

Music MA (Band Conducting)
Assessment Plan Summary

Music MA (Band Conducting)

Advanced Skills in Band Conducting

Goal Description:

MA in Band Conducting students should gain advanced skills in the areas of band rehearsing, conducting, and teaching.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS-----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Comprehensive Knowledge and Skills in Band Conducting and Pedagogy

Learning Objective Description:

MA in Band Conducting students should obtain a comprehensive knowledge of band literature, a basic knowledge of pedagogical practices for all major band instruments, and advanced skills in rehearsal conducting.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Comprehensive Exam

Indicator Description:

Students will take a comprehensive exam in their final semester of study. The exam will be evaluated as Pass/Fail and will consist of the following:

- 1. A 14- to 25-minute preparation rehearsal with one of the ABC Directors’ Bands. Composition selected by the ABC faculty. These rehearsals will be video-recorded and the candidate will meet with ABC faculty immediately after the session to review the video.
- 2. A start-up lesson with a beginner on CLARINET. (10 min.)
- 3. A start-up lesson with a beginner on HORN. (10 minutes)
- 4. A start-up lesson with a beginner on SNARE. (10 minutes)
- 5. A diagnostics rehearsal with an ABC master's candidate exit exam band in which players have been instructed to play specific, typical errors. (12 minutes)

Criterion Description:

Comprehensive exams are evaluated as Pass/Fail, based on the students' ability to successfully complete each element. Exams may be repeated if necessary. The School of Music considers a pass rate of 80% for first-time examinees to be successful.

Findings Description:

Over 90% of BA students passed the comprehensive examination on the first attempt during the 2015-2016 academic year. This exceeds the School of Music's goal of 80%.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Monitoring Skill Development

Action Description:

We will monitor the comprehensive final exam pass rates, recognizing that each of the five parts of the exam are related to one or more of the three target areas for skill development, including comprehensive knowledge of band literature, knowledge of pedagogical practices for all major band instruments, and advanced skills in rehearsal conducting. In addition, we will gather feedback from students to determine if more attention should be focused on specific components within the three skill development areas.

Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement

Previous Cycle's Plan For Continuous Improvement (Do Not Modify) :

Plan for improvement will be considered and entered after findings are available, which is not until the 2015 Summer II term.

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

As this is a new program at SHSU, faculty is continuing to evaluate both the success of the program and the appropriate means for assessment. During the 2015-2016 academic year, the comprehensive examination process was examined and data was collected on first time pass rates as indicative of the program's progress toward its goals. During the 2016-2017 academic year, additional assessment goals and procedures will be added and more faculty feedback sought in order to better monitor the program's success.

Action Summary

Closing Summary:

We will monitor the comprehensive final exam pass rates, recognizing that each of the five parts of the exam are related to one or more of the three target areas for skill development, including comprehensive knowledge of band literature, knowledge of pedagogical practices for all major band instruments, and advanced skills in rehearsal conducting. In addition, we will gather feedback from students to determine if more attention should be focused on specific components within the three skill development areas.