# POPULAR MUSIC CONSERVATORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>FALL</th>
<th>SPRING</th>
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| Year 1 | Primary Instrument (Junior)  
Junior Songwriting  
Junior Rock Ensemble | Primary Instrument (Junior)  
Junior Songwriting  
Junior Rock Ensemble |
| Year 2 | Primary Instrument (Junior)  
Junior Recording  
Junior Rock Ensemble | Primary Instruments (Junior)  
Junior Recording  
Junior Rock Ensemble |
| Year 3 | Music Theory I  
Lead Sheets & Transcriptions  
Primary Instrument (Advanced)  
Secondary Instrument (Beginning)  
Rock Ensemble | Music Theory I  
Lead Sheets & Transcriptions  
Primary Instrument (Advanced)  
Secondary Instrument (Beginning)  
Rock Ensemble |
| Year 4 | Music Theory II  
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Beginning Songwriting  
Arranging I  
Primary Instrument (Advanced)  
Secondary Instrument (Beginning)  
Rock Ensemble | Music Theory II  
Recording I  
Beginning Songwriting  
Arranging I  
Primary Instrument (Advanced)  
Secondary Instrument (Beginning)  
Rock Ensemble |
| Year 5 | Music Theory III  
Recording II  
Advanced Songwriting  
Arranging II  
Primary Instrument (Advanced)  
Secondary Instrument (Beginning)  
Rock Ensemble | Music Theory III  
Recording II  
Advanced Songwriting  
Arranging II  
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Secondary Instrument (Beginning)  
Rock Ensemble |
| Year 6 | Music Theory IV  
Advanced Recording  
Film & Game Scoring  
Music Business & Media  
Primary Instrument (Advanced)  
Secondary Instrument (Beginning)  
Rock Ensemble | Music Theory IV  
Advanced Recording  
Film & Game Scoring  
Music Business & Media  
Primary Instrument (Advanced)  
Secondary Instrument (Beginning)  
Rock Ensemble |
POPULAR MUSIC CONSERVATORY
9th-12th Grade

ADVANCED SONGWRITING
Advanced Songwriting is a course designed to continue growth, exploration, and discovery in a student's unique sound and songwriting style through weekly lyric exercises and the analysis of various pieces in the popular music industry. Students will dissect various iconic songs, rhyme scheme, chord progressions, and compose using same techniques. Students will also begin to compose using various instruments and textures, compose for specific styles and artists, and write songs based on specific prompts.

ADVANCED RECORDING TECHNIQUES
Advanced Recording is the final course offered for students to learn advanced sound production and studio techniques. Students will have an advanced understanding of DAW Logic and ProTools recording and MIDI software and continue to apply advanced editing, mixing, and mastering techniques throughout the school year. Students will create demo reels for their Electronic Press Kits and for professional opportunities outside of the Popular Music Conservatory.

ARRANGING I
Arranging I is the first of two arranging courses in the Popular Music Conservatory. Students will continue to expand their knowledge on how to properly use Sibelius notation software and write a proper lead sheet. Students will also learn how to arrange for background vocals and for strings.

ARRANGING II
Arranging II is the final arranging course within the Popular Music Conservatory. Students will continue to expand their knowledge and gain experience arranging for voices and strings. Students will also learn how to arrange for horns.

BASS I
Bass I is a secondary instrument class designed for students with little to know knowledge of how to play the electric bass. This class focuses on creating a firm foundation in technique and performance. Students will learn plucking and fretting techniques, how to play major and minor scales, various triads and extensions, and how to construct a bass line to different styles (swing, latin, funk, reggae, and rock.) Students will also have weekly sight-reading exercises in both bass clef and treble clef, and in lead sheet form.

BASS II
Bass II is a primary instrument class taken annually by the program’s student bassists. This class focuses on continuing a firm foundation in technique, performance, and rhythmic understanding. Students will participate in weekly sight-reading exercises and study basic rudiments, proper hand technique, and study iconic drummers. Students will also study iconic bass lines throughout the popular music realm.

DRUM LAB I
Drum Lab I is a secondary instrument class designed for students with little to no knowledge of drum set performance. This course focuses on creating a firm foundation in technique, performance, and rhythmic understanding. Students will participate in weekly sight-reading exercises and study basic rudiments, proper hand technique, and study iconic drummers. Students will also perform repertoire that has shaped the popular music industry.

DRUM LAB II
Drum Lab II is a primary instrument class taken annually by the program’s student drummers. This course focuses on continuing to create a firm foundation in technique, performance, and rhythmic understanding. Students will participate in weekly sight-reading exercises and study various rudiments, proper hand technique, and practice iconic popular music repertoire.
FILM AND GAME SCORING
Film and Game Scoring is an upper division, project-based course where students learn to use a Digital Audio Work Station (Logic Pro) to create, incorporate, and edit music and sound effects for film and video games. Students will learn how to create musical arrangements for film and video games and demonstrate an understanding of practical hardware and software implementation. Students will also collaborate with students from the Digital Media Conservatory each Spring semester, creating music for student video games.

GUITAR I
Guitar I is a secondary instrument class created for students with little to no knowledge of guitar performance. Students will learn proper guitar technique and practice their sight-reading skills through weekly exercises. Students will also learn how to play major and natural minor scales, chords, and perform iconic chord progressions and repertoire from the popular music realm.

GUITAR II
Guitar II is a primary instrument course taken annually by the program’s student guitarists. The course is designed to continue to create a firm foundation in guitar technique, sight-reading, musicianship skills, and performance through the studying of iconic popular guitar repertoire. Students will learn how to read music notation, learn advanced scales, modes, and extended harmonies. Students will also prepare and analyze iconic popular music repertoire, transcribe guitar solos, and practice improvisational skills.

KEYBOARD I
Keyboard I is a secondary instrument class created for students with little to no knowledge of piano performance. This course is focused on creating a firm foundation in piano technique and performance. Students will learn all 12 Major scales with correct fingering, how to play Major and minor triads in root position and inversions, and frequently work on chord progressions utilized in popular music. Students will also practice sight-reading skills with weekly sight-reading exercises, prepare beginning/intermediate contemporary repertoire, and learn how to read a lead sheet.

KEYBOARD II
Keyboard II is a primary instrument course taken annually by the program’s student keyboardists. This class focuses on continuing to create a firm foundation in piano technique and performance, centering on preparing students for performance as a keyboardist in a popular music band, a session player, as a solo artist, or as a vocal accompanist. Students will review all Major and minor scales, chord knowledge, and transcription skills. Students will center their focus on improving sight-reading skills by studying popular repertoire.

LEAD SHEETS AND TRANSCRIPTIONS
Lead Sheets & Transcriptions is an introductory course to using Sibelius music notation software and designed to expand musicianship skills. Students learn how to aurally transcribe melodies, chord progressions, and song forms, and create personal lead sheets. Students will also listen to recordings and create charts for a rhythm section (piano, guitar, bass, and drums), a horn section, and background vocals.

MUSIC BUSINESS AND MEDIA
Music Business and Media is an upper division course that discusses the business side of the popular music industry. Students will learn how to read a contract and prepare necessary materials for job opportunities, such as a resume, an online electronic press kit, and various digital media and marketing strategies to promote their work. Students will also understand the roles that a publisher, producer, booking agent, and attorney play in the music industry.

MUSIC THEORY I
Music Theory I is the first of four theory courses in the Popular Music Conservatory, designed to introduce students to basic music theory and musical concepts. Students will learn how to read note names and lengths on the grand staff, understand various time signatures and key signatures, and learn how to build Major scales along with their relative minor scales. Students will also begin interval training and build musicianship skills.
Music Theory II
Music Theory II is the second of four theory courses in the Popular Music Conservatory, designed to build upon the foundation of the concepts learned in Music Theory I. Students will be introduced to chord inversions, chord extensions, various cadences, and secondary dominants. Students will also continue to build their aural dictation skills.

Music Theory III
Music Theory III is the third of four theory courses in the Popular Music Conservatory, furthering the development of necessary sight-reading and musicianship skills. Students will learn about functional harmony, basic modes, various chord extensions, and Roman Numeral analysis. Students will also learn four part writing techniques.

Music Theory IV
Music Theory IV is the final level of theory offered in the Popular Music Conservatory and focuses on preparing students for collegiate level courses and professional opportunities. Students will learn advanced functional harmony, mixed meters, and further their form and analysis skills. Students will also have an introduction to advanced jazz harmony that is frequently utilized in the popular music industry.

Recording I
Recording I is an introductory course to sound production techniques and software. Students will learn how to record and edit MIDI data, using DAW ProTools. Students will also learn various microphone placement techniques for multiple instruments and learn advanced mixing and mastering techniques.

Recording II
Students will continue mastering DAW ProTools; students will utilize midi sounds and venture into advanced Pro Tools use and mixing techniques.

Rock Ensemble
Rock Ensemble I/II is an annual rehearsal and performance class where all students involved in the Popular Music Conservatory prepare for concerts throughout the school year. Students will practice and aurally transcribe their performance pieces and rehearse their assigned repertoire as a band throughout the course of a few weeks. Students will learn effective communication skills, how to work independently and in a group setting, and study important musicians, performers, and styles in the popular music industry.

Songwriting I
Songwriting I is a beginning, high school course designed to introduce students to the fundamental basics of songwriting. Students will study different types of song form, rhyme scheme, and the use of literary aids to further the songwriting process. Students will also analyze and compare the similarities and differences between composing alone and with collaborators. Students will be assessed by in-class performances of his/her new material throughout the school year.

Voice I
Voice I is a secondary instrument class created for students with little to no knowledge of vocal performance. Students will learn solfege, the number system, and how to sing multiple scales, intervals, and chords. Students will also participate in weekly sight-reading exercises and learn how to sing in unison and harmony. Finally, students will learn about the anatomy of the voice, vocal injury prevention, and participate in multiple solo master class performances during the school year.

Voice II
Voice II is a primary instrument course taken annually by the program’s student vocalists. This class focuses on continuing to promote a strong foundation in vocal technique and performance. Students will review the number system and how to sing multiple scales, intervals, and chords, participate in weekly sight reading exercises, and learn how to sing in unison and harmony. Students will also learn about the anatomy of the voice, vocal injury prevention, and participate once in a solo vocal master class during the school year. Voice II students will also learn how to transcribe background vocals, vocal arrangement techniques, and audition techniques.
## POPULAR MUSIC CONSERVATORY
### 7th-8th Grade

### PRIMARY INSTRUMENTS (JUNIOR)
All Popular Music Middle School students will take a weekly class focused on his/her primary instrument: Junior Voice, Junior Guitar, Junior Keyboard, Junior Bass, and Junior Drum Lab. Students will focus on proper technique and performance and introduced to basic musicianship skills.

### JUNIOR RECORDING
This is an introductory course for middle school students to learn how to use Logic Pro for recording techniques. Students will have the opportunity to create demos for their original music.

### JUNIOR SONGWRITING
Junior Songwriting is a beginning, middle school course designed to spark musical creativity and introduce students to the fundamental basics of songwriting. Students will study different types of song form, rhyme scheme, and the use of literary aids to further the songwriting process. Students will be assessed by in-class performances of his/her new material throughout the school year.

### JUNIOR ROCK ENSEMBLE
Junior Rock Ensemble is an annual rehearsal and performance class where all students involved in the middle school Popular Music Conservatory prepare for concerts throughout the school year. Students will practice and aurally transcribe their performance pieces and rehearse their assigned repertoire as a band throughout the course of a few weeks. Each band will also create and perform an original song at each showcase. Students will learn effective communication skills, how to work independently and in a group setting, and study important musicians, performers, and styles in the popular music industry.