2020-2021 Assessment Cycle
Assessment Plan

Mission Statement

Consistent with the mission of the University and the College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of Music is dedicated to sharing a personal commitment to musical excellence as exemplified in creative activities, research, teaching, and public performances contributing to the expansion of knowledge in the field of music. This personal commitment to our students encourages them to think creatively, speak effectively, and write critically. Through musical performances and sponsorship of musical activities, the Music Department strives to enrich the cultural, aesthetic, and creative life of the university, the community, the region, and the nation.

Measures

BM - Music Education Outcome Set

PSLO 1

Outcome: Demonstrate music performance skills (think creatively; present effectively)

▼ **Measure:** Admission to Professional Music Program (4th Semester Jury)
Program level Direct - Portfolio

Details/Description: All BME students must be admitted to the Professional Music Program to enroll in upper-division coursework, lessons, and ensembles. The process culminates in a performance exam at the end of their 4th semester (aka the 4th Semester Jury). Prior to scheduling the performance exam, the student must fulfill all of the following: (1) accrue 48 recital/concert attendance credits, (2)

pass the Rhythmic Perception Exam, (3) pass Music Theory & Aural Skills I, (4) pass Group Piano I, (5) pass the scale/rudiment/technical exam for their performance division.

Acceptable Target:	Goal: 100% will pass the 4th Semester Jury and be admitted to the program.

Measure: Semester Juries
Program level Direct - Student Artifact

Details/Description:	Students present a performance jury at the end of every semester of applied music lessons. These juries are done before a panel of faculty from their division (voice, strings, woodwinds, percussion/keyboard, or brass).
Acceptable Target:	Goal: 90% earn an average score of 8.5 (out of 10) or better.

Measure: Senior Exit Survey
Program level Indirect - Survey

Details/Description:	This survey is completed by graduating music majors and requests feedback regarding various aspects of the department, including specific items related to the PSLOs.
Acceptable Target:	4/5 average per survey item and overall average.

Measure: Senior Recital
Program level Direct - Student Artifact

Details/Description:	All BME students must present a public Senior Recital prior to student teaching. The program should include at least 45 minutes of repertoire from a diverse array of genres & styles and be

appropriate to senior-level study. A pass/fail grade is decided by the division faculty.

| Acceptable Target: | 100% pass the Senior Recital. |

PSLO 2

Outcome: Demonstrate the ability to read and write music

▼ **Measure:** Major Field Test in Music
Program level Direct - Exam

| Details/Description: | Graduating seniors take the ETS Major Field Test in Music. The exam is divided into three sections, all of which apply to this PSLO as they require test takers to read music fluently: Written Theory, Music History, and Listening. |
| Acceptable Target: | Students will score an average 10% higher than the national average on each section (Written Theory, Music History, Listening). |

▼ **Measure:** MU 316: Music Theory IV - Composition Projects
Program level Direct - Student Artifact

| Details/Description: | As a part of MU 316 (Music Theory IV), students write three short pieces of music: two compositions that focus on contemporary/experimental techniques, plus one jazz improvisation. The student's scores on the three items are averaged for this measure. |
| Acceptable Target: | Target: 100% pass with a grade of C or higher
Goal: 70% earn Target (B) or Advanced (A) grades |

Measure: MU 317: Orchestration Course Grades
Program level Direct - Student Artifact

Details/Description:
In the Orchestration course, the bulk of the course grade is dedicated to practical application projects. Students learn to arrange music for ensembles of varied sizes, ability levels, and instrument makeup.

Acceptable Target:
Target: 100% pass with a C or higher.
Goal: 70% earn Target (B) or Advanced (A) grades.

Measure: Music Theory Pre-test
Program level Direct - Exam

Details/Description:
Music Theory Pre-test (piloted Fall 2016) – Administered to new music students shortly after midterm; intended to gauge baseline skill in music theory and aural skills prior to enrollment in MU 215 (Music Theory I) in the Spring. Students who earned a score below 80 were advised to participate in an optional theory "boot camp" prep session during the last six weeks of the fall semester.

The theory pre-test was discontinued after AY 19-20, partly due to COVID, but primarily due to the shift in course sequencing. Music students now begin theory coursework during their first semester, and there is no space for a review course in their schedule. We instead identify struggling students, offer them additional help during office hours, and refer them to the peer tutors.

Acceptable Target:
Goal: 100% of students score 80% or higher; those scoring under that threshold are recommended to take the optional prep session.

Measure: Senior Exit Survey

Program level Indirect - Survey

Details/Description:	This survey is completed by graduating music majors and requests feedback regarding various aspects of the department, including specific items related to the PSLOs.
Acceptable Target:	4/5 average per survey item and overall average.

PSLO 3

Outcome: Demonstrate the ability to analyze and describe music

Measure: Major Field Test in Music
Program level Direct - Exam

Details/Description:	Graduating seniors take the ETS Major Field Test in Music. The exam is divided into three sections, all of which apply to this PSLO: Written Theory, Music History, and Listening.
Acceptable Target:	Students will score an average 10% higher than the national average on each section (Written Theory, Music History, Listening).

Measure: MU 315: Music Theory III Course Grade
Program level Direct - Student Artifact

Details/Description:	While all of the music theory courses involve musical analysis, Theory III dedicates the most time to it. The course includes a form & analysis unit, which culminates in an analysis project. Other analysis exercises are incorporated throughout the class.

| Acceptable Target: | Target: 100% will pass the course with a C or higher.
Goal: 70% will earn Target (B) or Advanced (A) grades. |

Measure: Music Theory Pre-test
Program level Direct - Exam

| Details/Description: | usic Theory Pre-test (piloted Fall 2016) – Administered to new music students shortly after midterm; intended to gauge baseline skill in music theory and aural skills prior to enrollment in MU 215 (Music Theory I) in the Spring. Students who earned a score below 80 were advised to participate in an optional theory "boot camp" prep session during the last six weeks of the fall semester.

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| Acceptable Target: | Goal: 100% of students score 80% or higher; those scoring under that threshold are recommended to take the optional prep session. |

Measure: Senior Exit Survey
Program level Indirect - Survey

| Details/Description: | This survey is completed by graduating music majors and requests feedback regarding various aspects of the department, including specific items related to the PSLOs. |

Acceptable Target:	4/5 average per survey item and overall average.

PSLO 4

Outcome: Demonstrate listening skills in music (write critically; research skills)

▾ **Measure:** Major Field Test in Music
Program level Direct - Exam

Details/Description:	Graduating seniors take the ETS Major Field Test in Music. The exam is divided into three sections, all of which apply to this PSLO: Written Theory, Music History, and Listening. All of the exam sections involve listening, but of course the Listening section is most applicable to this PSLO.
Acceptable Target:	Students will score an average 10% higher than the national average on each section (Written Theory, Music History, Listening).

▾ **Measure:** Music History I Listening Logs
Program level Direct - Student Artifact

Details/Description:	Students complete a series of listening logs over 1-3 musical selections each. A short series of questions is always provided, which asks the student to make note of interesting musical details using discipline-appropriate terminology, plus reflect upon how the work fits into its cultural/social context as a historical relic of its time. Each student's scores are averaged for this measure.
Acceptable Target:	Target: 100% pass with a grade of C or higher Goal: 70% earn Target (B) or Advanced (A) grades

Measure: Music History II Course Grade
Program level Direct - Student Artifact

Details/Description:

Music History II also includes listening logs, significant amounts of in-class listening and discussion, listening components on exams, and a research project. The project may or may not incorporate listening skills, but many students select topics that require critical listening skills.

Acceptable Target:

Target: 100% pass with a grade of C or higher
Goal: 70% earn Target (B) or Advanced (A) grades

Measure: Senior Exit Survey
Program level Indirect - Survey

Details/Description:

This survey is completed by graduating music majors and requests feedback regarding various aspects of the department, including specific items related to the PSLOs.

Acceptable Target:

4/5 average per survey item and overall average.

PSLO 5

Outcome: Demonstrate skills in teaching music

Measure: MU 313: Modified KPTP Portfolio
Program level Direct - Portfolio

Details/Description:

Students in Foundations of Music Education completed a modified version of the (now defunct)

KPTP student teaching portfolio that was required for teacher licensure in Kansas.

Acceptable Target: 100% pass the portfolio with a 75% or higher.

Measure: MU 417: Modified KPTP Portfolio
Program level Direct - Portfolio

Details/Description: Students in the Elementary/Secondary Vocal Music Methods course completed a modified version of the (defunct) KPTP student teaching portfolio, in preparation for the licensure process.

Acceptable Target: 100% pass the portfolio with a score of 75% or higher.

Measure: MU 418: Modified KPTP Portfolio
Program level Direct - Portfolio

Details/Description: Students in the Elementary & Secondary Instrumental Methods course completed a modified version of the (defunct) KPTP student teaching portfolio.

Acceptable Target: 100% pass the portfolio with a score of 75% or higher.

Measure: Praxis II: Music Content Exam
Other level Direct - Exam

Details/Description: All teacher candidates must pass the Praxis II: Music Content Exam in Music in order to be eligible for licensure in the state of Kansas.

Acceptable Target: 100% pass at or above the cut score (152).

▼ Measure: Principles of Learning & Teaching Exam (PLT)
Other level Direct - Exam

Details/Description:	All teacher candidates must pass the Principles of Learning & Teaching Exam for licensure in the state of Kansas.
Acceptable Target:	100% pass rate at or above cut score (160).

▼ Measure: Senior Exit Survey
Program level Indirect - Survey

Details/Description:	This survey is completed by graduating music majors and requests feedback regarding various aspects of the department, including specific items related to the PSLOs.
Acceptable Target:	4/5 average per survey item and overall average.

▼ Measure: Student Teaching Evaluation
Institution level Direct - Student Artifact

Details/Description:	All WU student teachers are evaluated according to a universal rubric. They receive feedback from their university supervisor, as well as their cooperating teacher.
Acceptable Target:	100% pass at a 3 (Target) or higher.

Analysis and Reporting Calendar

PSLO 1: data for all measures is collected every semester.

PSLO 2: data for music theory pre-test, MU 316 projects, MU 317 grades, & Major Field Test (MFT) collected yearly; senior exit survey collected every semester.

PSLO 3: data for music theory pre-test, MU 315 grades, & MFT collected yearly; senior exit survey collected every semester.

PSLO 4: data for MU 325 listening logs, MU 326 grades, & MFT collected yearly; senior exit survey collected every semester.

PSLO 5: data for MU 313/417/418 portfolios collected yearly; Praxis, PLT, student teaching, & senior exit survey collected every semester.

Data for all PSLOS (1-5) is analyzed & reported every year.

Stakeholder Involvement

STUDENTS:
1. Course Evaluations – in addition to the CAS evaluations, the department provides an opportunity for students to provide additional comments regarding course strengths and areas of improvement.

2. Music Department Student Advisory Council – serves as a liaison between music students and the department chair and faculty, advising on issues that relate directly to music students (i.e. provide the student perspectives on various initiatives, identify current issues of interest or concern to students, etc.). The council meets with the chair and faculty as needed. These meetings may also involve providing information regarding program assessment and curricular issues.

3. Music Student Advising Meetings – every semester all music majors attend two meetings during which advising and other program information is shared. Proposed program changes are discussed as needed.

4. Department of Music Student Handbook – complete information is provided regarding department policies, learning objectives, and all curricular programs, including semester-by-semester advising plans.

5. Department of Music Website – www.washburn.edu/music Included under Quality Indicators and Accreditation - Assessment and Results – Assessment Plans by Degree

6. Exit Survey for Graduating Seniors – begun in Spring 2015, this assessment is provided to graduating music majors and requests feedback regarding various components of the Department of Music, including specific items related to the PSLOs.

FACULTY:
1. Curriculum Committee – the program assessment liaison is the chair of the committee that includes three faculty members and the department chair. Among the committee's responsibilities is reviewing assessment data/reports to determine any trends in the various programs, and what recommendations should be forwarded to the faculty for discussion and action. The committee also reviews the assessment plans to determine if changes are needed.

2. Course Evaluations - in addition to the CAS evaluations, the department provides an opportunity for students to provide additional comments regarding course strengths and areas of improvement.

3. Faculty Meetings/Retreats – every semester the faculty meets for an extended period of time during which assessment issues are reviewed and potential program or assessment changes are discussed.

4. Department of Music Student Handbook – complete information is provided regarding department policies, learning objectives, and all curricular programs, including semester-by-semester advising plans.

5. Department of Music Website – www.washburn.edu/music Included under Quality Indicators and Accreditation - Assessment and Results – Assessment Plans by Degree

EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS:
1. Friends of Washburn Music – an advisory group comprised of alumni, area music teachers, and other interested community members. Information is shared via meetings/social media regarding the various music programs and assessment issues, if appropriate.

2. Department of Music Website – www.washburn.edu/music Included under Quality Indicators and Accreditation - Assessment and Results – Assessment Plans by Degree

3. National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) – national accreditation organization which requires annual program reports and site visits every ten years. The last site visit was in Fall 2011; our self-study/visit have been delayed until AY 2022-23 due to COVID.

Program Assessment Plan Review Cycle

The Program Assessment Plan is reviewed every other year. Changes were made to the Assessment Plan in AY 17-18; review was put on hold due to COVID as well as extensive curriculum changes that were passed during AY 18-19 and 19-20; we needed to focus our energies on implementation of the new schedule/adjusted course offerings.

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