-reading, transposing, improvising, score-reading, accompaniment coaching, ensemble playing, keyboard harmony, and keyboard facility.
Typically Offered: Fall.
Prerequisite: MUS 112.

MUS 212. Class Piano IV. 1 Credit.
A course that supplements music theory with class instruction in an electronic piano laboratory. Activities include sight-reading, transposing, improvising, score-reading, accompaniment coaching, ensemble playing, keyboard harmony, and keyboard facility. A keyboard proficiency exam is given at the end of the semester to ensure all requirements have been met.
Typically Offered: Spring.
Prerequisite: MUS 211.
MUS 213. Class Piano. 1 Credit.
Keyboard instruction for online and face-to-face students working toward satisfaction of the keyboard proficiency requirement. Student must continue enrollment until completion of the proficiency. May be repeated for credit.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Repeateable: Up to 6 Credits.

MUS 220. Composition. 1-2 Credits.
Elaboration of weekly projects using intermediate compositional techniques to improve fluency of ideas and expand skills in writing both melody and harmony. The course includes study and enhancement of transcriptional techniques. Acquired skills will be applied in the final composition project. May be repeated once for credit. Composition lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Prerequisite: Two semesters of MUS 120.
Repeateable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 231. Diction for Singers I. 1 Credit.
A detailed study of the pronunciation and articulation of sung English and German using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) as a tool for identifying and transcribing individual sounds.
Typically Offered: Fall, odd years.
Prerequisite: MUS 152 or MUS 153.

MUS 232. Diction for Singers II. 1 Credit.
A detailed study of the pronunciation and articulation of sung French and Italian using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) as a tool for identifying and transcribing individual sounds.
Typically Offered: Spring, even years.
Prerequisite: MUS 231.

MUS 249. Introduction to Music Education. 2 Credits.
An introduction to the music education profession. This course examines the teaching profession, including the history, philosophies and social impacts of and current trends in music education. The course requires a 40 hour field experience in an elementary or secondary classroom.
Typically Offered: Fall.

MUS 250. Applied Piano. 2 Credits.
The second level of applied study, open to music majors and minors, includes a weekly hour of private instruction. The average student will complete at least two semesters of 200-level music lessons before attempting the sophomore proficiency exam and passing to the next level. Applied lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Prerequisite: Two semesters of MUS 150.
Repeateable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 254. Applied Guitar. 2 Credits.
The second level of applied study, open to music majors and minors, includes a weekly hour of private instruction. The average student will complete at least two semesters of 200-level music lessons before attempting the sophomore proficiency exam and passing to the next level. Applied lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Prerequisite: Two semesters of MUS 154.
Repeateable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 255. Applied Strings. 2 Credits.
Applied music in orchestral strings: violin, viola, cello, or bass. The second level of applied study, open to music majors and minors, includes a weekly hour of private instruction. The average student will complete at least two semesters of 200-level music lessons before attempting the sophomore proficiency exam and passing to the next level. Applied lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Prerequisite: Two semesters of MUS 155.
Repeateable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 259. Applied Percussion. 2 Credits.
The second level of applied study, open to music majors and minors, includes a weekly hour of private instruction. The average student will complete at least two semesters of 200-level music lessons before attempting the proficiency exam and passing to the next level. Prerequisite: two semesters (2-4 credits) of 100-level applied music, proficiency examination, and permission of the department. Applied lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Repeateable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 260. Applied Brass. 2 Credits.
Applied music in brass instruments: trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, or tuba. The second level of applied study, open to music majors and minors, includes a weekly hour of private instruction. The average student will complete at least two semesters of 200-level music lessons before attempting the sophomore proficiency exam and passing to the next level. Applied lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Prerequisite: Two semesters of MUS 160.
Repeateable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 265. Applied Woodwinds. 2 Credits.
The second level of applied study, open to music majors and minors, includes a weekly hour of private instruction. The average student will complete at least two semesters of 200-level music lessons before attempting the sophomore proficiency exam and passing to the next level. Applied lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Prerequisite: Two semesters of MUS 165.
Repeateable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 299. Special Topics. 1-4 Credits.
Courses not offered in the regular catalog that provide an opportunity to extend student learning.
Typically Offered: On sufficient demand.
Repeateable: Up to 12 Credits.
MUS 301. Scoring and Arranging. 2 Credits.
A study of the technique of scoring and arranging for instrumental and vocal ensembles in the public school. Attention is given to arranging and composing for ensembles with limited instrumentation. Students will complete several scoring assignments with hand manuscript, the latest computer scoring systems, and programmable synthesizer. Prerequisite: Successful completion of MUS 201.
Typically Offered: Spring.
Prerequisite: MUS 201.

MUS 302. Advanced Scoring and Arranging. 2 Credits.
An advanced study of scoring and arranging for band, jazz band, and vocal ensemble. Special attention is given to contemporary styles and the development of a personal compositional style. Students receive one private lesson per week.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Prerequisite: MUS 301.

MUS 305. Advanced Conducting. 2 Credits.
Advanced conducting techniques, score preparation, rehearsal techniques, and interpretation of choral and instrumental literature in various historical styles.
Typically Offered: Spring.
Prerequisite: MUS 205.

MUS 307. Recording and Mixing Techniques. 3 Credits.
Advanced multi-track recording, editing, mixing, and mastering techniques are explored using both analog and digital equipment. Students will learn conventional/creative miking and signal processing techniques. Additionally, students will use the techniques learned in this course to record live events.
Typically Offered: Fall, odd years.
Prerequisite: MUS 209.
Repeatable: Up to 6 Credits.

MUS 308. Modern Audio Recording II. 3 Credits.
This class further explores the concepts introduced in MUS 209. Topics include recording, editing, mixing of creative work. Computer-based recording equipment is used to demonstrate modern recording theory and practice. Students will further explore the use of virtual instruments, MIDI sequencing and loop-based recording. In addition, students will mentor beginning students in recording live events. Students are expected to produce at a higher level than in MUS 209.
Typically Offered: Spring.
Prerequisite: MUS 210.
Repeatable: Up to 9 Credits.

MUS 309. The Business of Music. 3 Credits.
This class will explore various aspects of the music business such as copyright laws, digital media, arts marketing and management, distribution, song writing and publishing, business affairs, music in broadcasting and film, and career planning and development.
Typically Offered: Fall.

MUS 312. Electronic Music Production. 3 Credits.
The use of electronic instruments, controllers and virtual instruments are explored within the construct of modern digital audio workstations. Students will create original compositions using MIDI sequencing, looping, sampling and advanced MIDI techniques.
Typically Offered: Spring, odd years.
Prerequisite: MUS 120 and MUS 209.
Repeatable: Up to 6 Credits.

MUS 320. Composition. 1-2 Credits.
Elaboration of weekly projects using advanced compositional techniques to improve fluency of ideas and expand skills in writing both melody and harmony. The course includes study and enhancement of transformational techniques and various compositional styles. Acquired skills will be applied in the required final composition project. May be repeated once for credit. Composition lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.
Prerequisite: Two semesters of MUS 220.
Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 321. Percussion Methods. 1 Credit.
An introduction to basic techniques for performance and instruction of percussion instruments, selection and care of instruments and review of instructional materials. An emphasis is placed on pedagogical experiences.
Typically Offered: Fall, odd years.

MUS 322. Brass Methods. 1 Credit.
An introduction to basic techniques for performance and instruction of brass instruments, selection and care of instruments and review of instructional materials. An emphasis is placed on pedagogical experiences.
Typically Offered: Fall, even years.

MUS 323. Woodwind Methods. 1 Credit.
An introduction to basic techniques for performance and instruction of woodwind instruments, selection and care of instruments and review of instructional materials. An emphasis is placed on pedagogical experiences.
Typically Offered: Spring, even years.

MUS 324. String Methods. 1 Credit.
An introduction to basic techniques for performance and instruction of fretted and orchestral string instruments, selection and care of instruments, and review of instructional materials. An emphasis is placed on pedagogical experiences.
Typically Offered: Fall, even years.

MUS 325. Vocal Methods. 1 Credit.
An introduction to basic knowledge of correct vocal production techniques, vocal literature for students ages 13-23, and techniques for classification and instruction of changing and changed voices. An emphasis is placed on pedagogical experiences.
Typically Offered: Spring, odd years.
Prerequisite: MUS 152 or MUS 153.

MUS 326. Guitar Methods. 1 Credit.
Basic techniques for performance and instruction of guitar and other fretted string instruments. Selection and care of instruments and review of instructional materials. An emphasis is placed on pedagogical experiences.
Typically Offered: Spring, odd years.

MUS 327. Marching Band Methods. 1 Credit.
An introduction to the fundamental principles of marching and athletic bands. Topics will include philosophy of marching and athletic bands; marching fundamentals; the study of drill, movement, formations, and shows; and rehearsal techniques. An emphasis is placed on pedagogical experiences.
Typically Offered: Fall, even years.

MUS 328. Jazz and Popular Music Lab. 1 Credit.
Practical experience in organizing and playing in jazz and popular music ensembles. Topics include instrumentation, composition/arranging for various ensembles, and performance practices.
Typically Offered: Fall, even years.
MUS 331. Music History & Literature I. 3 Credits.
A survey of the history and literature of Western music from the ancient Greeks through the Baroque period. The course stresses the development of musical styles, forms, and media through the study of representative compositions and composers.
Typically Offered: Fall.
Prerequisite: MUS 110.

MUS 332. Music History & Literature II. 3 Credits.
A survey of the history and literature from Classical period to the present. The course stresses the development of musical styles, forms, and media through the study of representative compositions and composers. Music is studied within the context of its social-cultural epoch.
Typically Offered: Spring.
Prerequisite: MUS 331.

MUS 350. Applied Piano. 2 Credits.
The third level of applied study, open to music majors and minors, includes a weekly hour of private instruction. The average student will complete at least two semesters of 300-level music lessons after successful completion of the sophomore proficiency examination. Applied lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Prerequisite: Two semesters of MUS 250.
Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 353. Applied Voice. 2 Credits.
The third level of applied study, open to music majors and minors, includes a weekly hour of private instruction. The average student will complete at least two semesters of 300-level music lessons after successful completion of the sophomore proficiency examination. Applied lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Prerequisite: Two semesters of MUS 250.
Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 354. Applied Guitar. 2 Credits.
The third level of applied study, open to music majors and minors, includes a weekly hour of private instruction. The average student will complete at least two semesters of 300-level music lessons after successful completion of the sophomore proficiency examination. Applied lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Prerequisite: Two semesters of MUS 250.
Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 355. Applied Strings. 2 Credits.
The third level of applied study, open to music majors and minors, includes a weekly hour of private instruction. The average student will complete at least two semesters of 300-level music lessons after successful completion of the sophomore proficiency examination. Applied lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Prerequisite: Two semesters of MUS 250.
Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 359. Applied Percussion. 2 Credits.
The third level of applied study, open to music majors and minors, includes a weekly hour of private instruction. The average study will complete at least two semesters of 300-level music lessons before attempting the proficiency exam and passing to the next level. Applied lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 360. Applied Brass. 2 Credits.
The third level of applied study, open to music majors and minors, includes a weekly hour of private instruction. The average student will complete at least two semesters of 300-level music lessons after successful completion of the sophomore proficiency examination. Applied lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Prerequisite: Two semesters of MUS 260.
Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 365. Applied Woodwinds. 2 Credits.
The third level of applied study, open to music majors and minors, includes a weekly hour of private instruction. The average student will complete at least two semesters of 300-level music lessons after successful completion of the sophomore proficiency examination. Applied lessons may not be audited.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Prerequisite: Two semesters of MUS 265.
Repeatable: Up to 8 Credits.

MUS 378. Applied Pedagogy. 3 Credits.
A foundational course for teaching an applied instrument (including piano) through private lessons. The class focuses on teaching techniques and evaluation of materials relevant to applied instruction. Business and professional issues facing the independent studio teacher are covered as well as planning a well-rounded studio curriculum, including music theory, music history, chamber music, improvisation, summer camps, and uses for technology.
Typically Offered: Fall.

MUS 379. Piano Pedagogy. 3 Credits.
A course designed to provide an essential foundation for teaching piano. The class focuses on teaching techniques, evaluations of recent piano method books, piano repertoire, piano technique, and the skills of practicing, memorizing, and performing. An integral part of the class is observation of instruction and student teaching of private and/or group lessons under faculty supervision.
Typically Offered: Spring.

MUS 385. Creative Performance. 1 Credit.
A course to prepare the student for the junior recital. While this course is aimed for those preparing a solo recital it is beneficial for anyone aiming for a career in the field of music. Topics include repertoire selection, advertising, marketing, web design, public relations, etc. with the goal of learning how to create and market one's image as well as how to meet the demands of the 21st century performer and educator.
Typically Offered: Fall.

MUS 390. Music in the Elementary School. 3 Credits.
A course designed to provide a basic knowledge of music teaching techniques in the elementary school. Topics include curriculum mapping, motivation and management strategies, music learning theories, assessment and the instruction of diverse learners. Peer teaching opportunities are also part of this course. Models of instruction include Orff, Kodaly, Dalcroze, and Gordon.
Typically Offered: Fall, odd years.
Prerequisite: Admitted to Teacher Education.
MUS 397. VCSU CSA Internship. 1 Credit.
An opportunity for students to serve as interns in the VCSU Community School of the Arts on either a teaching track or a conducting track. Student teachers are assigned students and have their teaching supervised and critiqued on a regular basis. Student conductors are given regular conducting and ensemble duties and are also supervised and critiqued regularly. This course may be repeated for credit. Approval of the Director of the Community School of the Arts or the appropriate ensemble director is required.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Repeatable: Up to 2 Credits.

MUS 398. Music Business Practicum. 3 Credits.
An opportunity for the music industry student to gain a real-life experience in a local music business. Students research their particular business placement and spend time working in the environment under the guidance of the proprietor and the university faculty.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.

MUS 399. Special Topics. 1-4 Credits.
Courses not offered in the regular catalog that provide an opportunity to extend student learning.
Typically Offered: On sufficient demand.
Repeatable: Up to 12 Credits.

MUS 403. Choral Methods and Literature. 3 Credits.
An introduction to the methods, materials, models, and rehearsal techniques of the school choral music program. Includes a survey of choral literature, with studies in conducting techniques, score preparation, and interpretation of choral literature in various styles.
Typically Offered: Fall, even years.
Prerequisite: MUS 205.

MUS 404. Instrumental Methods and Literature. 3 Credits.
An introduction to the methods, materials, models, and rehearsal techniques of the school instrumental music program. Includes a survey of instrumental literature, with studies in conducting techniques, score preparation, and interpretation of instrumental literature in various styles.
Typically Offered: Spring, odd years.
Prerequisite: MUS 205.

MUS 411. Advanced Production in the Studio. 3 Credits.
This class further explores topics presented in MUS 307 and MUS 312. Advanced multi-track recording, editing, mixing and mastering techniques are studied using both analog and digital equipment. In addition, students will mentor students in other recording classes.
Typically Offered: Spring, even years.
Prerequisite: MUS 307 and MUS 312.
Repeatable: Up to 9 Credits.

MUS 435. Seminar in Musicology. 3 Credits.
A specialized study within music history. Topics may include intertextuality in music, race and gender studies within music, jazz history, Beethoven Symphonies, the development of opera, music since 1950, music between the world wars, etc.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Prerequisite: MUS 331.
Repeatable: Up to 15 Credits.

MUS 489. The 21st Century Music Classroom. 2 Credits.
Students will explore the issues and trends surrounding the 21st century music educator. Topics will include assessment using technology, student composition software, the use of new technologies to teach music to students with disabilities, virtual performance and recording, human response to music and applying musicianship in the 21st century.
Typically Offered: Fall, odd years.
Prerequisite: MUS 209 and MUS 390.

MUS 491. Music Recital Capstone. 1 Credit.
This 1 credit course is to be taken during the semester a student elects to present a recital as a VCSU capstone project. This course will be taken concurrently with 300-level Applied Music in the student's primary instrument or MUS 320, and with permission of the department chair.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.

MUS 492. Music Academic Capstone. 1-3 Credits.
An original academic project in Music that demonstrates and synthesizes a student's combined training and education over their undergraduate career. The student will select an area of interest and will undertake work that results in a research, pedagogical, or creative product. The student will work under the supervision of a faculty mentor. Students electing to complete a solo recital capstone should register for MUS 491.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.

MUS 494. Undergraduate Research. 3-12 Credits.
The course is designed to integrate subject matter from major coursework and other disciplines into a project that leads to the creation of an original body of knowledge.
Typically Offered: On sufficient demand.
Repeatable: Up to 12 Credits.

MUS 497. Internship. 3-12 Credits.
An opportunity for students to apply classroom learning to an on-the-job work experience. Internship must be related to the student's major or minor course of study and may be in any geographic location. Credit is granted in the range of three to twelve hours per semester and may be repeated up to a maximum of 12 credit hours. Application and approval through Career Services.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.
Prerequisites: Junior Standing or Senior Standing and cum GPA of 2.50 or higher.
Grading: S/U only.
Repeatable: Up to 12 Credits.

MUS 499. Special Topics. 1-4 Credits.
Courses not offered in the regular catalog that provide an opportunity to extend student learning.
Typically Offered: On sufficient demand.
Repeatable: Up to 12 Credits.