LUTHER COLLEGE MUSIC THEORY PLACEMENT TEST INFORMATION

❖ For individuals planning to MAJOR or MINOR in music.

❖ To be taken prior to registration (between March and August).

❖ Helps the Luther faculty place students into an appropriate level of music theory & ear training.

THREE LEVELS OF MUSIC THEORY FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

❖ **MUSICIANSHIP WORKSHOP (MUS 110).** For students with little or no prior music theory experience. MUS 110 meets once per week (1 credit) and is taken along with Music Theory I and Ear Training I.

❖ **MUSIC THEORY I (MUS 121) & EAR TRAINING I (121L).** For students with some background in music theory. MUS 121 meets three times per week, M-W-F (3 credits). MUS 121L meets twice per week, Tu-Th (1 credit).

❖ **HONORS MUSIC THEORY I (MUS 131) & HONORS EAR TRAINING I (MUS 131L).** For students with significant background in music theory. MUS 131 meets three times per week, M-W-F (3 credits). MUS 131L meets twice per week, Tu-Th (1 credit).

MUSIC THEORY PLACEMENT TEST: DETAILS

❖ 30 questions (mostly “multiple choice”).

❖ Time limit is 20 minutes.

❖ Do your best and complete as much as you can, but don’t worry about rushing to finish or guessing answers to questions that you don’t know.

❖ Students who score below 60% will be placed into Music 121/121L as well as Music 110. Students who score between 60-89% will be placed into 121/121L. Students who score 90% or above will be asked to take an additional placement test to determine qualifications for the honors courses.

HONORS MUSIC THEORY PLACEMENT TEST

❖ 12 additional questions, including some listening examples.

❖ Time limit is 15 minutes.

❖ Placement into honors music theory and ear training is based on a number of factors, so there is not a fixed score that guarantees an invitation.
1. **Time Signatures [3 questions]**: Give the correct time signature for the example shown.

   \[ \text{Example shown here} \]

2. **Bar Line Placement [1 question]**: Which answer (A, B, or C) shows the following example with bar lines that agree with the time signature?

   \[ \text{Example shown here} \]

   A. \[ \text{Bar line placement A} \]
   
   B. \[ \text{Bar line placement B} \]
   
   C. \[ \text{Bar line placement C} \]

3. **Note & Rest Values [6 questions]**: How many notes or rests of the shorter duration would be required to equal the longer duration?

   \[ \text{d} \times \_\_\_ = \text{d} \]

   \[ \text{f} \times \_\_\_ = \text{f} \]

4. **Note Reading [8 questions]**: Choose the correct letter name of the following pitch.

   \[ \text{Pitch examples shown here} \]
5. **Whole Steps & Half Steps [5 questions]**: Name a pitch that is a whole step above E♭.

6. **Enharmonic Pitches [2 questions]**: Name a pitch that is enharmonic to E♭.

7. **Major & Minor Scale Identification [3 questions]**: The ascending and descending form of a B harmonic minor scale is:

   A.
   \[
   \begin{array}{cccccccccccc}
   \text{C}
   \end{array}
   \]

   B.
   \[
   \begin{array}{cccccccccccc}
   \text{C}
   \end{array}
   \]

   C.
   \[
   \begin{array}{cccccccccccc}
   \text{C}
   \end{array}
   \]

   D.
   \[
   \begin{array}{cccccccccccc}
   \text{C}
   \end{array}
   \]

8. **Key Signatures [4 questions]**: How many accidentals (sharps or flats) are in the key of E major?

9. **Relative Key Signatures [4 questions]**: Which of the following has the same key signature as D major?

   - F♯ minor
   - E minor
   - F minor
   - B minor
   - none of the above

10. **Interval Identification [7 questions]**: Name the following interval (P=perfect, M=Major, m=minor, d=diminished, A=augmented):

    - [Perfect 5th]
    - [Perfect 4th]
    - [Perfect 3rd]
LUTHER COLLEGE MUSIC THEORY PLACEMENT TEST: SAMPLE PROBLEMS

11. **Triad Quality Identification (Major, Minor, Augmented, Diminished)** [8 questions]: Identify the type of the following triad.

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{Root} & \quad \text{Third} & \quad \text{Fifth} \\
\text{Major} & \quad \text{Minor} & \quad \text{Augmented} & \quad \text{Diminished}
\end{align*} \]

12. **Triad Membership (Root, Third, Fifth)** [12 questions]: If the given pitch is the root of a major triad what is the third of the triad?

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{Root} & \quad \text{Third}
\end{align*} \]

If the given pitch is the root of a diminished triad what is the fifth of the triad?

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{Root} & \quad \text{Fifth}
\end{align*} \]

LUTHER COLLEGE MUSIC THEORY PLACEMENT TEST: TUTORIALS & EXERCISES

- [www.teoria.com](http://www.teoria.com)
- [www.musictheory.net](http://www.musictheory.net)