

**MUSIC, CONCENTRATION—COMMERCIAL MUSIC-PERFORMANCE ACADEMIC MAP:  
DEGREE BS (120 CREDIT HOURS)**

This degree map is a semester-by-semester course schedule for students majoring in [Music with a concentration in Commercial Music-Performance](#). The milestones listed to the right of each semester are designed to keep a student on track to graduate in four years. The schedule serves as a general guideline to help build a full schedule each semester. Milestones are courses and special requirements necessary for timely progress to complete a major. When one or more milestones are missed, students should consult with an academic advisor to determine if another degree path would be more suitable.

Commercial Music majors are expected to complete 41 hours of general education classes, 36 hours in the music core, 35 hours in the Commercial Music concentration, and 18 hours in the emphasis. Students must have a “C” or above in music courses. All music majors are expected to have a working ability on the piano. Those students who do not have piano abilities will complete up to four semesters of sequential Proficiency Piano courses. Students will declare a primary instrument and enroll in private student for eight semesters. During the sixth semester students are eligible to present their Junior recital. During the eighth semester students will present their Senior Recital. In tandem with the private applied studies is the seminar class. Once semester students have an opportunity to perform for their peers, the literature they are studying with their applied teacher. First semester and transfer students will take a music theory placement test to determine their theory placement. Students not prepared for Theory I will enroll in Materials of Music and Materials of Music Lab. Commercial Music students are required to complete seven semesters of Commercial Music Ensemble. The Commercial Music Ensembles perform a variety of musical genres and perform at campus events, local school, civic events, and other venues as they become available. Commercial Music students also participate in an internship experience. The internships provide the students an opportunity to work in an area of their interest.

Tennessee State University recognizes that students have diverse learning, life, and professional experiences. The University provides opportunities for students to earn college credit toward the degree through a number of assessment options that evaluate their learning experiences. These paths are grouped under the category “Prior Learning Assessment” (PLA). Various means of earning PLA credit at TSU are the following: Advance Placement Program, American Council of Education (ACE) Military Credit, American Council on Education (ACE) other Assessed Credit, College Level Exam Program (CLEP), DSST Credit by Examination Program (includes DANTES Examination), Institutional Course Challenge Exams (Departmental Exams), International Baccalaureate Credit, Other Military Service, Portfolio Assessment. To learn more about PLA contact your academic advisor or the Office of Student Support Services for Adult and Distance Learners (615) 963-7001.

**Department Chair: Dr. Robert Elliott**

**Mapping Coordinator: Dr. Mark Crawford, [macrawford@tnstate.edu](mailto:macrawford@tnstate.edu)**

**Department Web Address: <http://www.tnstate.edu/music/degrees.aspx>**

| Fall Schedule      |                         |           | Milestones   |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------|--|
| Semester 1         |                         | Hrs.      | Semester 1   |
| MUSC 1xxx          | Major Applied I         | 1         |  |
| MUSC 1210          | Freshman Theory I       | 3         |  |
| MUSC 1250          | Freshman Aural Skills I | 1         |  |
| MUSC 3030          | Comm. Styles Seminar    | 0         |  |
| MUSC 1510          | Comm. Music Ensemble    | 1         |  |
| MUSC 1010          | Music Appreciation      | 3         | Required of all music majors   |
| ENGL 1010          | Freshman English I      | 3         | Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before HIST 2010, HIST 2020, HIST 2030, HIST 2050 or HIST 2700; Minimum grade “C” Required |
| MATH 1110          | College Algebra         | 3         | Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before taking ECON 2010  |
| UNVI 1000          | Service of Leadership*  | 1         |  |
| <b>Total hours</b> |                         | <b>16</b> |  |

\*An Orientation course taken at another University does **NOT** meet this requirement. Students with less than 60 credit hours must take UNIV 1000 at TSU.

| Spring Schedule    |                           |           | Milestones   |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------|--|
| Semester 2         |                           | Hrs.      | Semester 2   |
| MUSC 1xxx          | Major Applied II          | 1         |  |
| MUSC 1211          | Freshman Theory II        | 3         |  |
| MUSC 1260          | Freshman Aural Skills II  | 1         |  |
| MUSC 3030          | Comm. Styles Seminar      | 0         |  |
| MUSC 1510          | Comm. Music Ensemble      | 1         |  |
| GEN ED             | Humanities*               | 3         |  |
| ENGL 1020          | Freshman English II       | 3         | Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before MUSC 3385 and HIST 2010, HIST 2020, HIST 2030, HIST 2050 or HIST 2700; Minimum grade "C" Required |
| ECON 2010          | Principles of Economics I | 3         |  |
| <b>Total hours</b> |                           | <b>15</b> |  |

\*Students must take 3 credit hours from the following list of approved general education Humanities courses: AREN 2310, ART, 1010, HIST 1000, THTR 1020, PHIL 1030, or RELS 2010.

| Fall Schedule      |                             |           | Milestones   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|--|
| Semester 3         |                             | Hrs.      | Semester 3   |
| MUSC 2xxx          | Major Applied III           | 1         |  |
| MUSC 2211          | Sophomore Theory I          | 3         | Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before MUSC 3010 |
| MUSC 3030          | Comm. Styles Seminar        | 0         |  |
| MUSC 1510          | Comm. Music Ensemble        | 1         |  |
| GEN ED             | History*                    | 3         |  |
| GEN ED             | Social/Behavioral Science** | 3         |  |
| PHYS 1030          | Conceptual Physics          | 4         | Required of all Commercial Music students            |
| COMM 2200          | Public Speaking             | 3         |  |
| <b>Total hours</b> |                             | <b>18</b> |  |

\*The Department recommends HIST 2010; however, HIST 2030, HIST 2050, HIST 2060 or HIST 2700 satisfy this requirement.

\*\*The following courses can meet the Social Science elective AFAS 2010, ANTH 2300, ECON, 2010, GEOG 1010, HPSS 1510, POLI 1010 PSYC 2010, WMST 2000, and URBS 2010.

| Spring Schedule    |                      |           | Milestones |
|--------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|
| Semester 4         |                      | Hrs.      | Semester 4 |
| MUSC 2xxx          | Major Applied IV     | 1         |            |
| MUSC 2212          | Sophomore Theory II  | 3         |            |
| MUSC 3030          | Comm. Styles Seminar | 0         |            |
| MUSC 3510          | Comm. Music Ensemble | 1         |            |
| GEN ED             | History*             | 3         |            |
| GEN ED             | Humanities**         | 3         |            |
| GEN ED             | Natural Sciences***  | 4         |            |
| <b>Total hours</b> |                      | <b>15</b> |            |

\*The Department recommends HIST 2020; however, HIST 2030, HIST 2050, HIST 2060 or HIST 2700 satisfy this requirement.

\*\*Students must take 3 credit hours from the following list of approved general education Humanities courses: AREN 2310, ART, 1010, HIST 1000, THTR 1020, PHIL 1030, or RELS 2010.

\*\*\*Natural Science must be chosen from: PHYS 2110/2111 (or PHYS 2010/2011), PHYS 2120/2121 (or PHYS 2020/2021), CHEM 1110/1111, CHEM 1120/1121, or BIOL 1120/1121.

| Fall Schedule      |                            |           | Milestones  |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------|---|
| Semester 5         |                            | Hrs.      | Semester 5  |
| MUSC 3xxx          | Applied Major V            | 1         |   |
| MUSC 3030          | Comm. Styles Seminar       | 0         |   |
| MUSC 3510          | Comm. Music Ensemble       | 1         |   |
| MUSC 1xxx          | Second Applied I           | 1         | Proficiency classes or class instruments are not considered applied                 |
| MUSC               | Second Ensemble I          | 1         | Can include four semesters of the same second ensemble, or four different ensembles |
| MUSC 3045          | Fundamentals of Conducting | 2         |   |
| MUSC 3385          | History of Popular Music   | 3         |   |
| MUSC 2710          | Intro to Commercial Music  | 3         | Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before MUSC 3710                                |
| MUSC 3610          | Basic Studio               | 3         |   |
| MUSC 2610          | Music & Technology I       | 2         |   |
| <b>Total hours</b> |                            | <b>17</b> |   |

| Spring Schedule    |                      |           | Milestones   |
|--------------------|----------------------|-----------|--|
| Semester 6         |                      | Hrs.      | Semester 6   |
| MUSC 3xxx          | Major Applied VI     | 1         |  |
| MUSC 3030          | Comm. Styles Seminar | 0         |  |
| MUSC 3510          | Comm. Music Ensemble | 1         |  |
| MUSC 1xxx          | Second Applied II    | 1         |  |
| MUSC               | Second Ensemble II   | 1         |  |
| MUSC 4310          | Orchestration        | 2         |  |
| MUSC 3380          | Music History II     | 3         | Commercial music students do not take 3370 Music History I       |
| MUSC 3710          | Music Business & Law | 3         |  |
| MUSC 3515          | Junior Recital       | 0         | Requires a reserved performance date and hearing two weeks prior |
| MUSC 31xx          | Techniques I         | 1         |  |
| MUSC 31xx          | Techniques II        | 1         |  |
| <b>Total hours</b> |                      | <b>14</b> |  |

| Fall Schedule      |                          |           | Milestones |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Semester 7         |                          | Hrs.      | Semester 7 |
| MUSC 4xxx          | Major Applied VII        | 1         |            |
| MUSC 3030          | Comm. Styles Seminar     | 0         |            |
| MUSC 2xxx          | Second Applied III       | 1         |            |
| MUSC               | Second Ensemble III      | 1         |            |
| MUSC 4410          | Arranging                | 3         |            |
| MUSC 3510          | Comm. Music Ensemble     | 1         |            |
| MUSC 4450          | Entrepreneurship in Arts | 3         |            |
| MUSC 31xx          | Techniques III           | 1         |            |
| MUSC 31xx          | Techniques IV            | 1         |            |
| <b>Total hours</b> |                          | <b>12</b> |            |

| Spring Schedule    |                            |           | Milestones   |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--|
| Semester 8         |                            | Hrs.      | Semester 8   |
|                    |                            |           | Take Senior Exit Exam and Apply for Graduation   |
| MUSC 4xxx          | Major Applied VIII         | 1         |  |
| MUSC 3030          | Comm. Styles Seminar       | 0         |  |
| MUSC 2xxx          | Second Applied III         | 1         |  |
| MUSC               | Second Ensemble III        | 1         |  |
| MUSC 3010          | Analysis & Create Pop Song | 3         |  |
| MUSC 4010          | Internship                 | 3         | Must complete at least 18 hours of Commercial Music core; permission of the instructor |
| MUSC 4515          | Senior Project             | 1         | Guided capstone project determined by student and instructor                           |
| MUSC 4510          | Senior Recital             | 0         | Requires a reserved performance date and hearing two weeks prior                       |
|                    | Guided Electives           | 3         |  |
| <b>Total hours</b> |                            | <b>13</b> |  |

**Employment Information:**

Students with this degree will have met the requirements to pursue graduate degrees in music.

**Representative Job Titles Related to this Major:**

Touring musician, studio musician, songwriter, arranger, music publisher, audio engineer

**Representative Employers:**

Theme parks, cruise ships, military bands, circus, corporate bands, wedding bands, songwriter, performing rights organizations

**International study is available for all TSU students and may include opportunities for internships or taking course work towards various minors.** International study may have an impact on the MAP; therefore, it is important to consult with the academic advisor for this major before participating in an international Program opportunity. Students interested in study abroad opportunities should contact the Office of International Programs and consult with their academic advisor.

This map is not intended to be a contract; either expressed or implied, between the University and the students, but represents a flexible program of the current curriculum which may be altered from time to time to carry out the academic objectives of the University. TSU specifically reserves the right to change, delete or add to any MAP at any time within the student's period of study at the University.