

Music Theory Placement Exam

All entering freshmen and transfer students must take the Music Theory Placement Exam. The purpose of the exam is to determine a student's current music literacy and aural skills, and the appropriate music theory and ear-training classes they should be placed in. Please keep the following in mind:

- The exam has no bearing on a student's financial aid (scholarships) or acceptance into Lamar; it is merely a confidential diagnostic tool.
- **All** music majors at Lamar will study Music Theory classes I-IV and Ear-Training classes I-IV, *regardless* of their placement on the exam. The exam simply places the student in the level (I-IV) that best matches their current skills.

Entering freshmen and transfer students can save \$400.00 in tuition & fees*, and avoid a semester of remedial music theory by taking the following steps *prior* to taking the placement exam:

1. Learn the notes of both bass and treble staves.
2. Learn the 15 major key signatures, and 15 minor key signatures.
3. Learn about intervals.
4. Learn about triads.
5. Learn about meter and rhythm.

Students can learn these things for free, seated in front of their computers, visiting the following sites:

<http://www.musictheory.net/>

<http://www.teoria.com>

<http://www.musictheoryminute.com>

There are many other websites, so, ask your teacher what they recommend. Or, email Nick.Rissman@lamar.edu for suggestions.

**Based on a 10 creditP hour enrollment, including textbook.