

BACKGROUND AND RECOMMENDATION

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY – STARK STATE CAMPUS Bachelor of Science in Music Technology (BSMT)

RECOMMENDATION

This program meets the Chancellor’s minimum standards for baccalaureate degrees. There were no concerns identified in the review and approval is recommended.

Request: Kent State University (KSU) requests approval for a Bachelor of Science in Music Technology with two concentrations: Audio Recording and Music Production. The degree program will be offered by Kent State University’s Stark Campus.

Program Purpose: The proposed Bachelor of Science in Music Technology is designed to prepare students to enter the commercial music industry with specific training in technology and experience with contemporary musical styles and instruments. The degree program also includes foundation studies in musicianship and theory. Students have internship opportunities with businesses in the region.

KSU has assessed the local and regional workforce need to support the degree program. The demand for baccalaureate programs in music technology has grown in response to expansion in the entertainment, arts and media industries. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for opportunities in the following areas: corporate and agency advertising; music publishing; radio, television and film production; theaters, dance and opera organizations; music performance; freelance recording and production; and music product development. Local employers have supplied letters of support and will be providing facilities and expertise to support the program.

Administrative Arrangements: The BSMT will be administered by the KSU Glauser School of Music at the main campus of Kent State University.

Enrollments: Enrollments will be limited to a class size of 25 full-time students, although some transfer students may be admitted from Stark State College of Technology (and other two-year institutions) during the third-year of the program. Stark State College of Technology has an associate degree in music technology that will articulate with the proposed baccalaureate degree.

Curriculum: The music technology core curriculum provides a blend of traditional foundation requirements in music theory, history and composition with music technology and ensemble/applied piano performance requirements. Students complete studio requirements and additional major requirements in business and electronic media video production. BSMT students will be able to select a concentration (12 semester hours) from music production or audio recording. Additional required courses (9 semester hours) are designed to enrich the music technology curriculum with a focus on business and video production. Students complete a program internship. The program requires a minimum of 122 semester hours.

The National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) is the accrediting organization for music programs. NASM granted probationary accreditation to KSU's proposed BS in Music Technology, pending the program's final state approval and the graduation of its first cohort of students.

Resource and Faculty Needs: KSU has sufficient faculty, classroom and laboratory facilities to support the program at the Stark campus, including extensive recording and music production facilities. Many foundation music theory courses are also available on the main KSU campus through the School of Music. Interested students have an opportunity to complete some program requirements prior to transferring to the Stark campus for completion of the music technology courses.