



Sample Transfer Pathway

Area of Focus: *Music /Performance or Education*

Associate in Arts (AA) transfer degree

MUSC courses are offered at the Quad Cities campus only

This Sample Transfer Pathway is for students intending to major in Music (Performance or Education) after transfer, but who have not selected a transfer institution. Students who have a specific transfer school in mind should work with BHC and transfer school advisors to ensure the transfer school's requirements are met.

Four-year degree programs in Music are complex and highly structured, making careful preparation and course selection in the first two years essential. Students are urged to closely follow the recommendations below, and consult often with music faculty and an advisor. Prospective students are strongly encouraged to visit with music faculty before enrolling in music studies. Most music programs at 4-year institutions will require an audition and placement exam in theory for admission.

General Education Recommendations:		minimum 37 credits
This section includes the complete Illinois Articulation Initiative General Education Core Curriculum (IAI GECC) , which is a statewide transfer agreement, valid at more than 100 participating colleges or universities in Illinois.		
Communication (9 credits) – all courses required ENG 101 Composition I (3) – grade 'C' or better required ENG 102 Composition II (3) – grade 'C' or better required SPEC 101 Principles of Speech Communication (3)		Social & Behavioral Sciences (9 credits) <i>Must include courses from two disciplines</i> Choose three IAI: S courses (3 each)
Humanities & Fine Arts (9 credits) Humanities - choose one IAI: H or HF course, except MUSC (3) Fine Arts – choose two from MUSC 154 Music Appreciation, MUSC 158 Intro to Non-Western Music or MUSC 160 Jazz, Blues and Rock & Roll (3)		Mathematics (3 credits) Choose one IAI: M course (3 min.)
Physical & Life Sciences (7 credits min. - include one lab) Life Science – choose one IAI: L course (3 min.) Physical Science – choose one IAI: P course (3 min.)		-or- NSCI 101 Environmental Science I (3) and NSCI 102 Environmental Science II (4). <i>Education majors should consult with advisor before choosing the NSCI series.</i>
Elective Recommendations:		up to 23 credits
This section includes courses appropriate for this area of focus. Because transfer institutions vary in their acceptance of coursework, see Course Transfer Tables and Transferology , or an advisor. IAI courses are identified with an asterisk *. Seek advising about other elective courses that may support your reasons for choosing this area of focus.		
Music Electives MUSC 111 Theory of Music I (4) – <i>fall only</i> MUSC 112 Theory of Music II (4) – <i>spring only</i> MUSC 211 Theory of Music III (4) – <i>fall only</i> MUSC 212 Theory of Music IV (4) – <i>spring only</i> MUSC 114 Class Piano I (1) – <i>fall only, not for piano majors</i> MUSC 116 Class Piano II (1) – <i>spring only, not for piano majors</i> MUSC 216 Class Piano III (1) – <i>fall only, not for piano majors</i> MUSC 217 Class Piano IV (1) – <i>spring only, not for piano majors</i> MUSC 214 Intro to Audio Production (3) Music students will be involved in Music Ensemble(s) each semester MUSC 101 Instrumental Ensemble (1) - <i>Concert Band or String Orchestra</i> MUSC 102 Jazz Ensemble (1+1) – <i>Combos (take both sections concurrently)</i> MUSC 106 Concert Choir I (1); MUSC 206 Concert Choir II (1) – <i>Accompanied; non-auditioned</i> MUSC 108 Community Chorale (1) – <i>Accompanied; non-auditioned</i>		MUSC 109 Chamber Singers I (1); MUSC 209 Chamber Singer II (1) – <i>A cappella; auditioned</i> Private applied lessons (a per-credit lesson lab fee is required) MUSC 200 Applied Lesson II (2) A private lesson in a <u>primary</u> focus area each semester. Focus areas include voice, piano, organ, brass, woodwind, string or percussion instrument. MUSC 100 Applied Lesson I (1) A private lesson in a <u>secondary</u> focus area each semester. Focus areas include voice, piano, organ, brass, woodwind, string or percussion instrument. <i>A maximum of 12 credits of applied lessons can count toward graduation.</i>
Second Language: Consider potential second language admission and/or graduation requirements of transfer schools, which may be satisfied with high school and/or college courses. Consult an advisor.		
60 total credits required for AA degree (General Education + Electives)		

BHC develops Sample Transfer Plans as a service to students. Final responsibility for verifying all graduation and transfer requirements rests with the student. PLAN CREATED October 24, 2017; update Aug. 25, 2025.

Non-Western studies graduation requirement. To graduate with the AA degree, include at least one non-western studies course. The course can simultaneously fulfill a general education requirement in humanities, fine arts, or social and behavioral science, or be taken as an elective. Choose from ANTH 100 or 102; ART 285 or 286; ENG 217, 218 or 219; HIST 115, 116, 222, 141, 142 or 151; HUM 102; IS 200; or MUSC 158.

Students pursuing Music will often complete more than the 60 credits for graduation in order to prepare for transfer school auditions.

Learn More About This Area of Focus

- Get to know [Black Hawk College Career Services](#) Phone: 309-796-5626
- Visit [Career Coach](#) to Browse Careers. Includes job data and open positions for the greater Quad City region and beyond.
- Browse careers at [Collegegrad.com/careers](#) [O*Net OnLine](#) [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#) [Occupational Profiles](#)
- For additional information visit [American Federation of Musicians](#) [Careersinmusic.com](#)

Course Transferability

- Course and transfer requirements can vary among institutions and may differ from the recommendations on this guide. Grades of 'C' or better may be required for a course to transfer, especially courses intended for the major.
- **Students are advised to select a transfer school as soon as possible, typically before completing 30 college-level credits.**

Where to transfer?		
Explore transfer colleges and universities and their majors:		
Explore Colleges & Universities https://www.bhc.edu/academics/transfer-planning/explore-colleges-universities/	Illinois Institutional Profiles https://illinoispostsecondaryprofiles.com/Home/Index	College Navigator https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/

Degree Timeframe:

- Students who complete an average of 15 college-level credits in four consecutive fall and spring semesters could complete the degree in two years. Students determine their own pace and progress and should consider their work and personal commitments, course difficulty, course pre-requisites, and possible need for additional courses determined by placement assessments. Advisors are available to discuss credit load and schedules appropriate for student goals and circumstances.
- Students transferring before completing the associate degree should discuss [Reverse Transfer](#) with their BHC advisor. Black Hawk College will evaluate your college or university work to determine if those credits will fulfill the remaining requirements of the associate's degree.

Advising Notes:

- See the current [BHC Catalog](#) for all IAI course codes, course descriptions, pre-requisite information, and complete graduation requirements to earn the degree. The area of focus is not stated on student transcripts.
- This guide is not a substitute for advising. All students are encouraged to connect with their assigned BHC advisor each semester.

Semester	Meet with BHC advisor	Registration begins
Summer and Fall	February or March	1 st Tuesday in April
Spring and minimester	September or October	1 st Tuesday in November

BHC Contacts		
QC Campus Advising / Moline, IL Building 1, Advising Center 309-796-5100 Email advqc@bhc.edu	East Campus Advising / Galva, IL Building A, Room 246 309-854-1709	Art, Design & Performing Arts Department
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The music program offers Achievement Awards to both music and non-music majors. Students must complete the application and audition before the full-time faculty in March, May or July of each year. See the Department webpage and contact music faculty for information. • Students are also encouraged to apply for the BHC Foundation Scholarships as there are several music scholarships, and recipients will be selected by the music faculty. The annual deadline to submit the application is May 1st. 		