

HOW TO MAJOR IN MUSIC/JAZZ STUDIES

Music Course Basics:

As you enter the A.F.A. degree program at CCRI, please be aware that there are guidelines to become a well-rounded, well-prepared musician. Each semester, you should be taking the following classes, in addition to meeting General Education course requirements:

1. Music Theory – 4 semesters
2. Sight Singing/Ear Training – 4 semesters
3. Ensemble: instrumental or choral – 4 semesters
 - Chamber Ensemble
 - Jazz Ensemble
 - Chorus
 - Chamber Singers
4. Applied Music, private lessons for college credit – 4 semesters
 - Each undergraduate student will audition for applied music lessons to demonstrate college-level ability, before registering for the lessons. Please read Music Department Handbook information on **Applied Music Auditions**.
 - Following a successful audition, each student will be assigned to a private teacher by the CCRI Music Department. We have a list of qualified college teachers.

In addition, you will take Piano Class, in preparation for your Piano Proficiency Exam, which will occur after you transfer to a four-year college or university. Piano Proficiency is required of every non-keyboard student who is preparing for a career in Music Education. At CCRI we offer two semesters of Piano Class for credit, though only one is required to earn the A.F.A. Music/Jazz degree. Please read **Piano Proficiency** in this handbook for further information.

CCRI's music/jazz degree curriculum includes music history/jazz history courses. Please follow the outline, **Degree Programs**, for best results in completing your degree at CCRI. The Music Chairperson is the best source of advising for music/jazz students.

It is highly recommended that you complete the A.F.A. degree program in Music or Jazz Studies at CCRI before transferring. Our students have been most successful when completing this plan – they found themselves well-prepared to enter another college or university. Indeed, some CCRI graduates have gone on to URI, RIC, University of Tennessee, William Paterson University, New Jersey in jazz studies, among others, to receive talent scholarships, composition awards, and other acclaim due to their excellent preparation at CCRI. Taking the complete music/jazz curriculum at CCRI is financially beneficial even when transferring to such schools as Berklee, which does not receive music credits from other institutions. You will be well-prepared to achieve advanced placement on their entrance exams for new students.