

Hoff-Barthelson Music School

Developing potential, enriching lives and creating community since 1944

Advanced Track Musicianship Program Overview

Description

Advanced Track Musicianship (ATM) classes are for students with ¹⁾ strong musicianship backgrounds relative to their age/grade/experience level; ²⁾ an avid desire to develop a comprehensive understanding of music theory and related aural skills; and ³⁾ a commitment to the program including regular attendance, class participation, and completion of home work and special projects.

The ATM program is available to students beginning at *Upper Elementary Musicianship, level 3* through High School Musicianship, level 2. This correlates to students in grades 5 – 12. The program is open to enrollment by students in the HBMS Comprehensive Programs and to *a la carte* students.

ATM class content is similar to that of our non-ATM classes. It is based upon the *Royal Conservatory Music Theory Syllabus* and related workbooks which act as a foundation for musicianship training during class time and for at-home assignments. ATM instructors also utilize a variety of supplemental materials – printed and digital – that facilitate reinforcement and deeper exploration of aural skills development and musical analysis.

The primary difference between ATM and non-ATM classes is the overall level of participants' musicianship experience, training, and commitment. This allows for greater progress and depth of learning. Students in Advanced Track sections can expect to cover material more thoroughly and with more opportunities to explore the application of music theory in repertoire and practice. There is also a degree of social interaction that characterizes ATM classes as they encourage peer learning and occasional team project work.

Assessment

Students in ATM classes receive grades at the end of each semester. Grades are based upon class participation, completion of homework, and quizzes/tests. They also receive progress reports and meet with the instructor and dean during the year to review progress.

Student commitment

All participants must agree to the following class requirements:

- Regular, consistent attendance, not to exceed four absences per academic year. As all ATM classes are available in hybrid presentation (online and in-person), it is possible to attend virtually should in-person attendance not be feasible.
- Regular and timely completion of homework and special projects.
- Active class participation.
- Demonstrating a positive, supportive attitude towards classmates and instructors.
- The student/family accepts the responsibility to communicate learning needs and concerns to the instructor in timely fashion. HBMS is committed to student success and is able to provide

a variety of support mechanisms to students. We are best able to provide support when students/families are proactive in letting us know what their needs are.

Students who fall short of these required commitments may be removed from the class and transferred into a non-Advanced Track class section. Any such action will follow every reasonable effort on the part of the School to remedy concerns while keeping the student in the ATM class. Refunds will not be made for students who do not wish to continue in non-ATM classes.

Where to find information about ATMC schedule.

Please find all musicianship classes and schedule detail [here](#).

- An asterisk (*) denotes Advanced Track Musicianship Classes. Advanced Track classes are available at the Upper Elementary 3, Junior and High School Levels.
- ‡ Denotes hybrid classes that allow for students to attend in-person or remotely throughout the year. The School has invested in new technology to create a hybrid class experience that will allow online and in-person attendees to participate equally in each class session.
- Please note that all Advanced Track classes are available in hybrid format.

How do I join an Advanced Track Musicianship class?

- All prospective ATM participants must complete the *HBMS Musicianship Assessment (HBMA)*. Results of the assessment are the primary basis upon which students are approved to join an ATM class.
- Students must also confirm understanding of the Student Commitment required to participate in the class.
- Important: students are not accepted into ATM classes by dean or teacher recommendation.

Must I retake the *HBMS Musicianship Assessment* each year I continue in the program?

No. Once in the program, students may proceed from level to level unless their end of class grade drops below a B. Students whose grade drops below a B must meet with the instructor and Dean to review progress and potential to continue in the program.

Students who successfully complete the *High School Musicianship Level 2 ATM* class may skip the Advanced Placement Preparatory classes and proceed directly to the *Advanced Placement Music Theory* class, a College Board approved course that prepares students in one academic year to take the Advanced Placement Music Theory Exam administered by the College Board.

I want to take the Musicianship Assessment! What is my next step?

If you are ready to take the assessment, please complete the form found [here](#). You will then receive the HBMA via email. The assessment is intended to be taken at home. Please return your completed assessment within three business days of when you receive the assessment via email. Guidelines for taking the assessment are found [here](#); a link to this document will be included in the email with the HBMA.

Questions?

Please [click here to book a meeting](#) with Dean Christopher Kenniff or contact him via [email](#).