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
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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 Commercial Music 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, Rock Band, “Test Flight” (advanced rock band), and commercial voice classes; two levels of live sound engineering courses; and coursework supporting a Mac computer lab with state-of-the-art software (e.g. Pro Tools) 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.
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.

Commercial Music AA
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.
5. Compare, contrast, and assess music industry professions.

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.
Commercial Music Level I - General Certificate

Required Courses:  
MUSC 102, History of Jazz or  
MUSC 103, History of Rock ‘n Roll or  
MUSC 107, History of Women in Rock Music or  
MUSC 108, History of Hip Hop  
MUSC 104, The Music Industry  
MUSC 112, Commercial Music Theory  
MUSC 133, Studio Music Production I  
MUSC 141, Concert Management  
MUSC 143A, Live Sound Reinforcement  
Program Electives  

Total 18

Recommended Plan of Study

First Semester  
(MUS 111, Fundamentals of Music)  
(suggested; not required for the certificate) (3)  
MUSC 104, The Music Industry  
MUSC 133, Studio Music Production I  

Total 6 (or 9)

Second Semester  
MUSC 112, Commercial Music Theory  
MUSC 102, History of Jazz or  
MUSC 103, History of Rock ‘n Roll or  
MUSC 107, History of Women in Rock Music or  
MUSC 108, History of Hip Hop  

Total 6

Third Semester  
MUSC 141, Concert Management  
Program Elective  

Total 3

Fourth Semester  
MUSC 143A, Live Sound Reinforcement  
Program Elective  

Total 3

Certificate Total 25

Commercial Music Level II–Performance Specialty Certificate

Required Courses:  
MUSC 113, Popular Song Writing  
MUSC 134, Studio Music Production II  

Total 18

Recommended Plan of Study

First Semester  
(MUS 111, Fundamentals of Music)  
(suggested; not required for the certificate) (3)  
MUSC 104, The Music Industry  
MUSC 133, Studio Music Production I  

Total 6 (or 9)

Second Semester  
MUSC 112, Commercial Music Theory  
MUSC 102, History of Jazz or  
MUSC 103, History of Rock ‘n Roll or  
MUSC 107, History of Women in Rock Music or  
MUSC 108, History of Hip Hop  

Total 8

Third Semester  
MUSC 134, Studio Music Production II  
MUSC 113, Popular Song Writing  
Program Elective  

Total 8

Fourth Semester  
MUSC 143A, Live Sound Reinforcement  
Program Elective  

Total 4

Certificate Total 25

Program Electives:  
MUSC 122, Stage Voice  
MUSC 124A, Jazz Improvisation A  
MUSC 124B, Jazz Improvisation B  
MUSC 124C, Jazz Improvisation C  
MUSC 173, Beginning Jazz Ensemble  
MUSC 175A, Rock Band A  
MUSC 175B, Rock Band B  
MUSC 175C, Rock Band C  
MUSC 220A, Commercial Music Ensemble A  
MUSC 220B, Commercial Music Ensemble B  
MUSC 220C, Commercial Music Ensemble C  
MUSC 225, Commercial Music Ensemble-Special Project  
MUSC 233, Studio Music Production III  
MUSC 273, Intermediate Jazz Ensemble  
MUSC 274, Advanced Jazz Ensemble  

Total 28

Associate Degree

The Associate in Arts in Commercial Music is designed to prepare students for careers to perform as instrumentalists and vocalists, to write music (career as a songwriter), record music (career as a producer/sound engineer/audio engineer), develop skills to become an artist agent, to develop an appreciation of
various contemporary music styles, and to understand the latest developments in the ever-changing music industry.

The requirements for an Associate Degree in Commercial Music may be satisfied by completing the level 2 certificate, plus 21 units of general education requirements, and sufficient elective credits to total 60 units. (See Graduation/Associate Degree Requirements.)

Required Courses: units
MUSC 102, History of Jazz or
  MUSC 103, History of Rock ’n Roll or
  MUSC 107, History of Women in Rock Music or
  MUSC 108, History of Hip Hop 3
MUSC 104, The Music Industry 3
MUSC 112, Commercial Music Theory 3
MUSC 113, Popular Song Writing 3
MUSC 133, Studio Music Production I 3
MUSC 134, Studio Music Production II 3
MUSC 141, Concert Management 2
MUSC 143A, Live Sound I 2
MUSC 143B, Live Sound II 2

Program Electives: units
Select a minimum of 4 units from the following electives
MUSC 122, Stage Voice 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 175A, Rock Band A 2
MUSC 175B, Rock Band C 2
MUSC 175C, Rock Band C 2
MUSC 220A, Commercial Music Ensemble A 2
MUSC 220B, Commercial Music Ensemble B 2
MUSC 220C Commercial Music Ensemble C 2
MUSC 225, Commercial Music Ensemble: Special Project 0.5
MUSC 233, Studio Music Production III 3
MUSC 273, Intermediate Jazz Ensemble 1
MUSC 274, Advanced Jazz Ensemble 1

Except in cases of prerequisite requirement, it is not required that courses be taken in exactly this sequence; they are recommended in this order to facilitate success.

**Recommended Plan of Study**

First Semester units
MUSC 104, The Music Industry 3
MUSC 133, Studio Music Production I 3
Course from GE requirement Area C 3
Course from GE requirement Area D1 3
Course from GE requirement Area D2 3

Second Semester units
MUSC 112, Commercial Music Theory 3

Third Semester units
MUSC 113, Popular Song Writing 3
MUSC 141, Concert Management 2
MUSC 143A Live Sound I 2
Course from GE requirement Area E 3
Electives 3

Fourth Semester units
MUSC 143B, Live Sound II 2
Course from GE requirement Area F 3
Program Elective 2
Electives 6

**Degree Total 60**

**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 100A 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 100A 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 100A 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. (AVC)

**MUSC 107 *HISTORY OF WOMEN IN ROCK MUSIC***

3 units  
3 hours weekly  
Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 100A 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 108 *HISTORY OF HIP HOP***

3 units  
3 hours weekly  
Advisory: Eligibility for College Level Reading and ENGL 101.

This course is an introduction to the evolution of the hip hop industry, music, and culture. It will survey the historical and cultural complexities that influence the hip hop music industry. The time period focused upon is between the nineteen-seventies and early twenty-first century. The topics of sexism and racism will be covered within the historical situations that are presented, and as they relate to artists who are African-American, Hispanic, and Women. Students will be required to attend live musical performances during the course of the semester. (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. (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. (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 124A  *JAZZ IMPROVISATION A
1 unit
3 hours weekly
Limitation on Enrollment: Audition required. Ability on a standard jazz instrument, or consent of instructor.
Fundamentals of improvisation for vocalists and instrumentalists. Application of scales and there 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 instrument, or consent of instructor.
Fundamentals of improvisation for vocalists and instrumentalists. Application of scales and there 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 instrument, 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
3 units
6 hours weekly
Advisory: Completion of MUS 131
Instructional materials fee required for this course and must be paid at registration.
This course is designed to teach the making of recordings on a computer music workstation. Techniques will include MIDI sequencing, sampling and hard disc recording. (CSU, UC, AVC)

MUSC 134  *STUDIO MUSIC PRODUCTION II
3 unit
6 hours weekly
Prerequisite: Completion of MUSC 133
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 141  *CONCERT MANAGEMENT
2 unit
3 hours weekly
Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 100A 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 143A  LIVE SOUND I
(formerly MUSC 143)
2 units
3 hours weekly
This course familiarizes students with different possibilities for analog sound reinforcement in different performance situations. The course will survey elements used in live sound reinforcement as well as modern analog studio recording. Introduction to modern sound systems, stage layout, and performance techniques will also be presented. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 143B  LIVE SOUND II
2 units
3 hours weekly
Prerequisite: Completion of MUSC 143A
This course familiarizes students with different possibilities for digital sound reinforcement in different performance situations. The course will survey elements used in live sound reinforcement as well as modern digital studio recording. Introduction to modern digital sound systems, stage layout, and performance techniques will also be presented. (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 160A  *MARCHING ARTS PEDAGOGY & DESIGN I: ORGANIZATION
3 unit
3 hours weekly
This course examines the organizational principals necessary to found and operate a marching ensemble, including scheduling, staffing, fundraising, and storyboard writing. This class will also examine educational philosophies and how they intersect with the marching arts.
MUSC 160B *MARCHING ARTS PEDAGOGY & DESIGN II: INSTRUMENTAL
3 unit
3 hours weekly
Prerequisite: Completion of MUSC 160A
Advisory: Completion of MUSC 111
This course examines the arrangement and music composition techniques typically suited for various marching ensembles, including marching band, indoor percussion, and drum corps. This class also examines instrumental pedagogy and how it intersects with marching arts.

MUSC 170B *MARCHING PERCUSSION SECTIONAL
1 unit
3 hours weekly
Limitation on enrollment: Audition required
Corequisite: Concurrent enrollment in MUSC 169
A course designed to facilitate the rehearsal and performance of marching percussion sections (snare, tenor, bass, cymbals, and/or front ensemble). (R4)

MUSC 160D *MARCHING ARTS PEDAGOGY & DESIGN IV: CAPTION HEAD
3 unit
3 hours weekly
Prerequisite: Completion of MUSC 160C
This course is designed to synthesize the information learned through the Marching Arts Technician Program with the goal of training students to lead a marching arts caption at a school or private marching arts organization.

MUSC 160D *MARCHING ARTS PEDAGOGY & DESIGN IV: CAPTION HEAD
3 unit
3 hours weekly
Prerequisite: Completion of MUSC 160C
This course is designed to synthesize the information learned through the Marching Arts Technician Program with the goal of training students to lead a marching arts caption at a school or private marching arts organization.

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, AVC) (R3#)
# Enrollment in any combination of MUSC 173, MUSC 273 or MUSC 274 is limited to 4 times.

MUSC 175A *ROCK BAND A
2 unit
Lecture: 1 hour weekly / Lab: 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, 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)

MUSC 175B *ROCK BAND B
2 unit
4 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. Correct performance of notes and rhythms will be explained in each rehearsal. Each semester, 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)

MUSC 175C *ROCK BAND C
2 unit
4 hours weekly
Limitation on Enrollment: Ability to play an electronic instrument (common to rock band instrumentation) at high school performance level.
Prerequisite: Completion of MUSC 175B
A course designed to rehearse and perform rock band repertoire, chosen by the instructor and changing every semester. Correct performance of notes and rhythms will be explained in each rehearsal. Each semester, 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)

MUSC 220A Commercial Music Ensemble A
2 unit
4 hours weekly
Limitation on Enrollment: Audition required.
Advisory: Completion of MUSC 112 and MUSC 122 or MUSC 175A
A performance class for singers and instrumentalists to present concerts of popular music repertoire. (CSU, AVC) (R3)

MUSC 220B Commercial Music Ensemble B
2 unit
4 hours weekly
Limitation on Enrollment: Audition required.
Prerequisite: Completion of MUSC 220A
A performance class for singers and instrumentalists to present concerts of popular music repertoire (Test Flight). (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 220C Commercial Music Ensemble C
2 unit
4 hours weekly
Limitation on Enrollment: Audition required.
Prerequisite: Completion of MUSC 220B
A performance class for singers and instrumentalists to present concerts of popular music repertoire (Test Flight). (CSU, AVC)

MUSC 225 COMMERCIAL MUSIC ENSEMBLE: SPECIAL PROJECT
.5 unit
27 hours total
Limitation on Enrollment: Audition required.
A performance class for singers and instrumentalists to participate in special projects related popular music repertoire, including but not limited to touring, recordings, and multiple-service performances. (CSU, AVC) (R3)

MUSC 233 *STUDIO MUSIC PRODUCTION III
3 units
6 hours weekly
Prerequisite: Completion of MUSC 134
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. (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.