Minor in Alternative Styles of Music

This minor is being proposed to meet the needs of our students who frequently come in to the Music Department with a background in alternative styles (jazz, mariachi, rock n'roll, etc.), and are seeking to pursue a career in a field other than western classical music. The minor essentially requires students to take six units of music history courses that are pertinent to alternative styles, students need to do eight units of “applied” instrument, composing/arranging, and/or technology studies, they have a three unit alternative styles ensemble requirement, and then the music business class “The Artist Entrepreneur's Toolkit” and the Alternative Styles Capstone, which will require them to prepare a final project performance, based on what they have learned and assimilated as performers throughout the coursework for this minor. The goal is to help students become well-rounded in the history, construction, and performance practice associated with alternative styles, and then to be able to couple this knowledge with a music business class and a capstone project that will prepare our students for a career in the “real world” industry of alternative/popular styles of music.

Requirements for a minor in Alternative Styles in Music (21 units)

Pre-requisite requirements: (0)

- MUS 1100 Fundamentals of Music Theory
- MUS 1110 Basic Musicianship
- MUS 2120 Theory I
- MUS 2125 Musicianship I

6 units chosen from: (6)

- MUS 2350 Popular Music Literature
- MUS 3309 Jazz History in America and African-American Culture
- MUS 3500 Global Music
- MUS 3510 Latin American Music
- MUS 3520 African American Music
- CAL 1804 Rock and Roll: Justice and Society
- MUS 3610 Music in the United States

8 units chosen from: (8)

- MUS 2050 Class Guitar
- MUS 2200 Class Piano I
- MUS 2210 Class Piano II
- MUS 2220 Class Piano III
- MUS 2224 Popular/Commercial Class Piano
- MUS 2600 Commercial Songwriting
- MUS 2660 Electronic Music Production
- MUS 2670 Sound Recording
- MUS 3300 Jazz Improvisation
- MUS 4140 Commercial Arranging and Scoring
- MUS 4170 Composition for Films and Television
- MUS 4290 Topics in Music Technology
- MUS 4660 Advanced Electronic Music
- MUS 4670 Advanced Studio Recording Techniques

3 units chosen from: (3)

Required courses: (4)

- CAL 4100 The Artist Entrepreneur's Toolkit
- MUS 3835 Alternative Styles Capstone

Total Units 21

In addition to the grade point average requirements stated in Program Requirements for a Bachelor's Degree, students must earn a grade of "C" (2.0) or better in all courses required to fulfill the Minor in Alternative Styles of Music.