Music Theory Placement

All incoming Conservatory students enrolled in Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Arts degrees must take an online music theory placement test that covers music fundamentals. The test is administered through uTheory (Utheory.com).

During the summer (usually by the end of June), students will receive an email from the music theory faculty with a link to register and complete the exam.

The exam may be taken up to five times throughout the summer, and must be taken at least once before the start of orientation in August. Students should make their first attempt at the exam as soon as possible after receiving access to the test, thereby allowing plenty of time to use uTheory’s learning resources to study and retake the test if necessary.

Students who pass the test by scoring 75% or higher (with a minimum of 65% on each section) will be placed into MCOM 32, the first course in the theory sequence. Students who do not pass the test will need to take MCOM 02 (a remedial theory course that covers fundamentals) in the fall before continuing with MCOM 32 in the spring. Students who score 90% or higher on the online test will be invited to take a written test during orientation that may place them into a more advanced music theory course. For transfer students, this test will be offered on Sunday, August 18, at 3:00 pm. For freshmen, the test will be offered on Tuesday, August 20, at 4:30 pm. All tests will be in Buck Hall, room 111.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Andrew Conklin (aconklin@pacific.edu), Program Director for Composition and Music Theory.

Musicianship Placement

All incoming students enrolled in Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Arts degrees must take the musicianship placement test during orientation. This test will assess students’ ability to aurally perceive intervals, melodies, chord progressions, and rhythms. For transfer students, this test will be offered on Sunday, August 18, at 1:00 pm. For freshmen, the test will be offered on Tuesday, August 20, at 1:30 pm. All tests will be in Buck Hall, room 111.

Students desiring to practice for the test may want to make use of the ear training exercises offered by Teoria (Teoria.com).

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Andrew Conklin (aconklin@pacific.edu), Program Director for Composition and Music Theory.