

Online Theory Placement Exam

The Online Theory Placement Exam covers material from two courses in the first semester music major curriculum—MTC1000: Music Theory Fundamentals and MTC1003: Sight Singing and Ear Training I. Students may bypass one or both of these courses if they demonstrate sufficient knowledge or skills listed for each course:

MTC1000: Music Theory Fundamentals

Textbook: *Music in Theory and Practice*, vol. 1, 9th ed. by Benward & Saker, Chapters 1–4

- Intervals
- Major & minor keys (scales)
- Modes
- Notation (pitches, clefs, rhythm, meters)
- Triads and triad inversions

Passing score 40-50/50; conditional pass is 37-39/50

MTC1003: Sight Singing and Ear Training I

Textbook: *Music for Sight Singing*, 9th ed. by Rogers and Ottman, Parts I and II

- Intervals
- Rhythms
- Simple Melodies
- Triads

Passing score 20-24/24; conditional pass is 18-19/24

Advanced Testing Option

Placement exams are also available for MTC1001 and MTC2112 (Music Theory I & II). Students who successfully pass the MTC1000 placement exam may continue taking these exams, which include both an online and written portion. Contact the Music Office for more information.

MTC1001: Music Theory I

Textbook: *Music in Theory and Practice* by Benward & Saker, Chapters 2-9

- Major and minor keys/scales
- Relative and parallel relationship
- Modes
- Intervals
- Cadences
- Harmonic analysis
- Non-harmonic tones
- Transposition
- Traditional 4-part choral part-writing
- Circle progressions
- Basic theory terminology

MTC2112: MUSIC THEORY II

Textbook: *Music in Theory and Practice* by Benward & Saker, Chapters 9-17

- Traditional 4-part choral part-writing
- Harmonic Progression
- Secondary dominants and leading tone chords
- Modulation
- Binary, ternary and expanded ternary forms
- Neapolitan, Augmented Sixth chords

Who Should Take the Placement Exam

Music Majors

All music major applicants must take the Online Theory Placement Exam as part of their on-campus audition. Test results are used as part of the admission decision and to place students in the appropriate theory course. Undecided students considering a major in music are encouraged to take the test at this point in the admission process.

Non-music Majors

Non-music majors or music minors who plan to take music theory/sight singing and ear training may choose to take the Online Theory Placement Exam in order to test out of portions of the theory or sight singing/ear training sequence.

Other Theory Placement Methods

Transfer Students

Upon successful completion of the Online Theory Placement Exam, transfer students will be given a written exam that corresponds to the coursework completed at other institutions. Transfer credit and placement in the UNW theory and sight singing/ear training sequence will be based on the applicant's performance on the theory placement exam. The Department of Music & Theatre will schedule the exam.

Advanced Placement

Upon successful completion of the Online Theory Placement Exam, students with Advanced Placement (AP) theory scores will be given a written exam that corresponds to the AP coursework completed. AP music credit and placement in the UNW theory and sight singing/ear training sequence will be based on the applicant's performance on the theory placement exam.

Contact Us

Visit unwsp.edu/music or contact Dept. of Music & Theatre at 651-631-5218, 888-878-5514 or music@unwsp.edu.