

## MUSIC ELEMENTS EXAM PREPARATION GUIDELINES

The AU Music Elements Exam assesses students' readiness to succeed in the first-year music theory sequence. Students must take the exam before classes begin.

If students do not pass the exam, they will be advised to delay starting the theory sequence until their sophomore year.

### Scheduling

The exam is typically held 10:00-12:00 on the Tuesday prior to the start of fall semester classes. Check with the Music Department Office for confirmation of exact date and time.

### Content

The exam evaluates students' understanding of, and facility with:

- Pitch notation and reading
- Rhythm notation and reading
- Time signatures and meters
- Terms and symbols related to tempo, articulation, and dynamics
- Basic aural identification

### Want to make your theory life easier?

Students are encouraged (although not required) to learn the major and minor key signatures and scales prior to enrollment.

### Resources for Review and Exam Preparation

- <http://classic.musictheory.net/>
- <http://library.thinkquest.org/15413/theory/expression.htm> (tempo and dynamic markings)
- Flores, Carlos. *Principles of Melody and Harmony*.