

Southwestern Illinois College
2500 Carlyle Road
Belleville, Illinois 62221
President: Elmer Kirchoff

- Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Music Technology

Background and History Southwestern Illinois College was founded in 1946 as Belleville Junior College and now occupies a 187-acre campus in Belleville, with campuses in Red Bud and Granite City, Illinois. Fall 2004 credit enrollment was approximately 14,400. The College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Southwestern Illinois College now seeks authorization to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Music Technology.

Mission and Objectives

Criterion 1050.30(a)(1): A) The objectives of the unit of instruction, research, or public service are consistent with the mission of the college or university; B) The objectives of the unit of instruction, research, or public service are consistent with what the unit title implies.

Southwestern Illinois College defines its mission as upholding “the dignity and worth of all people” and further states that it “believes that learning is a lifelong process which enhances the quality of life. The college provides for individual growth through education excellence and active partnerships with students and the community.” To support this mission, the College identifies the following values as central to its operation: student success, respect for people, value of education, integrity, excellence, fairness, lifelong learning, affordability, and accountability. The proposed program’s objectives are consistent with the College’s mission and values.

Curriculum/Assessment

Criterion 1050.30(b)(1) [applicable only to units of instruction]: A) The caliber and content to the curriculum assure that the objectives of the unit of instruction will be achieved; B) The breadth and depth of the curriculum are consistent with what the title of the unit of instruction implies; C) The admission and graduation requirements for the unit of instruction are consistent with the stated objectives of the unit of instruction; D) Provision is made for guidance and counseling of students, evaluations of student performance, continuous monitoring of progress of students toward their degree objectives and appropriate academic record-keeping.

Criterion 1050.30(a)(2): The design, conduct, and evaluation of the unit of instruction, research, or public service are under the direct and continuous control of the sponsoring institution’s established processes for academic planning and quality maintenance.

Curriculum

The College seeks approval to offer a 64 semester credit hour Associate of Applied Science in Music Technology. This program is of interest to students wanting to expand their knowledge of the use of technology in the music industry, and is specifically designed to prepare students for employment in the fields of digital music technology and audio production. In

addition, the College recognizes that there are students pursuing the Associate of Fine Arts or an Associate of Arts degree in music with the intention of transferring to a four year institution.

The program's curriculum consists of 14 semester credits of general education courses and 44 semester credits hours of career and technical education. General education courses include: Rhetoric and Composition; Fundamentals of Public Speaking; Human Well Being; American Popular Music; Music Appreciation; and World Music. Technical and career coursework consists of: Fundamentals of Music; Business of Music; Survey of Music Computer Technology I & II; Basic Digital Recording Techniques; Critical Listening for the Engineer; Recording Studio Maintenance; Recording Engineer Musicianship I & II; Class Instruction in Piano I, II, III, & IV; Intro to Marketing; Small Business Management and Business Law; and a six semester credit required Music Technology practicum.

Assessment

Assessment will be accomplished through written and auditory skills testing, graded assignments, written exams, and completion of a practicum. Students will be evaluated on their ability to accomplish a series of quantifiable outcomes demonstrating the following: application of concepts of music theory; utilization of computer software related to music production; skills on the piano keyboard; knowledge of the historical and business aspects of the music industry; identification of the legal issues in the music industry; knowledge of and the ability to utilize marketing skills related to the music industry; knowledge of and ability to use recording studio equipment; ability to diagnose and solve equipment problems; ability to define elements of music and instruments; ability to identify notable composers and eras pertinent to the course; and the ability to prepare and produce a recording.

Facilities (space, equipment, instructional materials)

Criterion 1050.30(a)(4): A) Facilities, equipment, and instructional resources (e.g., laboratory supplies and equipment, instructional materials, computational equipment) necessary to support the high-quality academic work in the unit of instruction, research, or public service are available and maintained; B) Clinical sites necessary to meet the objectives of the unit of instruction, research, or public service; C) Library holdings and acquisitions, owned or contracted for by the institution, that are necessary to support high-quality instruction and scholarship in the unit of instruction, research, and public service, are conveniently available and accessible, and can be maintained.

The College currently has a recording studio and keyboard computer lab in place that will be utilized for the new program. The College plans to purchase additional equipment and upgrade music software. Cost for new equipment is \$10,000 for the first year, \$15,000 for the second year and \$20,000 for year three. Library costs will be \$500 for each of three years.

Faculty and Staff

Criterion 1050.30(a)(3): A) The academic preparation and experience of faculty and staff to ensure that the objectives of the unit of instruction, research, or public service are met; B) The academic preparation and experience of faculty and staff, as evidenced by level of degrees held, professional experience in the field of study and demonstrated knowledge of the field, ensure that they are able to fulfill their academic responsibilities; C) The involvement of faculty in the unit of instruction, research, or public service is sufficient to cover the various fields of knowledge encompassed by the unit, to sustain scholarship appropriate to the unit, and to assure curricular

continuity and consistency in student evaluation; D) Support personnel, including but not limited to counselors, administrators, clinical supervisors, and technical staff, which are directly assigned to the unit of instruction, research, or public service, have the educational background and experience necessary to carry out their assigned responsibilities.

The program will require two new part-time faculty for the first year; three new part-time faculty the second year; and four new part-time faculty for the third year. Currently the College has three part-time faculty in place. In order to teach in the Associate of Applied Science Music Technology program an instructor must have at least a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Music with a minimum of eight year of occupational and teaching experience.

Fiscal/Personnel Resources

Criterion 1050.30(a)(5): A) The financial commitments to support the unit of instruction, research, or public service are sufficient to ensure that the faculty and staff and support services necessary to offer the unit of instruction, research, or public service can be acquired and maintained; B) Projections of revenues necessary to support the unit of instruction, research, or public service are based on supportable estimates of state appropriations, local tax support, student tuition and fees, private gifts, and/or governmental grants and contracts.

The program will cost approximately \$42,500 for the first year, \$56,500 the second year and \$65,000 for the third year for the entire program. The three year budget will cover the cost of faculty; recording studio techs; new equipment; library and facilities for three years. The program will be funded through the College's operational budget.

Accreditation and Licensure

Criterion 1050.30(b)(3) [applicable only to units of instruction]: Appropriate steps have been taken to assure that professional accreditation needed for licensure or entry into a profession as specified in the objectives of the unit of instruction is maintained or will be granted in a reasonable period of time.

Neither accreditation of the program nor licensure of graduates is necessary.

Need

Criterion 1050.30(a)(6): A) The unit of instruction, research, or public service is educationally and economically justified based on the educational priorities and needs of the citizens of Illinois; B) The unit of instruction, research, or public service meets a need that is not currently met by existing institutions and units of instruction, research, or public service.

Labor market information provided by the College and the counsel of interested music businesses demonstrates the need for a two-year degree program in this field. The Labor and Wage Outlook figures published by the Department of Employment Security indicate that music technology is a growing field of interest with an Illinois hourly wage of \$17.72 per hour. In Illinois, the average yearly salary in the field of music technology is approximately \$35,000 to \$47,000.