

# Sheridan College Music Technology Musicianship Requirement Options

The Sheridan College Music Department is committed to providing our music technology students with comprehensive exposure to the latest gear, software, and music-making techniques associated with the discipline. We also believe that rudimentary keyboard skills, a critical ear, and basic music notation literacy are essential tools for today's working musician. Students seeking the Certificate of Completion in Music Technology therefore must fulfill a basic musicianship requirement. There are three options for doing so, each designed for different situations:

## Option 1

*Who is it for?*

- Students who are seeking the Certificate alone or in conjunction with the General Studies A.A. or A.S. degree and...
  - who have little or no experience playing piano or other keyboard instrument
  - who are not proficient in reading traditional Western music notation (e.g. non-tablature sheet music)

*How is it fulfilled?*

- By taking MUSC 1010 Music Fundamentals (2 credit hours) in the first semester of study

*How does it benefit the student?*

- Basic keyboard skills are developed in an interactive classroom environment.
- Note-reading proficiency is explored, enabling the student to read and write traditional notation.
- Aural skills are honed through sight-singing and transcription activities.
- Fundamental concepts of the components of Western music are introduced, including pitch, rhythm, melodic structure, chords and basic harmonic function.
- Completion of the course prepares the student for the core curriculum in Intro to Music Technology and Intermediate Music Technology.

## Option 2

*Who is it for?*

- Students who are seeking the Certificate in conjunction with a Music A.F.A. degree

*How is it fulfilled?*

- By taking MUSC 1030 Written Theory I, MUSC 1035 Aural Theory I, and MUSC 1290 Class Piano I

*How does it benefit the student?*

- These courses cover the MUSC 1010 Music Fundamentals curriculum (and beyond) in a single semester.
- These three courses are already required components of the Music A.F.A. degree. Completion of these courses automatically fulfills the Music Tech Certificate's musicianship requirement without any further coursework.
- These courses help prepare the student for core curriculum in the Music Technology certificate, advance study in the Music A.F.A. degree, and transfer to four-year institutions where students may seek a Bachelor's degree in music.

### Option 3

*Who is it for?*

- Students who are seeking the Certificate alone or in conjunction with the General Studies A.A. or A.S. degree and...
  - who have had *significant* private musical training or
  - who have completed a degree in music

*How is it fulfilled?*

- For non-degree holders, the student may take a competency exam scheduled through the registrar's office and administered by a member of the music faculty. This typically involves a modest administrative fee. A study guide for the exam is available from Dr. Christian Erickson, Coordinator of Music Theory and Music Technology.
- For degree holders, an academic transcript documenting the completion of the freshman music theory core will result in the waiving of the musicianship requirement.

*How does it benefit the student?*

- The student with sufficient skills may quickly satisfy the musicianship requirement and focus on the core curriculum of the Certificate of Completion in Music Technology.