

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 6219S
Date of Senate Approval 05/02/19

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

APC Document 51 (MUSC): Revise the requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Jazz and Contemporary Music

Effective Date: Fall 2019

1. Delete: On page 240, the entry under **Bachelor of Fine Arts in Jazz and Contemporary Music:**

- I. Required courses in the major—68-78 hours, including: MUSC 150, 201, 202, 231, 232, 293, 294, 295, 296, 301, 331, 348, 349, 357, 382, 393, 394; 12 hours of applied music: MUSC 291, 292, 391, 392, 491, 492; 8 hours of ensemble chosen from MUSC 113, 114, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 128, 129; 6 hours of music electives at the 300-400 level. Students whose level of proficiency does not allow them to start with MUSC 201, 231 and 291 will be required to complete MUSC 101, 130, 131, 191 and/or 192 prior to taking the higher level courses. These demonstrated proficiencies are determined by the music theory placement exam and the audition for the major.
- II. Required courses outside the major—None.
- III. Other departmental requirements—Major competency is demonstrated through lecture and recital.

Add: On page 240, in place of deleted entry:

- I. Required courses in the major—65-75 hours, including: MUSC 150, 201, 202, 231, 232, 295, 296, 301, 331, 382, 393, 394; 12 hours of music history: 357; one course from 348 or 349, and one course from 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348 or 349 (whichever not previously chosen), 350, 367, or 368; 12 hours of applied music: MUSC 291, 292, 391, 392, 491, 492; 8 hours of ensemble chosen from MUSC 113, 114, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 128, 129. Students whose level of proficiency does not allow them to start with MUSC 201, 231 and 291 will be required to complete MUSC 101, 130, 131, 191 and/or 192 prior to taking the higher level courses. These demonstrated proficiencies are determined by the music theory placement exam and the audition for the major.
- II. Required courses outside the major—None.
- III. Other departmental requirements—Major competency is demonstrated through lecture and recital.

Impact Statement: The above changes represent an improvement and streamlining of an already successful degree program. The total required credit hours for the degree have been reduced from 68-78 to 65-75, pending remedial courses, explained in letter I above.

A summary of the changes includes the merging of MUSC 293 and 294 (Harmony and Improvisation I, II - 2 credits each) with MUSC 295 and 296 (Jazz and Contemporary Theory and Practice I, II - 2 credits each) in order to form new 4 credit versions of MUSC 295 and 296. We are also changing our Music History classes to four credits each in order to better serve our students. As such, the Music

History and Elective sequence has also been revised. Instead of the requirements of MUSC 348 (Music History I - 3 credits), MUSC 349 (Music History II - 3 credits), MUSC 357 (Jazz History - 3 credits) and 6 hours of upper level electives (15 hours total), there will now be 12 total hours in the area of Music History. Students will be required to take MUSC 357 (Jazz History - 4 credits), MUSC 348 *or* 349 (4 credits each), and one other four credit class from a variety of options in the Music History area.

As mentioned above, the total credit hours required for the degree will be reduced. Courses will continue to be offered on the same schedule that they are currently offered. These changes will improve faculty workload, as the four-credit model will allow for adequate class time to cover material and will, in certain cases, reduce the amount of faculty preps throughout the semester. This will not affect staffing needs.

Rationale: These changes are a “win-win” for students and faculty. The revisions to MUSC 295 and 296, incorporating the material from MUSC 293 and 294, will create two cohesive four-credit courses out of four two credit courses, allowing for the content of those courses to be B.F.A. specific, rather than attempting to serve two populations at once. This will create a streamlined degree plan featuring a Harmony and Improvisation sequence where all the classes (I-IV) are four credits.

The revisions in the Music History classes retain and reinforce the Music Department’s commitment to “history” as a crucial component to a Music degree. More broadly, it widens the possibilities for what a “history requirement” comprises, allowing students and their advisors to design a curriculum more aligned with their interests and career trajectory, particularly in the context of this highly individualized B.F.A. degree. The revisions in the area of Music History will 1) allow for adequate class time for lecture and discussion, 2) reflect the substantial student workload, which involves extensive reading and writing, 3) allow for more student choice within the Music History sequence, and 4) in certain cases, will result in fewer faculty preps.

These revisions are the result of careful consideration after several years of delivering this degree program. We believe that these changes will create a marked improved in the educational experience.