

Definition

The Commercial Music program is designed to prepare students to perform, to write and record music, to develop an appreciation of various contemporary music styles, and to understand the latest developments in the ever-changing music industry.

Staff

To access faculty and staff, dial (661) 722-6300, then the 4-digit extension.

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Program Coordinator:

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Program Description

The Commercial Music program includes two certificates; one which is general in nature and prepares students for a variety of careers in the music industry, and another for students specializing in popular instrumental or vocal performance.

Students must receive a minimum grade of “C” or better in all required core courses and the specific courses listed as program electives in order to qualify for the certificate(s).

Distinctive Features

The program features opportunities for non-musicians to become skilled musicians; opportunities for public performances; an integration of college programs with music businesses and the public; strong performance ensembles such as the Antelope Valley Jazz Ensemble and “Test Flight” (the advanced rock band) commercial voice classes, a live sound engineering course, and coursework supporting a 22-station Mac lab with state-of-the-art software and mobile recording rig.

Career Options

Vocalist
 Instrumentalist
 Producer
 Artist agent
 Sound engineer
 Public and private teaching

Program Learning Outcomes

Level I–General Certificate

1. Demonstrate the ability to categorize, identify, and analyze significant genres of music.
2. Demonstrate a basic understanding of and skill level in the use of music technology and sound engineering.
3. Demonstrate the ability to analyze and critically evaluate a live musical performance.
4. Comparing, contrasting, and assessing music industry professions.
5. Demonstrate skills in aural analysis and notation, and performance.

Level II–Performance Specialty

1. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of and skill level in the use of music technology.
2. Demonstrate the ability to perform through participation in vocal and/or instrumental groups.
3. Examine and demonstrate aural analysis, technical skills, structural, and aesthetic features needed to produce quality songwriting.
4. Demonstrate the ability to analyze and critically evaluate a live musical performance.

Certificate Programs

There are two certificate programs available: 1) Level I - General Certificate, 2) Level II - Performance Specialty. The Commercial Music program is designed to prepare students for careers to perform as an instrumentalist and vocalists, to write (songwriter) and record music (producer/sound engineer/audio engineer), to develop an appreciation of various contemporary music styles, and to understand the latest developments in the ever-changing music industry.

Level I–General Certificate

Required Courses:	units
MUSC 102, History of Jazz or	
MUSC 103, History of Rock 'n Roll	3
MUSC 104, The Music Industry	3
MUSC 112, Commercial Music Theory	3
MUSC 133, 133L, Studio Music Production I/Lab	2.5
MUSC 141, Concert Management	2
MUSC 143, Live Sound Reinforcement	2
Program Electives	<u>2</u>
	Total 17.5

Recommended Plan of Study

First Semester	units
(MUS 111, Fundamentals of Music) (suggested; not required for the certificate)	(3)
MUSC 104, The Music Industry	3
MUSC 133, 133L, Studio Music Production I/Lab	<u>2.5</u>
Total	5.5 (or 8.5)

Second Semester	units
MUSC 112, Commercial Music Theory	3
MUSC 102, History of Jazz or MUSC 103, History of Rock 'n Roll	<u>3</u>
Total	6

Third Semester	units
MUSC 143, Live Sound Reinforcement	2
Program Elective	<u>1</u>
Total	3

Fourth Semester	units
MUSC 141, Concert Management	2
Program Electives	<u>1</u>
Total	3

Certificate Total 17.5**Level II–Performance Specialty**

Required Courses:	units
Level I, General Certificate	17.5
	AND
MUSC 113, Popular Song Writing	3
MUSC 134, 134L, Studio Music Production II/Lab	2.5
Performance units: MUSC 124, MUSC 124A, MUSC 124B, MUSC 124C, MUSC 222, MUSC 223, or MUSC 274	<u>2</u>
Total	25

Recommended Plan of Study

First Semester	units
MUS 111, Fundamentals of Music (suggested; not required for the certificate)	(3)
MUSC 104, The Music Industry	3
MUSC 133, 133L, Studio Music Production I/Lab	<u>2.5</u>
Total	5.5 (or 8.5)

Second Semester	units
MUSC 112, Commercial Music Theory	3
MUSC 102, History of Jazz or MUSC 103, History of Rock 'n Roll	3
MUSC 141, Concert Management	<u>2</u>
Total	8

Third Semester	units
MUSC 134, 134L, Studio Music Production II/Lab	2.5
MUSC 113, Popular Song Writing	3
Performance Class: MUSC 124, 124A, 222, 223, or 274	1
Program Elective	<u>1</u>
Total	7.5

Fourth Semester	units
MUSC 143, Live Sound Reinforcement	2
Performance Class: MUSC 124, 124A, 222, 223, or 274	1
Program Elective	<u>1</u>
Total	4

Certificate Total 25

Program Electives:	units
MUSC 107, History of Women in Rock Music	3
MUSC 122, Stage Voice	1
MUSC 124, Jazz Improvisation	1
MUSC 124A, Jazz Improvisation A	1
MUSC 124B, Jazz Improvisation B	1
MUSC 124C, Jazz Improvisation C	1
MUSC 173, Beginning Jazz Ensemble	1
MUSC 175, Beginning Rock Band	1
MUSC 222, Popular Vocal Performance	1
MUSC 223, Popular Instrumental Performance	1
MUSC 225, Commercial Music Ensemble	.5
MUSC 233, Studio Music Production III	2
MUSC 233L, Studio Music Production III Lab	.5
MUSC 234, Studio Music Production IV	2
MUSC 234L, Studio Music Production IV Lab	.5
MUSC 273, Intermediate Jazz Ensemble	1
MUSC 274, Advanced Jazz Ensemble	1

Associate Degree

An associate degree with a major in Commercial Music is not available. Commercial Music courses can be included in the 18 units necessary for an associate degree with a major in Liberal Arts and Sciences. (See Graduation/Associate Degree Requirements.)

Transfer

Students planning to continue studies at a four-year college or university after AVC should visit the Transfer Resource Center and consult with a counselor as soon as possible. Additional information on official transfer articulation agreements from AVC to many CSU/UC campuses can be found at the following Web site: www.assist.org

Prerequisite Completion

If a course is listed as a prerequisite for another course, that prerequisite course must be completed with a satisfactory grade in order to enroll in the next course. According to Title 5, Section 55200(d), a satisfactory grade is a grade of "A," "B," "C" or "P". Classes in which the Pass/No Pass option is available are indicated with an asterisk (*) before the course title. See "Pass/No Pass Option" in the catalog for full explanation.

Commercial Music Courses

MUSC 102 *HISTORY OF JAZZ

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 099 and READ 099.

This course focuses on the works and contributions of musicians and performers to the general history and evolution of jazz music. The course will survey the historical and cultural complexities that influence the jazz music industry. After a brief survey of European and African influences, the time periods studied will begin in the mid-nineteen-twenties and emphasize jazz musicians and performers through the early twenty-first century. Students may be required to attend live musical performances during the course of the semester. (CSU, UC, AVC)

MUSC 103 *HISTORY OF ROCK 'n ROLL

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 099 and READ 099.

This course focuses on the works and contributions of musicians and performers to the general history and evolution of rock music. The course will survey the historical and cultural complexities that influence the rock music industry. The time periods studied begin in the mid-nineteen-forties and emphasize rock musicians and performers through the early twenty-first century. Students will be required to attend live musical performances during the course of the semester. (CSU, UC, AVC)

MUSC 104 *THE MUSIC INDUSTRY

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 099 and READ 099.

A class to acquaint students with various professions in the music industry. Music professions which the course will examine include performing, arranging/composition/publishing, recording, music production, music for radio/television, music criticism, music store employment, music store management and ownership, musician's union employment and regulations, artist representatives, agents and managers, and other music professions as they arise. Professionals from the industry will visit class, and visits will be made to selected businesses/studios. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 107 *HISTORY OF WOMEN IN ROCK MUSIC

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 099 and READ 099.

This course focuses on the works and contributions of women musicians and performers to the general history and evolution of rock music. The course will survey the historical and cultural complexities that influence the rock music industry and the impact of the industry's expectations for women in rock and

how those expectations influenced their works. The time periods studied begin in the mid-forties and emphasize female musicians and performers through the early twenty-first century examining women's roles in the history of rock music. Students will be required to attend two live, musical performances. (CSU, UC, AVC)

MUSC 112 *COMMERCIAL MUSIC THEORY

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Completion of MUS 111 or MUS 131.

A foundation of music theory underlying commercial music. Samples of commercial music are used throughout the course as models for discussion and analysis. The course includes the study (written, aural, and performed) of bass and treble clefs, relationships of tonal centers, key signatures, construction and formulas for major, minor, and modal scales; basic rhythmic skills including syncopation; construction of intervals, triads, and seventh chords (and their inversions); and application of the circle of fifths. Special applications include writing form charts, lead sheets, chord charts and transpositions; and playing (at the piano) melodies and chords in all keys from written symbols commonly used amongst commercial musicians. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 113 *POPULAR SONG WRITING

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Completion of any of the following: MUS 111, 131, 151, or MUSC 112.

A workshop-formatted course on the elements of writing songs. The course examines the popular song and the technical skills needed to produce quality student writing. Emphasis is on the structural and aesthetic features of song forms as well as the evolution of such, including the standards of professional songwriter's screening services, and the expectations of artist representatives in the music industry. Students will listen to and learn to analyze examples of current popular songs, as well as produce student songs for a critically adept audience. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 122 *STAGE VOICE

1 unit

3 hours weekly

This course is designed to develop singing techniques on stage with and without a microphone. Students will study and perform various contemporary music styles (pop, country western, r&b, and rock). (AVC) (R3#)

Enrollment in any combination of MUS 121 or MUSC 122 is limited to 4 times.

MUSC 124 *JAZZ IMPROVISATION

1 unit

3 hours weekly

Limitation on Enrollment: Audition required. Ability to play jazz instrument at high school performance level.

This course provides an introduction to the principles of

improvising jazz using scale patterns, chord progressions, and song repertoire. For musicians with a high school background on a standard jazz instrument. (CSU, UC, AVC)

MUSC 124A *JAZZ IMPROVISATION A

1 unit

3 hours weekly

Limitation on Enrollment: Audition required. Ability on a standard jazz, or consent of instructor.

Fundamentals of improvisation for vocalists and instrumentalists. Application of scales and their relationship to chords. Modes, jazz rhythmic phrasing, blues progressions and cycle of dominant seventh chords. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 124B *JAZZ IMPROVISATION B

1 unit

3 hours weekly

Limitation on Enrollment: Audition required. Ability on a standard jazz, or consent of instructor.

Fundamentals of improvisation for vocalists and instrumentalists. Application of scales and their relationship to chords. Modes, jazz rhythmic phrasing, blues progressions and cycle of dominant seventh chords. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 124C *JAZZ IMPROVISATION C

1 unit

3 hours weekly

Limitation on Enrollment: Audition required. Ability on a standard jazz, or consent of instructor. Students should have completed 2 years of jazz improvisation and/or completion of MUSC 124B.

Continuation of jazz improvisational pedagogy and techniques with an emphasis on performance practices of various styles. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 133 *STUDIO MUSIC PRODUCTION I

2 units

3 hours weekly

Corequisite: Concurrent enrollment in MUSC 133L.

Advisory: Completion of MUS 131, and Eligibility for ENGL 099 and READ 099.

Instructional materials fee required for this course and must be paid at registration.

A course designed to teach the making of recordings on a computer music workstation. Techniques will include MIDI sequencing, sampling and hard disc recording. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 133L *STUDIO MUSIC PRODUCTION I LAB

.5 unit

1.8 hours weekly

Corequisite: Concurrent enrollment in MUSC 133.

A laboratory in support of the course designed to allow students to apply their keyboard synthesizer skills, including MIDI sequencing, sampling, hard disc recording and other knowledge related to MUSC 133. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 134 *STUDIO MUSIC PRODUCTION II

2 units

3.5 hours weekly

Prerequisite: Completion of MUSC 133 and MUSC 133L.

Corequisite: Concurrent enrollment in MUSC 134L.

Instructional materials fee required for this course and must be paid at registration.

Continuation of MUSC 133. Designed to improve student knowledge and ability in the use of MIDI techniques, sampling, and studio recording production techniques. Level II of Studio Music Production will further the basics achieved in Level I, with more real-time, creative projects as students continue learning techniques of MIDI sequencing, sampling and hard disc recording. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 134L *STUDIO MUSIC PRODUCTION II LAB

.5 unit

1.8 hours weekly

Corequisite: Concurrent enrollment in MUSC 134.

A laboratory in support of the course designed to allow students to apply their keyboard synthesizer skills, including MIDI sequencing, sampling, hard disc recording and other knowledge related to MUSC 134. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 141 *CONCERT MANAGEMENT

2 unit

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 099 and READ 099.

A class designed to teach students to evaluate and critique music performances, addressing safety and preventive measures that revolve around the current climate of concert entertainment. Public performances, including weekends as scheduled by the instructor, are required for live observation. The study of documented films and articles on music concert tragedies and accidents where injury or loss of life occurred or could have occurred, is required in order to reach conclusions based on safety protocol and prevention discussed in the classroom and within documented national studies on concert attendance and management. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 143 LIVE SOUND REINFORCEMENT

2 units

2 hours weekly

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 099 and READ 099.

This course familiarizes students with different possibilities for sound reinforcement in different performance situations. The course will survey elements used in live sound reinforcement as well as modern studio recording. Introduction to modern sound systems, stage layout, and performance techniques will also be presented. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 173 *BEGINNING JAZZ ENSEMBLE

1 unit

3 hours weekly

Limitation on Enrollment: Audition Required.

A course designed to rehearse and perform jazz ensemble repertoire, chosen by the instructor and changing every semester. Historical and sociological context of the music being studied as well as correct performance of notes and rhythms will be explained in each rehearsal. Each semester, the beginning jazz ensemble prepares music for public performance. Students take part in weekly rehearsals in which they learn how their own parts relate to other harmonies and rhythms occurring simultaneously. The instructor paces each rehearsal such that the performance at the end of the semester is of as high an artistic and technical standard as possible. (C-ID: MUS 180) (CSU, UC, AVC) (R3#)

Enrollment in any combination of MUSC 173, MUSC 273 or MUSC 274 is limited to 4 times.

MUSC 175 *BEGINNING ROCK BAND

1 unit

3 hours weekly

Limitation on Enrollment: Ability to play an electronic instrument (common to rock band instrumentation) at high school performance level.

A course designed to rehearse and perform rock band repertoire, chosen by the instructor and changing every semester. Historical and sociological context of the music being studied as well as correct performance of notes and rhythms will be explained in each rehearsal. Each semester, the Beginning Rock Band prepares music for public performance. Students take part in weekly rehearsals in which they learn how their own parts relate to other harmonies and rhythms occurring simultaneously. The instructor paces each rehearsal such that the performance at the end of the semester is of as high an artistic and technical standard as possible. (CSU, AVC) (R3)

MUSC 222 POPULAR VOCAL PERFORMANCE

1 unit

3 hours weekly

Limitation on Enrollment: Audition required.

Advisory: Completion of MUSC 112 and MUSC 122 or MUSC 123.

A performance class for solo singers (Test Flight) who are preparing to perform in public. Emphasis will be placed on popular music, including development of microphone technique, stage presence, and singing with the band Test Flight. Public performances, including weekends, scheduled by the instructor are required. (CSU, AVC) (R3)

MUSC 223 POPULAR INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMANCE

1 unit

3 hours weekly

Limitation on Enrollment: Audition required.

Advisory: Completion of MUSC 112 and MUSC 175 or MUSC 176.

A performance class for instrumentalists who are preparing to perform as a backup band in public (Test Flight). Emphasis will be placed on popular music, including accompaniment of and rehearsal with singers enrolled in MUSC 222. Public performances, including weekends, scheduled by the instructor, are required. (CSU, AVC) (R3)

MUSC 225 COMMERCIAL MUSIC ENSEMBLE

.5 unit

27 hours total

Limitation on Enrollment: Audition required.

Prerequisite: Completion of MUSC 222 or MUSC 223.

A performance class for singers and instrumentalists, to present concerts of popular music repertoire (Test Flight). (CSU, AVC) (R3)

MUSC 233 *STUDIO MUSIC PRODUCTION III

2 units

3.5 hours weekly

Prerequisite: Completion of MUSC 134 and MUSC 134L.

Corequisite: Concurrent enrollment in MUSC 233L.

Instructional materials fee required for this course and must be paid at registration.

Continuation of Studio Music Production series. Techniques will include enhanced MIDI sequencing, sampling, and hard disc recording. Students will learn the concept of using the computer as a recording and editing tool. Emphasis will be made on editing with an introduction to enhanced recording techniques and recording theory. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 233L *STUDIO MUSIC PRODUCTION III LAB

.5 unit

1.8 hours weekly

Corequisite: Concurrent enrollment in MUSC 233.

A laboratory in support of the course designed to allow students to enhance their keyboard synthesizer skills, including MIDI sequencing, sampling, hard disc recording and other knowledge as related to MUSC 233. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 234 *STUDIO MUSIC PRODUCTION IV*2 units**3.5 hours weekly***Prerequisite:** *Completion of MUSC 233 and MUSC 233L.***Corequisite:** *Concurrent enrollment in MUSC 234L.***Instructional materials fee** *required for this course and must be paid at registration.*

Continuation of Studio Music Production series. Techniques will include advanced MIDI sequencing, sampling, and hard disc recording. Students will continue to learn advanced techniques in using the computer as an editing and recording tool. Emphasis will be on the production process. Students learn how to bring a musical vision to life using the computer to develop tracks from scratch as well as layering and arranging parts in order to enhance the final production. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 234L *STUDIO MUSIC PRODUCTION IV LAB*.5 unit**1.8 hours weekly***Corequisite:** *Concurrent enrollment in MUSC 234.*

A laboratory in support of the course designed to allow students to enhance their keyboard synthesizer skills, including MIDI sequencing, sampling, hard disc recording and other knowledge as related to MUSC 234. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 273 *INTERMEDIATE JAZZ ENSEMBLE*1 unit**3 hours weekly***Limitation on Enrollment:** *Audition required at first class meeting.***Advisory:** *Completion of MUSC 173.*

A course designed to rehearse and perform more advanced jazz ensemble repertoire, chosen by the instructor and changing every semester. Historical and sociological context of the music being studied as well as correct performance of notes and rhythms will be explained in each rehearsal. Each semester, the intermediate jazz ensemble prepares music for public performance. Students take part in weekly rehearsals in which they learn how their own parts relate to other harmonies and rhythms occurring simultaneously. The instructor paces each rehearsal such that the performance at the end of the semester is of as high an artistic and technical standard as possible. (C-ID: MUS 180) (CSU, UC, AVC) **(R3#)**

Enrollment in any combination of MUSC 173, MUSC 273 or MUSC 274 is limited to 4 times.

MUSC 274 *ADVANCED JAZZ ENSEMBLE*1 unit**3 hours weekly***Limitation on Enrollment:** *Audition required at first class meeting.***Advisory:** *Completion of MUSC 273.*

A course designed to rehearse and perform advanced jazz ensemble repertoire, chosen by the instructor and changing every semester. Historical and sociological context of the music being studied as well as correct performance of notes and rhythms will be explained in each rehearsal. Each semester, the advanced jazz ensemble prepares music for public performance. Students take part in weekly rehearsals in which they learn how their own parts relate to other harmonies and rhythms occurring simultaneously. The instructor paces each rehearsal such that the performance at the end of the semester is of as high an artistic and technical standard as possible. (C-ID: MUS 180) (CSU, UC, AVC) **(R3#)**

Enrollment in any combination of MUSC 173, MUSC 273 or MUSC 274 is limited to 4 times.