Smith College
Music Theory Placement Exam (Fall 2022)

Must be completed by Thursday, September 7, 2023, 11:59pm

The Department of Music offers a placement exam to determine the appropriate level of music theory instruction for incoming students. The exam assesses knowledge of basic Western tonal music concepts. Students will be placed into *Fundamentals of Music* (MUS100) or *Analysis and Repertory* (MUS110). The exam will be available on Moodle starting on **Tuesday, August 1** and must be completed by the **first day of classes**. It is not graded and is not part of your academic record.

The exam consists of:

- identifying pitches and accidentals in treble and bass clef
- identifying meters from rhythmic notation
- identifying scales and key signatures
- briefly describing your musical experience and training

The placement test must represent your own work and must be taken in accordance with Smith College's Academic Honor Code. You may not use notes, textbooks, or other resources to aid you during the exam. Each student may take the exam only once. There is no time limit.

Assessment

The following are the three (3) possible results of the placement exam:

100 The student has place into Fundamentals of Music (MUS100) and can pursue MUS110 following the completion of MUS100.

110* The student has too much background for Fundamentals of Music but may find MUS110 challenging. This is a gray area and consultation with the theory instructor is recommended. For those in this area who wish to pursue enrollment in MUS110, consider supplemental study, such as private tutoring sessions through the Jacobson Center (paid by the college), or self-directed study. The "Fundamentals" section of the free online textbook *Open Music Theory* is a recommended resource for self-directed study (https://viva.pressbooks.pub/openmusictheory/part/fundamentals).

110 The student has placed into MUS110.

Instructions

- Log into Moodle using your Smith ID and password.

- Click the following link to access the Music Theory Placement Exam:
https://moodle.smith.edu/course/view.php?id=26684

- Click the "Enroll me" button to gain access to the Moodle page and the exam document.

• Complete the Quiz under the heading "Music Theory Placement Exam - Fall 2023"
  Please note: *The exam will go online on Tuesday August 1, 2023.*

• Take as much time as you need to complete the exam. When you're finished, click the "Submit" button.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email Maeve Sterbenz (msterbenz@smith.edu).

Good luck!