

MUSIC EDUCATION CONCENTRATION

Program Description

The **Associate in Arts (A.A.) in Fine and Performing Arts – Music Education Concentration** is designed for students who plan to transfer to a four-year institution to pursue a bachelor's degree in music education or a related field leading to teacher certification.

This concentration provides a strong foundation in music theory, musicianship, performance, and music history while preparing students for entry into teacher preparation programs. Students develop technical proficiency, aural skills, and performance experience through individual and ensemble study. Coursework emphasizes both artistic development and the academic skills necessary for success in upper-level music education programs.

The program combines performance-based learning with a liberal arts foundation, supporting students as they prepare for careers in teaching and music leadership.

Transfer Information

The Music Education concentration is structured to align with bachelor's degree programs in music education and related teacher preparation pathways. Students intending to pursue teacher certification should work closely with faculty and Advising & Transfer Services to ensure coursework meets transfer and certification requirements at their intended institution.

Many four-year music education programs require an audition for admission. Early and ongoing preparation is strongly recommended. Teacher preparation programs may also have GPA standards and additional admission requirements. **The State of New Jersey requires a 3.0 Grade Point Average for any certification candidate.**

Students planning to transfer within New Jersey should explore the "Transfer Programs" feature on NJ Transfer (www.njtransfer.org (<http://www.njtransfer.org>)) to review articulation agreements and institutional requirements.

Career Information

The A.A. in Fine and Performing Arts – Music Education Concentration is designed primarily for transfer. A bachelor's degree and completion of a state-approved teacher preparation program are required to become a certified music teacher.

With a bachelor's degree and certification, graduates may pursue careers such as:

- Elementary or Secondary Music Teacher
- Choral or Instrumental Director
- Band or Orchestra Director
- Music Program Coordinator
- Private Music Instructor

Students are encouraged to consult with faculty and Career Services early in their academic journey to map out transfer requirements and certification pathways. OCC students may also use Focus2 Career through Ocean Connect to explore career options in music education and related fields.

Fall One		Credit Hours
ENGL 151	English I	3
MUSC 120	Individual Applied Music Lessons I	2
MUSC 190	Introduction to Music Appreciation	3
STSC 150	Student Success Seminar	2
Mathematics Gen. Ed. Requirement (https://catalog.ocean.edu/academic-information/general-education/)		3
Choose one of the following:		1
MUSC 142	Jazz Band I	
MUSC 160	Vocal Ensemble I	
MUSC 173	Concert Band I	
Credit Hours		14
Spring One		Credit Hours
ENGL 152	English II	3
COMM 154	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
MUSC 121	Individual Applied Music Lessons II	2
MUSC 194	Introduction to World Music	3
PSYC 172	General Psychology	3
Choose one of the following:		1
MUSC 143	Jazz Band II	
MUSC 161	Vocal Ensemble II	
MUSC 174	Concert Band II	
Credit Hours		15
Fall Two		Credit Hours
MUSC 220	Individual Applied Music Lessons III	2
MUSC 101	Music Fundamentals	3
BIOL 161 & 161L	General Biology I Lecture and General Biology I Lab	4
HIST 191	African-American History	3
Humanities Gen. Ed. Requirement (https://catalog.ocean.edu/academic-information/general-education/)		3
Choose one of the following:		1
MUSC 242	Jazz Band III	
MUSC 260	Vocal Ensemble III	
MUSC 273	Concert Band III	
Credit Hours		16
Spring Two		Credit Hours
MUSC 221	Individual Applied Music Lessons IV	2
EDUC 178	Introduction to the Education of Exceptional Students	3
MUSC 181	Theory of Music I	3
PSYC 173 or PSYC 273	Child Psychology or Adolescent Psychology	3
Humanities Gen. Ed. Requirement (https://catalog.ocean.edu/academic-information/general-education/)		3
Choose one of the following:		1
MUSC 243	Jazz Band IV	
MUSC 261	Vocal Ensemble IV	
MUSC 274	Concert Band IV	
Credit Hours		15
Total Credit Hours		60