

# Music Fundamentals Exam

The Music Fundamentals Exam is administered during the student's visit to campus for their admissions/scholarship audition, or by appointment. The test allows us to accurately place students in the appropriate class to help them achieve academic success in music.

## The Music Fundamentals Examination is divided into two main sections:

1. Basic knowledge of music
2. Intermediate knowledge of music

The Basic knowledge section will be used as part of the determination if a student will be considered for a music degree.

Students successfully completing the basic knowledge section and scoring average or below on the Intermediate knowledge section, will be required to enroll in Music Fundamentals.\*

Students scoring above average on the Intermediate knowledge section will be advised to enroll in Music Theory I and Aural Training I.

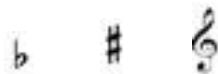
\*The Fundamentals of Music course, however, does not count as a theory course. Therefore, it is to your advantage to score above average on the Music Fundamentals Examination. Doing so will allow you to enroll in another fall class that will count toward degree credit.

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We encourage you to begin preparing for the Music Fundamentals Examination as soon as possible.

In preparation, consider these questions:

- Can I identify note names in both the treble and bass clefs?
- Do I recognize the following musical signs and know what they mean?



- Do I know what the numbers in a time signature (meter signature) stand for?
- Do I understand how note values are related? For example, a half note is equivalent to how many quarter notes? There are how many sixteenth notes in a dotted eighth note?

- Do I understand how beats are related to note values and to measures?
- Do I know the order of sharps and flats in key signatures?
- Can I identify and write major and minor key signatures?
- Do I understand what an interval is? Can I write intervals above or below a given note?
- Can I write major and minor scales in both clefs without using a key signature?
- Do I understand what a triad is? Do I know what triadic quality means? Can I spell triads, major and minor, diminished and augmented, above a given root?

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### **Resources:**

Clough, John & Conley, Joyce. Scales, Intervals, Keys, Triads, Rhythm and Meter, (Norton, Third Edition, 1999)

Duckworth, William. A Creative Approach to Music Fundamentals (Thomson-Schirmer, Ninth Edition, 2007)

Harder, Paul O. Basic Materials in Music Theory: A Programmed Course (Prentice-Hall, 2005)

Miller, Michael. Complete Idiot's Guide to Music Theory (Alpha, 2005)

[www.musictheory.net](http://www.musictheory.net)

[www.teoria.com](http://www.teoria.com)

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