Department of Art, Music, and Theatre

Professors: Michelle Graveline, Rev. Donat Lamothe, A.A. (emeritus); Associate Professors: Carrie Nixon, Toby Norris (Chair); Assistant Professors: Scott Glushien; Visiting Assistant Professors: Peter Clemente, Lynn Simmons; Instructors, Lecturers: Jonathan Bezdegian, Elissa Chase, Bruce Hopkins, Susan Hong-Sammons, Jon Krasner, Gary Orlinsky, Michele Italiano Perla, Joseph Ray, Peter Sulski, Margaret Tartaglia, Tyler Vance.

MISSION STATEMENT

The department aims to give students an understanding of the importance of rigorous practical and intellectual formation in stimulating creative thought and achieving creative expression. We also strive to help students appreciate Art, Music and Theatre as significant dimensions of the human experience. Studying the history of the arts brings home the central role that they have played in the development of human thought, both within and outside the Judeo-Christian tradition. Practicing the arts encourages students to incorporate creative expression into their wider intellectual and personal development. In forming the human being more completely, the department fulfills a fundamental goal of Catholic education.

MAJORS IN THE DEPARTMENT

MAJOR IN MUSIC (11)

The major in Music covers the areas of Music Theory, Music History, and Performance with the opportunity for development of individual performance skills. Studies develop musicianship, competency in the principles and procedures that lead to an intellectual grasp of the art, and the ability to perform. The major in Music consists of 11 courses:

- MUS 122 History of Music I
- MUS 124 History of Music II
- MUS 201 Music Theory I
- MUS 301 Music Theory II
- MUS 330 Conducting
- MUS 193 Chorale or MUS 195 Band or MUS 196 Jazz Ensemble or MUS 197 String Camerata (six semesters at 1 credit per semester, equivalent to two 3-credit classes)

Four additional courses from among program offerings (not to include MUS 101 Fundamentals of Music). Applied music instruction in Voice or an instrument may be counted toward the major. Three semesters at 1 credit per semester are required to count as one course.

ADVISING TIPS FOR THE MUSIC MAJOR

- MUS 122, 124 and 201 should ideally be taken by the end of the sophomore year, but there is considerable flexibility in the structure of the major. Please consult with a member of the Music faculty if you are interested in declaring a music major.
- MUS 122/124 meets the Fine Art requirement in the Culture and Expression segment of the Core Curriculum.
- MUS 125 and MUS 126, which count as electives in the major, meet the Global Awareness requirement in the Core.

Course Descriptions

MUSIC (MUS)

MUS 101 FUNDAMENTALS OF MUSIC AND MUSICIANSHIP
This course focuses on learning to read music notation, the fundamentals of basic music theory, and the study of technique and repertoire in one of two performing mediums: piano or guitar. Upon completion of this course, the student should have acquired the ability to read music, an introductory-level technical facility in piano or guitar, and a thorough foundation in the fundamental elements of music theory, including basic aural skills. For classes prior to 2020, this course satisfies the Core
requirement in Art, Music and Theatre. For the class of 2020 and subsequent classes, this course fulfills the Core requirement for a fine art in Culture and Expression.

Graveline, Clemente, Bezdegian/Three credits

MUS 122  HISTORY OF MUSIC I
Following a brief study of the vocabulary and basic materials of music, this course will cover the historical development of music in the West from the Middle Ages to the Classical period. Major composers and their works will be studied and connections among history, culture, and musical language will be explored. The course will focus on the enhancement of active listening skills and musical understanding. For classes prior to 2020, this course satisfies the Core requirement in Art, Music and Theatre. For the class of 2020 and subsequent classes, this course fulfills the Core requirement for a fine art in Culture and Expression.

Lamothe, Clemente/Three credits

MUS 124  HISTORY OF MUSIC II
This course follows the historical development of Western music from the Romantic period to the late-20th century. Major composers, their works, and the major musical trends will be studied and all will be related to cultural history. For classes prior to 2020, this course satisfies the Core requirement in Art, Music and Theatre. For the class of 2020 and subsequent classes, this course fulfills the Core requirement for a fine art in Culture and Expression.

Lamothe, Clemente/Three credits

MUS 125  WORLD MUSIC
A survey of musical traditions from around the world, including an examination of the cultures and philosophies that shape them. Topics include instrumentation, form, texture, rhythm, melody, and performance practice in the music of Native Americans, Africa, Central and Southeastern Europe, India, Indonesia, Japan, and Latin America. For classes prior to 2020, this course satisfies the Core requirement in Art, Music and Theatre. For the class of 2020 and subsequent classes, this course fulfills the Core requirement for a fine art in Culture and Expression, and counts in the Core as a Global Awareness course.

Clemente/Three credits

MUS 126  GLOBAL POP
A category of ethnomusicology, Global Pop explores musical traditions from a variety of nations with an emphasis on the popular music industry in each. This course examines the forces that enable the movement of music and musicians around the world and that give global music its persuasive power. Topics include music as expressive culture, music production, ethnicity and identity in pop music, music as symbol, cross-cultural collaborations in popular music, and music as a force that transcends sociological, political and national boundaries. For classes prior to 2020, this course satisfies the Core requirement in Art, Music and Theatre. For the class of 2020 and subsequent classes, this course fulfills the Core requirement for a fine art in Culture and Expression, and counts in the Core as a Global Awareness course.

Clemente/Three credits

MUS 201  MUSIC THEORY I
After a review of the basic concepts of notation, scales, intervals, and triads, the student will study the various structural elements of music. Topics covered will include cadences, non-harmonic tones, harmonic rhythm, melodic organization and structure, voice-leading in four-part chorale writing, and transposition.

Clemente, Staff/Three credits

MUS 233  MUSIC IN THE UNITED STATES
This course forms a study of American Music of the last three centuries with particular emphasis on 20th-century trends, including Modern American Classical music, Blues, Jazz, Musical Theatre, Rock and Roll, and Popular music. Influences of Native American, African, and European music will be highlighted, and connections among history, culture, and musical language will be explored. The course will emphasize the enhancement of active listening skills and musical understanding. For classes prior to 2020, this course satisfies the Core requirement in Art, Music and Theatre. For the class of 2020 and subsequent classes, this course fulfills the Core requirement for a fine art in Culture and Expression.

Clemente/Three credits

MUS 299, 399 OR 499  INDEPENDENT STUDY IN MUSIC
Each of these numbers designates a specific level of specialized study on a relevant topic that has been designed by the student in conjunction with a faculty member of music. Permission of Chair required.
Staff/Three credits

MUS 300  INTERNSHIP IN MUSIC
This upper level, field-based course is designed for juniors and seniors to explore and develop professional opportunities and apply concepts and skills learned in their coursework. Permission of Chair required.
Staff/Three credits

MUS 301  MUSIC THEORY II
A course in traditional harmony and analysis, Music Theory II explores the language of tonal music from both written and aural perspectives. The course goal is to develop a thorough understanding of the techniques and materials of musical composition and to apply this knowledge to the music of diverse repertories. Topics to be covered are: seventh and ninth chords, secondary dominants and other chromatic chords, harmonic progression, voice leading, harmonization and non-harmonic tones, musical texture, modulation, and musical form. Prerequisite: MUS 201
Clemente, Graveline/Three credits

MUS 330  CONDUCTING
This course is designed to provide the student with the fundamental skills of conducting and is geared primarily toward majors and minors who will conduct musical groups in schools and churches. Skills developed will include beat patterns, sight singing, ear training, score reading, and preparation. Students will be assigned a laboratory ensemble to conduct in rehearsal and performance.
Graveline/Three credits

MUS 400  SPECIAL TOPICS IN MUSIC
Special topics in Music are offered occasionally by the department. The courses respond to special interests evinced by students, outgrowths of topics addressed in an intermediate course, or research interests of the faculty. These courses are sometimes interdisciplinary in nature and may be offered without prerequisites.
Clemente, Graveline, Staff/Three credits

MUSIC PERFORMANCE COURSES

MUS 131  APPLIED FLUTE
Applied flute instruction through weekly private lesson format. Emphasis is placed on developing musicianship and technique through varied repertoire and technical exercises. Material ranges in difficulty from beginning to advanced depending on student’s ability. There are 10 one-hour lessons per semester, students may receive one credit per semester, and the course can be repeated for further credit. Tutorial fee per semester: $600.
Staff/One credit

MUS 140  BEGINNING CLASS VOICE
Students in this class learn the fundamentals of the vocal instrument and techniques for its healthy use through readings on the nature and function of the singing voice, vocal exercises, and song repertoire. Topics include relaxation and breathing techniques, principles of diction and interpretation, and an overview of the psychology, basic anatomy, and physiology of the voice. Valuable techniques for singers, actors, teachers, and public speakers.
Tartaglia/Three credits

MUS 141  APPLIED VOCAL INSTRUCTION
Applied vocal instruction through weekly private lesson format. Emphasis is placed on developing vocal technique through varied repertoire from vocal literature. There are 10 one-hour lessons per semester, students may receive one credit per semester, and the course can be repeated for further credit. Tutorial fee per semester: $600.
Tartaglia/One credit

MUS 151  APPLIED PIANO INSTRUCTION
Applied piano instruction through weekly private lesson format. Emphasis is placed on developing musicianship and keyboard technique through varied repertoire from the classical idiom and technical exercises. Material ranges in difficulty from early intermediate to advanced depending on student’s level of ability. There are 10 one-hour lessons per semester, students may receive one credit per semester, and the course can be repeated for further credit. Tutorial fee per semester: $600.
MUS 161  APPLIED GUITAR INSTRUCTION
Applied guitar instruction through weekly private lesson format. Emphasis is placed on developing musicianship and technique through varied repertoire and technical exercises. Material ranges in difficulty from beginning to advanced depending on student’s ability. There are 10 one-hour lessons per semester, students may receive one credit per semester, and the course can be repeated for further credit. Tutorial fee per semester: $600.

Clemente/One credit

MUS 171  APPLIED ORGAN INSTRUCTION
Applied organ instruction through weekly private lesson format. Emphasis is placed on repertoire and aspects of manual and pedal technique; elements of service playing are also incorporated. Students must have a strong background in piano as a prerequisite. There are 10 one-hour lessons per semester, students may receive one credit per semester, and the course can be repeated for further credit. Tutorial fee per semester: $600.

Graveline/One credit

MUS 181  APPLIED STRINGS INSTRUCTION
Applied string instruction through weekly private lesson format. Emphasis is placed on developing musicianship and technique through varied repertoire and technical exercises. Material ranges in difficulty from beginning to advanced depending on student’s ability. There are 10 one-hour lessons per semester, students may receive one credit per semester, and the course can be repeated for further credit. Tutorial fee per semester: $600.

Sulski/One credit

MUS 193  CHORALE
Concert choir which performs choral literature from the Renaissance to the 20th century. There will be several major performances during the year with orchestra, and there will be tours every two years. Audition required. For classes prior to 2020, this course taken three times satisfies the Core requirement in Art, Music and Theatre. For the class of 2020 and subsequent classes, this course taken three times fulfills the Core requirement for a fine art in Culture and Expression.

Graveline/One credit optional, no extra charge, may be repeated for credit

MUS 195  BAND
Ensemble for winds, brass, and percussion rehearses once a week and performs at concerts and college functions. For classes prior to 2020, this course if taken three times satisfies the Core requirement in Art, Music and Theatre. For the class of 2020 and subsequent classes, this course if taken three times fulfills the Core requirement for a fine art in Culture and Expression.

Hopkins/One credit optional, no extra charge, may be repeated for credit

MUS 196  JAZZ ENSEMBLE
Jazz Ensemble offers the opportunity to explore and engage in the art of jazz performance. This ensemble studies and performs blues and jazz from the modern jazz period, swing era, bebop era, and other style periods of jazz. Students will be given experiences in the stylistic performance of small group jazz. Instrumentalists interested in jazz who play wind, brass or rhythm section instruments are encouraged to enroll. Other instrumentalists and singers should consult the instructor before enrolling. Students will rehearse weekly and perform each semester. For classes prior to 2020, this course if taken three times satisfies the Core requirement in Art, Music and Theatre. For the class of 2020 and subsequent classes, this course if taken three times fulfills the Core requirement for a fine art in Culture and Expression.

Jost/One credit optional, no extra charge, may be repeated for credit

MUS 197  STRING CAMERATA
String Camerata is a chamber orchestra for intermediate to advanced string players. Students will rehearse weekly and perform each semester. String Camerata provides an opportunity for students to further improve their playing skills through in-depth study and performance of music from all eras. For classes prior to 2020, this course if taken three times satisfies the Core requirement in Art, Music and Theatre. For the class of 2020 and subsequent classes, this course if taken three times fulfills the Core requirement for a fine art in Culture and Expression.

Sulski/One credit optional, no extra charge, may be repeated for credit

MUS 240  ADVANCED STUDIES I: VOICE
This class develops the student’s knowledge of the fundamentals of healthy vocal production through lectures, readings, vocal
exercises and repertoire Students review the basics of healthy vocal production and develop the techniques learned in MUS 140. Topics include further study of the anatomy and physiology of the vocal instrument, including vocal fold function, dynamics of both the singing and speaking voice, application of correct vocal technique to various styles and types of repertoire, and individual assessment of the voice. This course is usually held simultaneously with MUS 340. Prerequisite: MUS 140
Tartaglia/Three credits

MUS 250 ADVANCED STUDIES I: PIANO
This is a course for pianists in the advanced beginner to intermediate stage. Course includes continuation of technique and fundamentals from MUS 101, scales and arpeggios in two octaves, introduction to sight reading and chording, and repertoire of greater difficulty than that encompassing five-finger position. Introduction of actual repertoire from the classical masters as well as more contemporary repertoire. This course is usually held simultaneously with MUS 350. Prerequisite: MUS 101 or previous piano studies
Staff/Three credits

MUS 260 ADVANCED STUDIES I: GUITAR
This is an intermediate course in acoustic guitar technique and musicianship. A development of MUS 101 (Fundamentals of Music: Guitar), class topics include 2-octave scales, left and right hand technique, and an introduction to bar chords. These topics will be applied to various musical repertories including pop, folk, acoustic rock, and classical. This course is usually held simultaneously with MUS 360. Prerequisite: MUS 101 or previous experience.
Clemente/Three credits

MUS 340 ADVANCED STUDIES II: VOICE
This class continues to build upon the information learned in MUS 140 and MUS 240. Students delve deeper into the physiological functions of the voice including muscles of the larynx, increased breathing capacity, prevention of vocal abuse, voice misuse, proper resonance and maintaining an consistent efficient vocal production. Topics include healthy singing for Pop Musicians, projecting the voice for stage work and public speaking, and methods to keep the voice healthy and productive throughout the life cycle. This course is usually held simultaneously with MUS 240. Prerequisite: MUS 240.
Tartaglia/Three credits

MUS 350 ADVANCED STUDIES II: PIANO
This course continues to build on the foundation of previous piano experience. Topics will include major and minor scales in three octaves, arpeggios, technical studies, accompanying folk and popular music from chord symbols, transposition, and the study of more advanced classical repertoire. This course is usually held simultaneously with MUS 250. Prerequisite: MUS 250 or the equivalent.
Staff/Three credits

MUS 360 ADVANCED STUDIES II: GUITAR
This is an advanced course in guitar technique and musicianship. Class topics include scales in all keys (with metronome application), slurs, position studies, and arpeggios. Focus is given to chord progressions involving multiple positions and bar forms, guitar solos, and improvisatory concepts so as to prepare the student for ensemble opportunities. These topics will be applied to various musical repertories including pop, folk, acoustic rock, and classical. This course is usually held simultaneously with MUS 260. Prerequisite: MUS 260 or the equivalent.
Clemente/Three credits

NOTE: Applied music instruction in voice, piano, guitar, and organ is also available for no credit, with no prerequisites. Tutorial fees per semester are $600 for 10 one-hour lessons. Credits in Chorale, Band, Jazz Ensemble, and String Camerata will not count as a course unless a total of 3 credits in the same ensemble is obtained. 6 credits (2 courses) in this area may be taken to satisfy graduation requirements. Additional credits may be obtained, but will not count toward graduation requirements. MUS 193 Chorale (3 credits), MUS 195 Band (3 credits), MUS 196 Jazz Ensemble (3 credits) and MUS 197 String Camerata (3 credits) can also satisfy the Core requirement in Art, Music, Theatre. Students may also participate in these ensembles for no credit. There is no charge for participating in these groups.