#1. Undergraduate Program Assessment Plan: Student Outcomes – Gen Ed

Department: Music   **Date:October 14, 2016**

General Education Committee has selected the following area for the 2016-2017 assessment cycle:

COMMUNICATION: to demonstrate effective communication skills for personal, academic and professional purposes.

General Education Committee: Background: What factors caused the committee to choose this particular assessment outcome? If this outcome was selected because of a perceived problem, please explain.
The committee selected this outcome based upon two criteria: 1) effective communication skills in a broad range of forms (including but not limited to written, oral, visual and technological media) is a key goal of our general education curriculum; 2) Difficulties specifically with written communication has become a concern of faculty across disciplines.

Department: *What student outcome will the department assess that addresses: "The student will be able to demonstrate effective communication skills for personal, academic and professional purposes?* Students will demonstrate understanding of music in a written essay.

Department: *What specific question(s) are you attempting to answer through assessing this student outcome? What are you trying to find out? There may be more than one question, but no more than three.*
We would like to find out whether music students are able to write an acceptable research paper in music.

Methodology:
1. *OBJECT* - What data (i.e. artifact, exam score, detailed description of assignment) will be collected?* A research paper assigned in Mu 211 (Music History to 1750).
    a. *How does this data address the assessment question?* Mu 211 is taken by all music majors, so a paper taken from this course is a good indicator of whether all our students are learning to write.
        i. *Include/attach a description/example of assessment tool to be used*.
2. *How will data be collected?* A paper is submitted by each student in the course.

Analysis of Artifacts: PERFORMANCE CRITERIA* -
Discuss :

1) How the artifacts will be analyzed (attach rubrics/scoring tools if used): The papers will be divided among the full-time members of the department for evaluation. See attached for a scoring rubric.

2) How you will know if it is good (i.e. score required by % of students): We would like to see 85 percent of the students with a score of "satisfactory" or "exceptional" in each of the five areas evaluated.

Submitted by: Joseph Herl   Date: October 14, 2016   Reviewed by the Assessment Committee (Date): 10/17/16
Department Chair notified approved or additional action needed: 10/31/16 - Approved - revisions to rubric made 10/17/16
Assessment plan approved.

Rubrics revisions needed - GEN ED rubric: needs clarification. Specific descriptions that differentiate between "Unsatisfactory", "Satisfactory", "Exceptional" need to be included so that raters have criteria to base scoring on. As is, the scoring would be very subjective.