



QUICK GUIDE FOR MT. SAC MUSIC MAJORS

If you plan to transfer to a four-year college or university to pursue a baccalaureate music degree (a B.A., B.M. or B.F.A.), you're a Mt. SAC Music Major. This guide is for you.

Before you arrive

- **Determine your placement.** Music majors take courses in theory, musicianship and keyboard. If you've already studied these areas, you may know enough to skip the first level of each course sequence. For more information on placing out of the first level, contact Dr. Robert Bowen (rbowen@mtsac.edu) for theory and musicianship and Dr. Tiffany Kuo (tkuo@mtsac.edu) for keyboard.
- **Create an academic plan.** Either in person with a counselor or online using the Mountie Academic Plan (MAP), create a plan for your music major studies. The Mt. SAC Music Department recommends that all music majors pursue and complete the AA-T Music Degree (Associate in Arts in Music for Transfer Degree). To earn this degree, enroll in and complete (with a grade of "C" or better) the following courses:
 - (1) **General Education Courses.** See "Transferring to California Colleges and Universities" in the Mt. SAC College Catalog, or speak to a counselor for more information.
 - (2) **Required Music Courses.** AA-T Music students must complete (a) four semesters of private lessons (MUS 16), (b) four semesters of ensemble, and (c) the two-year music theory and musicianship sequence (MUS 2-3A-3B-3C and MUS 5A-5B-6A-6B). If you need to stay at Mt. SAC for more than two years, complete the sequence in your last two years.
 - (3) **Recommended Music Courses.** CSUs and private universities urge music students to complete courses in music literature and keyboard skills before transferring. To follow these recommendations, complete (d) the Music Literature Sequence (MUS 11A-11B) and (e) Keyboard Skills (MUS 10A-10B). Music Literature, which fulfills area C1 of the CSU GE requirements, should be taken in your last year at Mt. SAC. The keyboard skills sequence is meant to be taken concurrently with MUS 3A, 3B and 3C.
- **Prepare for an audition.** All degree-appropriate ensembles require an audition. Most of these auditions are held in the first week of classes. Contact the ensemble director for further details.

Before your transfer

- **Choose a concentration.** When you apply to transfer, you will need to declare a concentration, such as education, vocal performance, or therapy. Different concentrations have different admission requirements. For example, to transfer as a music composition major you will need piano skills and a portfolio of 2-3 compositions. The sooner you choose a concentration, the sooner you can begin preparing for transfer.
- **Choose a principal instrument.** Almost all concentrations require a principal instrument (this can be voice). While at Mt. SAC, take lessons on this instrument to ensure you reach the required level of proficiency.
- **Research schools.** No one school is best for all students. Choose a school that excels in your chosen concentration, matches your career goals, fits your personality and fulfills any other needs you might have.
- **Apply.** For fall transfers, applications are due sometime in the fall of your final year at Mt. SAC.
- **Prepare for Auditions.** To gain admittance to a four-year music program, you will need to audition successfully. For fall applicants, your audition will be held anytime from late November to early March. Speak to your individual instructor (MUS 16) about the audition as early as possible to begin preparations.