

# **MUSIC THEORY PLACEMENT EXAM**

## **INFORMATION FOR ADVISORS**

The Music Theory Placement Exam is required for all students who wish to enroll in the Music Theory course sequence with its co-requisites (MUSC 1203/Music Theory; MUSC 1103/Aural Skills; MUSC 1113/Keyboard Skills). This is the entry level course for all majors as well as the minor in the Department of Music. The Music Theory Placement Exam will be administered online and is available at <http://earstrainer.com>. This site is independent from TLEARN; you will need to register on the site with your own username and password before you can attempt the exam. Please use your Trinity e-mail address when you register. The exam will be available starting on August 1st and will close automatically on August 23rd at 5:00 PM. We recommend that you complete the exam prior to attending the general information meeting for all students interested in participating in music ensembles and/or enrolling in private lessons, which will take place at **12 Noon on August 23rd in the Ruth Taylor Recital Hall**.

## **FAQS ABOUT THE PLACEMENT EXAM**

- 1. WHO IS REQUIRED TO TAKE THE EXAM?** Any student who wants to take the Music Theory course sequence in the Department of Music.
- 2. DO I NEED TO TAKE THIS EXAM IN ORDER TO ENROLL IN PRIVATE LESSONS OR TO PARTICIPATE IN AN ENSEMBLE?** No. You only need to complete the exam if you want or need to take the Music Theory course sequence.
- 3. WHAT IF I'M NOT SURE ABOUT A MAJOR/MINOR IN MUSIC, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THE MUSIC THEORY COURSE SEQUENCE?** Take the Placement Exam; this will give us a chance to determine if the student might be better served by enrolling in MUSC 1301/Foundations of Communication Through Music, which is part of the Creative Expression component of the Pathways Curriculum.
- 4. WHEN WILL I FIND OUT THE RESULTS OF THE PLACEMENT EXAM?** You can view the results immediately after completing the exam. The results will also be e-mailed to the faculty who teach Music Theory in the 2015-16 academic year (D. Heller, B. Hackett). All students who pass the placement exam must then obtain a signed Course Restriction Waiver form (the "purple" form) from David Heller (Room 350, Smith Music Building) prior to group registration.
- 5. WHEN SHOULD I ENROLL FOR THE MUSIC THEORY COURSE SEQUENCE? CAN I DELAY TAKING IT UNTIL THE SOPHOMORE YEAR?** If a student is contemplating a Bachelor of Music degree (Performance, Composition, Music Education), it is imperative that the student begin the course sequence immediately in the first year due to the structure of these degrees and the course requirements. There is more leeway with a student who wishes to pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree in music, or is seeking a minor in music: Those students can wait until the next year to begin the Music Theory course sequence, but should do so in consultation with his/her advisor.
- 6. WHAT IF I RECEIVED AP CREDIT FOR MUSIC THEORY?** At the present time, the Department of Music accepts a grade of 4 or 5 on the AP Music Theory test in place of MUSC 1203, but **not** for the co-requisite lab courses. The student will still need to enroll in MUSC 1103 and 1113. A signed Course Restriction Waiver form will need to be obtained from Dr. David Heller prior to registration.

For technical questions about the Placement Exam, contact Dr. Brian Bondari. For other general information, contact Dr. David Heller.