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The Big Picture: A Practical Model for the Meaningful Development, Implementation, Tracking, and Utilization of Assessment in Your College Music Program

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The Big Picture: A Practical Model for the Meaningful Development, Implementation, Tracking, and Utilization of Assessment in Your College Music Program

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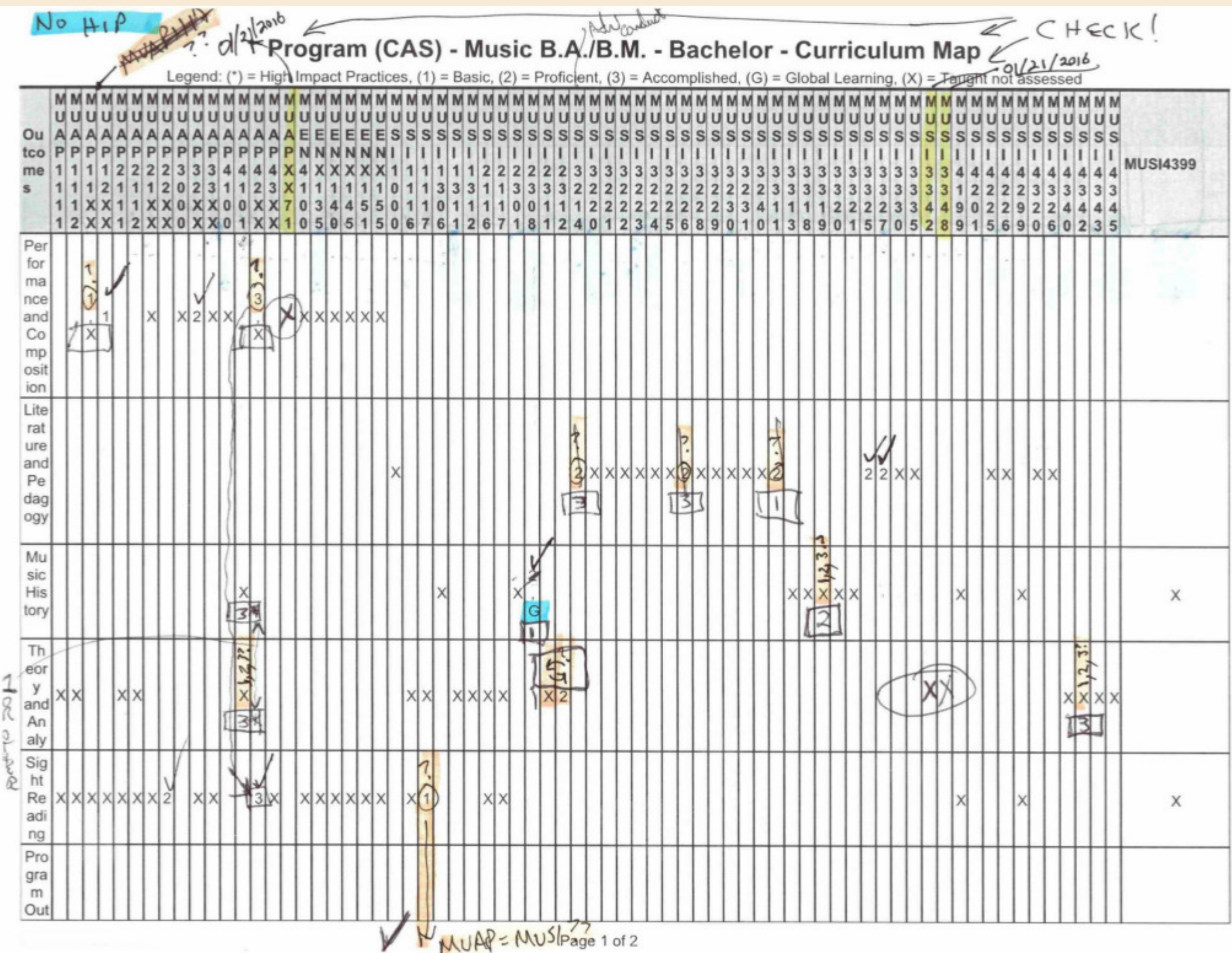
INTRODUCTION

Have you been put in charge of managing, revising, or creating from scratch a complete assessment plan for your college or university music program? Are your degrees in *Music* rather than Institutional Effectiveness??

Where do you begin? What’s your current plan? How many SLO’s should you track? Using how many courses? How often should they be assessed?...

Much has been written on creating effective course- or skill-specific music assessment methods. But how can you design and organize your unit’s *entire assessment plan* in an efficient and meaningful manner?

Existing Curriculum Map



Assessment-specific software and resources, like the one pictured above, can appear overwhelming, especially for those new to assessment.

IMPROVED RESOURCES

Cumbersome and complex assessments are less likely to be used to improve instruction. And assessment that doesn’t impact instruction is just busywork.

Developing *simplified tracking tools* is an important step in streamlining that process. One such tool is the chart below.

New Assessment Chart [excerpted]

SLO 1: Performance and Composition			SLO 2: Literature and Pedagogy				SLO 3: Music History							
SLO 4: Theory and Analysis			SLO 5: Sight Reading											
○ = offered this sem., not assessed			● = offered this sem. and assessed											
1 = assessed as "Basic"			2 = assessed as "Proficient"				3 = assessed as "Advanced"							
X = tied to this SLO, but not assessed, even when taught														
Type	Course#	Course Title	Core Course (#)	High-Impact (*)	Global (G)	Sem. Taught				SLO #				
						F-Even	Sp-Odd	F-Odd	Sp-Even	1	2	3	4	5
MUAP	1111	Harmony & Keyboard I				○		○					X	X
MUAP	1112	Harmony & Keyboard II					○		○				X	X
MUAP	11xx	Applied Music FR 1 SCH				○	○	○	○	X				X
MUAP	12xx	Applied Music FR 2 SCH					●	○	●	1				X
MUAP	2111	Harmony & Keyboard III				○		○					X	X
MUAP	2112	Harmony & Keyboard IV					○		○				X	X
MUAP	21xx	Applied Music SOPH 1 SCH				○	○	○	○	X				X
MUAP	22xx	Applied Music SOPH 2 SCH				●	○	●	○	X			2	
MUAP	3000	Junior Recital				○	○	○	○	X				X
MUAP	32xx	Applied Music JR 2 SCH				○	●	○	●	2				X
MUAP	33xx	Applied Music JR 3 SCH				○	○	○	○	X				X
MUAP	4100	Recital	*			●	○	●	○	3				
MUAP	4101	Analytical/Research Project	*			●	○	●	○		3	3		
MUAP	42xx	Applied Music SR 2 SCH				●	○	●	○	X			3	
MUAP	43xx	Applied Music SR 3 SCH				○	○	○	○	X				X
MUAP	xx71	Accompanying				○	○	○	○	X				
MUEN	4100	Chamber Music				○	○	○	○	X				X
MUEN	x135	Jazz Ensemble				○	○	○	○	X				X
MUEN	x140	Wind Ensemble				○	○	○	○	X				X
MUEN	x145	University Chorale				○	○	○	○	X				X
MUEN	x151	Opera Workshop/Musical Theatre Lab				○	○	○	○	X				X
MUEN	x155	Patriot Singers				○	○	○	○	X				X
MUSI	1000	Recitals, Concerts, & Production				○	○	○	○		X			
MUSI	1116	Aural Skills I				○			○				X	X
MUSI	1117	Aural Skills II						●					X	1
MUSI	1301	Music Fundamentals	#	*		○			○				1	X
MUSI	1306	Music Appreciation	#			○	○	○	○			X		
MUSI	1311	Music Theory I		*		○		○					X	
MUSI	1312	Music Theory II		*			○		○				X	
MUSI	2116	Aural Skills III				○		○					X	X
MUSI	2117	Aural Skills IV					○		○				X	X
MUSI	2301	Music of the Americas	#		G	○		○				X		
MUSI	2308	Music Literature	#		G			●				1		
MUSI	2311	Music Theory III		*		○		●					2	

- Cleaner visual layout at a glance
- Integrates Curriculum Map with Course Rotation
- Doubles as semester-based assessment calendar

SAMPLE RESULTS

- A more **organized**, predictable assessment plan
≈4 assessments/sem. (3 classroom, 1 applied)
- Greater **faculty involvement** in designing, collecting, and reflecting on specific instruments of assessment
- A new **sight reading** assessment, with faculty input across all applied areas (see *NASM Handbook 2015-16*, Standards for Accreditation VIII.B.1.c.)



HANDOUT

Visit <http://www.kylegullings.com/assessment> to do the following:

- Download free music assessment resources, including an editable **New Assessment Chart**
- See links to further assessment tools/scholarship (forthcoming)
- Advance the conversation by contacting me.