

ECU Performing Arts Handbook



Updated 8/12/2026

Welcome to ECU Performing Arts

Scope

Most of the information, procedures, and policies you will need to navigate college will be found in the ECU Catalog, Degree Checklists, and Four-year plans, all of which are located at ecok.edu. Other resources for successfully navigating college include your advisor, applied instructor, and the various offices located on campus at ECU, including the offices of Records, Financial Aid, the Bursar, Housing, and others, all of which are located in the Administration Building on ECU campus. This handbook will only contain those procedures specific to the performing arts, including guidelines for senior recitals, applied proficiency, etc.



We're glad to have you here at ECU!

Performing Arts Faculty:

Dr. Nicholas Meyers - Director of Bands and Percussion, Chair Department of Performing Arts - Associate Professor of Music - nmeyers@ecok.edu

Dr. Melody Baggech - Choir Director/Voice - Professor of Music - mbaggech@ecok.edu

Dr. Nathaniel Berman - Woodwinds/Jazz Band - Associate Professor of Music - nberman@ecok.edu

Mr. Justin Lewis - Assistant Director of Bands/Trombone/Music Education - jusalew@ecok.edu

Ms. Vickie Reifsnider - Instructor of Theatre - reifsnid@ecok.edu

Dr. Farren Rowan - Staff Accompanist/Music Education/Piano - frowan@ecok.edu

Mrs. Kaycee Logsdon - Choir Director/ Applied Voice - klogsdon@ecok.edu

Dr. Michal Damm - Adjunct Faculty - Percussion - mbrauhndamm@ecok.edu

Mr. Chris Martin - Adjunct Faculty - Euphonium/Tuba - cmartin@ecok.edu

Dr. Steve Walker - Adjunct Faculty - Voice - swalker@ecok.edu

Dr. Doug Laramore - Adjunct Faculty - Horn/Trumpet - dlaramore@ecok.edu

Mr. John Griffin - Adjunct Faculty - Woodwinds - johfgri@ecok.edu

Mrs. Susanne Wooley - Adjunct Faculty - Strings - susbwoo@ecok.edu

Mrs. Amy Jackson - Administrative Assistant - HBFFAC - ajackson@ecok.edu

Performing Arts Degree Programs:

Majors:

- Bachelor of Science in Music (Instrumental) – 0335
- Bachelor of Science in Music (Vocal) – 0337
- Bachelor of Science in Music (Instrumental, Teacher Cert.) – 0331
- Bachelor of Science in Music (Vocal, Teacher Cert.) – 0333

Minors related to Performing Arts:

- Minor in Music – 330E
- Minor in Business Administration for Music majors – 070D

Organizations within the Department of Performing Arts:

- Kappa Kappa Psi – Kappa Kappa Psi is an honorary service fraternity open to all students enrolled in the band program and dedicated to serving the band program at ECU.

Advising:

- Students must take responsibility for making progress through their degree program, and work with their advisor at least once per semester to plan their degree progress. Degree Checklists and 4 Year Plans can be found on ecok.edu. Students should make sure they:
 - Know their advisor and make appointments for advising prior to enrolling every semester.
 - Assume responsibility for knowing the policies of the university as laid out in the ECU Catalog.
 - See advisor immediately if placed on academic warning or probation to formulate a plan for success.
 - Be aware of graduation requirements as outlined in the ECU Catalog.

Applied Music:

- Applied music studies are a students' private lessons with their applied instructor on their primary instrument. Students should consult the Degree Checklist on ecok.edu and the ECU Catalog for full enrollment requirements.
- Dates and times for applied lessons are individually arranged with the student and their applied professor. Your applied professor will contact you regarding scheduling your lesson.
- Freshman and sophomore music majors should enroll in **MUS 2222** level applied lessons. Junior and senior music majors should enroll in **MUS 3332** level applied lessons after the completion of their sophomore applied proficiency. Check with your advisor and/or applied professor if in doubt about which section to enroll in and they will be happy to help you.

Juries:

- At the end of every semester, students taking applied lessons will have to perform a jury. This includes all music majors, minors, and participants. The jury is considered to be a demonstration in front of faculty that demonstrates learning was achieved during the semester and is part of the applied lesson grade. This event is similar to a final exam within a course.
- During the semester a student completes a Senior recital, they will still need to perform a jury.

Sophomore Applied Proficiency:

- After four semesters of enrollment in MUS 2222 (typically in the second semester of the sophomore year), the student must complete a sophomore applied proficiency. Only after passing the sophomore proficiency may a student move the MUS 3332 level of applied lessons.

- The sophomore applied proficiency is meant to show appropriate progress toward the senior recital and general proficiency on the student's instrument.
- If a student does not pass their sophomore proficiency, they will need to enroll into an additional section of MUS 2222 and can reattempt the sophomore proficiency the following semester.
- Content
 - The sophomore applied proficiency will consist of a selection of scales, repertoire, and sight reading. Preparation and content of these items will be discussed by the student and applied professor. Applied instructors have the flexibility to choose which scales, repertoire, and level of sight reading the student is responsible for. Sophomore applied proficiencies for vocal students may or may not include sight singing.
 - Forms reflecting the completion of the sophomore applied proficiency may be found with the ECU Assistant Director of Bands.

Junior Recital:

- Students at ECU are not required to perform a Junior recital. However, if they are able to, we encourage them to take on this endeavour. Junior recitals should be shorter in duration and are often shared with another student wanting to perform a Junior recital as well.
- Students wanting to perform a Junior recital must get permission from their applied instructor.
- All Junior recitals must be scheduled in advance similar to a Senior recital.
- Depending on where the recital will take place, Students should work with the School of Fine Arts Administrative Assistant in finding a date.

Senior Recital:

- The senior recital is a recital intended to showcase the music student's technical, musical, and interpretational maturity on their primary instrument.
- Music majors with teacher certification are required to present at least 30 minutes of music for the senior recital.
- Music majors without teacher certification are required to present at least 45 minutes of music for the senior recital.
- Recitals should generally not extend beyond an hour in length.
- Recitals should be scheduled where they do not conflict with other events held by the Department of Performing Arts.
- The content of the senior recital should be determined cooperatively between the student and applied professor. Generally, recitals are presented with piano accompaniment (when called for).
- Ensemble playing is also permitted, keeping in mind that showcasing the student is the primary purpose of the recital.
- The senior recital venue & date must be planned and reported to the ECU School of Fine Arts secretary **three months** in advance of the recital (generally at the very beginning of the semester in which the recital is planned, or at the end of the previous semester).

- Senior recitals can not take place during both Dead week or Finals week. Additionally, during the Fall semester, Senior recitals must take place before the Thanksgiving break.
- Senior recitals must be completed prior to any student teaching/internship.
- Senior recitals must be open to the public.
- The student must be enrolled in applied music during the semester of the senior recital.
- See the ECU School of Fine Arts secretary for templates for the senior recital program.
- The senior recital is listed in the ECU Catalog as a requirement of graduation and must be completed in order for the student to graduate.
 - Senior recital preview procedure
 - When a student sets up recital time & date with ECU School of Fine Arts Administrative Assistant, they will also receive the needed forms from their applied instructor to be completed at the preview and final recital.
 - It is the student's responsibility to assemble a panel consisting of their applied professor and two additional performing arts faculty. Any collaborative pianists performing for the recital cannot also serve on the preview panel.
 - The student will need to contact a collaborative pianist at least two months before the recital preview in order to properly set up a schedule.
 - The student is responsible for personally paying the accompanist for their recital. The fee will be communicated to the student from the accompanist.
 - Items for the preview such as programs and copies of music should be determined with the student's applied professor.
 - The senior recital preview form will be given to the Assistant Director of Bands following the preview after all three committee members have signed the form. The form will be held for department purposes.
 - The recital preview should be scheduled at least 30 days before the recital.
 - All music must be prepared to be reviewed at the recital preview including any chamber pieces.
 - Any re-hearings of pieces or recital adjustments on the program will be discussed and decided upon immediately following the preview.

- If a student fails their Senior recital, they must wait 90 days before another Senior Recital may be performed. The student will also have to go through the preview process as before.
- Immediately following the senior recital, the student and panel will complete the senior recital assessment form. The senior recital form will be given to the Assistant Director of Bands following the preview after all three committee members have signed the form. The form will be held for department purposes..

Recital Venues:

- Students should look ahead to see if the venue they would like to use is available.
- Students should check to see if any fees are required for the venue. ECU does not pay fees for student recitals off of campus.
- Students should check to see if there is an appropriate piano at the venue for them to use. ECU does not pay for off campus piano tuning.
- Below is a list of venues that work well for student recitals:
 - * Ataloa Theater
 - * Kennedy Band Hall
 - * Faust Auditorium (once it is available again)
 - * First Lutheran Church of Ada
 - * First Methodist Church of Ada
 - * Ada Arts and Heritage Center

Course Offerings:

- Not every music course is offered every semester.
- Beginning in the *sophomore year*, the student will want to work very closely with their advisor to make sure the student is enrolled in upper-level courses that may only be offered every two years.
- The chart below is one that is used as a general guide for scheduling music classes and is *subject to change*. Certain courses may be offered more frequently or offered in different semesters that outlined here, but this is a good guide.
- Failure to complete courses that are offered every other year may result in delayed graduation.
- Several of our course offerings are only offered every 4 semesters, or when needed based around enrolment.
- Check with your advisor and/or department chair; they are here to help you.
- Course offerings are outlined on the next page:

**Thank you for studying
the performing arts at
ECU! We are here to help
you be successful!**