

CAL POLY HUMBOLDT
University Senate
Resolution to Recommend Approval of the Music Production Minor
15-25/26-ICC – December 9, 2025 – Curriculum Reading

RESOLVED: That the University Senate of Cal Poly Humboldt recommends to the Provost that the Music Production Minor - New Minor (16-19 units), detailed in proposal [24-2851](#), be approved.

RATIONALE: The Music Production Minor provides students with a wide range of applied skills using contemporary music technology to create, record, edit, and manipulate music and other sounds. Students hone their listening abilities and creative practice through foundational study in music theory, musicianship, sound design, and digital audio work, applying these skills to the creation of new music across genres and media contexts.

Student interest in music production at Cal Poly Humboldt is consistently strong. At every recruiting event, the Music program engages with multiple prospective students specifically seeking Music Production as an academic option. This minor directly responds to that demand and provides a coherent, skill-building pathway that will appeal to students majoring in Music as well as students in other disciplines seeking technical and creative digital-media experience.

The minor aligns well with Cal Poly Humboldt's polytechnic identity, particularly its emphasis on applied learning, hands-on technology, and interdisciplinary creative practice. The program strengthens Humboldt's role as a regional center for the arts while offering a technology-focused curriculum that resonates with students across STEM, media, and creative fields. The curricular structure also lays groundwork for potential integration into a future Digital Arts major or other cross-disciplinary programs.

The curriculum leverages existing courses, faculty expertise, facilities, and equipment. No new classes or resources are required, and the minor is expected to increase enrollment in the department's technology-related offerings.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

Program Type: Minor

Total Units: 19 (may adjust to 16 if JMC 154 is removed by department request)

Prerequisites: None beyond MUS 219 required for MUS 320

Department: Music

Program Description: The Music Production Minor equips students with foundational musicianship and applied technological skills in digital audio production, recording and live

sound, electronic music and beat-making, film scoring, and music technology workflows. Students develop technical proficiency with industry-standard tools—including digital audio workstations (DAWs), MIDI sequencing, recording equipment, and sound reinforcement systems—while strengthening creative and analytical abilities essential to the production of original music and audio content.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students completing the Music Production Minor will be able to:

1. Use digital technologies to create musical compositions across genres.
 2. Demonstrate effective MIDI recording and digital audio editing skills.
 3. Apply harmonic progressions, rhythmic structures, and sound-design practices to electronic and electro-acoustic music.
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REQUIRED COURSEWORK (15–18 units):

Music Foundations & Theory

- MUS 111 – Keyboard Musicianship (2 units)
- MUS 219 – Foundations of Harmony (3 units)

Music Production, Composition & Technology

- MUS 320 – Composition: Film Scoring (3 units)
 - *Prerequisite: MUS 219*
- MUS 320C – Music Production: DAWs, Beat-making, and Mixing (3 units)
 - *Revised/renamed from Composition: Electronic Music; no prereq*
- MUS 360 – Music Tech Essentials (2 units)
 - *Revised/renamed MIDI/Finale course; now includes PA system & live sound fundamentals; no prereq*
- MUS 361 – Music Production: Recording and Live Sound (3 units)
 - *Current recording course with updated title; no prereq*

Journalism & Mass Communication

- JMC 154 – Radio and Audio Production (3 units)
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COURSE ROTATION SUMMARY

Fall Even: MUS 111, MUS 361, JMC 154

Spring Odd: MUS 219, MUS 320C, MUS 360, JMC 154

Fall Odd: MUS 111, MUS 361, JMC 154

Spring Even: MUS 219, MUS 320, JMC 154

Interdepartmental Agreement: The inclusion of JMC 154: Radio and Audio Production in the Music Production Minor has been formally approved through interdepartmental

communication between the Department of Dance, Music, and Theatre and the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication.

- On April 7, 2025, the Chair of Dance, Music, and Theatre confirmed that Journalism and Mass Communication supports the addition of JMC 154 to the Music Production Minor, noting that the course provides valuable interdisciplinary exposure and collaboration for students in both departments. This agreement affirms the course's placement in the minor as an approved and mutually beneficial curricular connection.
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PROGRAM IMPACT AND BENEFIT:

This minor will:

- Support student recruitment by providing a clear, attractive answer to prospective students asking about Music Production.
- Complement both Music Studies and Applied Music concentrations.
- Appeal to students across creative, technical, and polytechnic disciplines—including Digital Arts, Communication, Journalism, Computer Science, and Theatre/Film.
- Strengthen Humboldt's role as a regional arts hub and expand technological skill-building opportunities.
- Increase enrollment in music technology courses while requiring no new classes or resources.

Note on Document Preparation: *Portions of this resolution were developed with the support of artificial intelligence tools to enhance consistency, formatting, and clarity. All content originates from the official proposal documents and aligns with Chancellor's Office documentation standards. Each resolution is reviewed and finalized collaboratively by the Integrated Curriculum Committee Chair, committee members, and the proposal authors, with opportunities for revision prior to submission for Senate consideration.*