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| The Division of Music Education is dedicated to empowering students through learning opportunities that are contextual and relevant to a career in teaching. To become an effective music educator, each student must commit to excellence in both teaching and musicianship. |

# MUED 3100, FALL 2025

**MUSIC EDUCATION IN CHILDHOOD**

Tuesday, Thursday: 11:00 – 12:20

Dr. Donald M. Taylor

E-Mail: Don.Taylor@unt.edu

Office Phone: (940) 231-6528

Office: MU 309

Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday: 10:00 am – 11:00 am

 Other times available by appointment

## Required Texts:

Valerio, W. H., Reynolds, A. M., Bolton, B. M., Taggart, C. C., & Gordon, E. E. (1998).

*Music play: The early childhood music curriculum guide for parents, teachers and caregivers*. Chicago: GIA Publications.

## Course Description

The purpose of this course is to stimulate thinking regarding children’s learning potential in general elementary music instruction. Course topics will address what to teach (curriculum), how to teach (the tools of teaching such as directives, modeling, and feedback), and prominent pedagogies within the field.

## Students go into the Denton public schools and teach students enrolled in the Ann Windle School for Young Children. Both observation and teaching experiences at the school provide pre-service teachers with the authentic interaction with children at the Pre-K level.

## Course Objectives

1. To develop an understanding of and be able to successfully engage students in playing instruments, listening, chanting, singing, moving, and pattern instruction.
2. To be able to apply an understanding of individual differences among children to the preparation of elementary general music lessons.
3. To familiarize students with a variety of general music methods and materials appropriate for the elementary music classroom.
4. To develop an understanding of how general music contributes to a school music program.

## Division of Music Education Attendance Policy

Regular attendance with promptness and with assignments completed reflects a positive, accepting attitude in university education. With the responsibility of being a music education student comes a conscious decision to act professionally at all times.

***More than 3 unexcused absences will result in a failing grade.***

Three tardies will be counted as one absence.

\*Only university excused absences will be accepted. You must present notification to your professor, which may be obtained from the Office of the Dean of Students.

**Extra Information Regarding Attendance**

1. Basically, it comes down to this: you don’t need to come to me for an excuse. You are allowed three absences outside of university-sponsored events. You can use these three absences for anything you want: illness, family issues, personal issues, etc. After the 4th absence, you fail the class.
2. If you arrive late to class, it is your responsibility to inform me after class so that I can change an absence mark to a tardy mark. Do not leave class that day until you see me change the mark. If you are late, but do not remind me that you came to class, any marks for absence that day will not be changed.
3. Students who leave class up to 10 minutes early will receive a tardy for the day.
4. The following activities will result in an automatic absence:
5. Cell phone use (unless directed by instructor)
6. Sleeping in class
7. Disrupting class

## Assignment Due Dates:

I will accept **one** late assignment if you turn it in within 48 hours of the due date. The highest grade assigned for late submissions will be an 85. Any other late assignments will receive a grade of zero.

* **If you are absent, you are still responsible for turning in assignments on time (via e-mail or having a friend bring the assignment to me).**
* **It is your responsibility to find out what was assigned for the following class. Regardless of whether or not you were absent, you are still expected to turn in work on time.**

## Plan Ahead!

**In order to student teach, you must:**

* Have an overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 on all UNT course work and an overall GPA of 2.75
* Have an overall GPA of 2.75 in all MUXX courses and all EDXX courses
* Have a minimum of a C in all music and education courses
* Have an overall GPA of 2.75 in your professional development classes. See your Student Handbook for a list of these courses.
* Have completed successfully ALL proficiency examinations before you apply for student teaching. This includes your piano proficiency, concentration proficiency, and all components of the music education student review. No coursework should be taken during student teaching.

## Grading Policy

A = 90-100; B = 80-89; C = 70-79; D = 60-69; F = 0-59

Any attached files in Canvas must be in Microsoft Word format unless otherwise specified.

Grades will be based on the following assignment categories:

Reading Quizzes on Canvas

Peer Teaching Experiences

Field Teaching Experiences

Final Exam

**Be aware that final grades in Canvas may not reflect appropriate weighting. I average the grades myself and encourage all students to average their own grades throughout the semester to see your true status.**

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students (Office of Academic Integrity), who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term “cheating" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term “plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

See: [Academic Integrity](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003)

LINK: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

**STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

See: [Student Code of Conduct](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct)

Link: <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

**ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT**

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at [my.unt.edu](http://my.unt.edu/). All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect.

See: [Eagle Connect](http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/)

LINK:  [eagleconnect.unt.edu/](http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/)

**ODA STATEMENT**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter. You can now request your Letters of Accommodation ONLINE and ODA will mail your Letters of Accommodation to your instructors. You may wish to begin a private discussion with your professors regarding your specific needs in a course. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access.

See: [ODA](https://disability.unt.edu/)

LINK: [disability.unt.edu](http://disability.unt.edu/). (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

**Health and Safety Information**

Students can access information about health and safety at: <https://music.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness>

**Registration Information for Students**

See: [Registration Information](https://registrar.unt.edu/students)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/students>

**Academic Calendar, Fall 2025**

See: [Fall 2025 Registration Information](https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

**Final Exam Schedule, Fall 2025**

See above

**Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress**

Undergraduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid.  Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total hours registered.   Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan.  If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

Students holding music scholarships must maintain a minimum 2.5 overall cumulative GPA and 3.0 cumulative GPA in music courses.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended that you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course before doing so.

See: [Financial Aid](http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

Graduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Music scholarships require a 3.5 cumulative GPA. Students cannot exceed maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program.  If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended you schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college, an advisor in UNT-International or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course.

See: [Financial Aid](http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

**RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS**

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university’s policy in accordance with those mandates.

See: [FERPA](http://ferpa.unt.edu/)

Link: <http://ferpa.unt.edu/>

**COUNSELING AND TESTING**

UNT’s Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor for students in need. Please visit the Center’s website for further information:

See: [Counseling and Testing](http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)

Link: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>.

For more information on mental health resources, please visit:

See:  [Mental Health Resources](https://disparities.unt.edu/mental-health-resources)

Link: <https://disparities.unt.edu/mental-health-resources>

**ADD/DROP POLICY**

Please be reminded that dropping classes or failing to complete and pass registered hours may make you ineligible for financial aid. In addition, if you drop below half-time enrollment you may be required to begin paying back your student loans. See Academic Calendar (listed above) for additional add/drop Information.

Drop Information: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

**STUDENT RESOURCES**

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to:

See: [Student Resources](https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources)

Link: <https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources>

**CARE TEAM**

The Care Team is a collaborative interdisciplinary committee of university officials that meets regularly to provide a response to student, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others.

See: [Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team)

Link: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team>

**Proposed Calendar: Fall 2025**

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| TUESDAY | THURSDAY |
| August 19 (Class 1)* Syllabus
* Formal and Informal Instruction
* Pitch Exploration Stories

**Assignment:** Write a short pitch exploration story that makes use of vocal exploration, pitch exploration, and head voice. Be prepared to share it with the class.**Due on Canvas: Thursday, August 21 by 11:00 am** | August 21 (Class 2)* Denton ISD Background Checks
* Singing Ranges
* Teaching a Song by Rote

**Assignment 1:** When you complete your Denton ISD Background Check, you will receive a confirmation email from Denton ISD. In order to teach in Denton ISD this semester, you must forward this message to our administrative assistant, Ms. Laura Russell, at Laura.Russell@unt.edu. To complete this assignment, take a screen shot of your forwarded email to Ms. Russell and attach it to the Canvas assignment. **Due on Canvas by Thursday, August 28 at 5:00 pm.****Assignment 2:** Read “Selecting Quality Songs for the Elementary Music Class” by Julie Scott and “Sifting Through a World of Music” by Carlos Abril. **Canvas Quiz due Tuesday, August 26 by 11:00 am**  |
| **August 26 (Class 3)*** Review of Singing Ranges
* TEKS
* The Kodály Approach: History, Philosophy, Practice
* The Kodály Process: Prepare, Present, Practice

 | August 28 (Class 4)* The Kodály Approach Continued: Prepare, Present, Practice
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| September 2 (Class 5)* Kodály Continued – Teaching Group Preparation (Prepare, Present, Practice)

**Assignment Part 1:** Upload a slide presentation with your Kodály teaching materials for the next class. **Due on Canvas by Tuesday, September 9 by 11:00 am****Assignment Part 2:** Practice your portion of the lesson, memorize the sequence of instruction, and **submit a video recording** demonstrating your ability to teach your portion of the lesson with **accuracy**. **Due on Canvas by Tuesday, September 9 by 11:00 am.** | September 4 (Class 6)* Kodály Continued – Teaching Group Preparation (Prepare, Present, Practice)
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| September 9 (Class 7)Peer Teaching Presentation (Prepare, Present, Practice) – 15 minutes each. GRADED | September 11 (Class 8)Peer Teaching Presentation (Prepare, Present, Practice) – 15 minutes each. GRADED**Assignment:** Read “Me? Teach Improvisation to Children?” by Julie Scott. * **Canvas Quiz due Tuesday, September 16 at 11:00 am**
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| September 16 (Class 9)Orff Schulwerk History, Philosophy, PracticeSpeech, Body Percussion, Instruments | September 18 (Class 10)Orff SchulwerkWriting Simple Borduns and Sound Color |
| September 23 (Class 11)* Teaching Preparation (Song/Speech, Body Percussion-Instruments for Bordun and Sound Color)

  | September 25 (Class 12)Teaching Preparation Continued (Speech/Song, Body Percussion, Percussion Instruments for Bordun and Sound Color)**Assignment Part 1:** Choose a song in the Orff Peer Teaching Module, and create an arrangement that includes the vocal part, a simple bordun (chord, broken, crossover) on bass xylophone, and a sound color part on a glockenspiel (remember sound color does not occur in every measure). Upload a copy of the Orff arrangement you created. **Assignment Part 2:** Practice the entire lesson, memorize the sequence of instruction, and submit a video recording demonstrating your ability to teach the lesson with accuracy.**Due on Canvas by Tuesday September 30 at 11:00 am** |
| September 30 (Class 13)Peer Teaching Presentation (Speech/Song, Body Percussion, Instruments) GRADED. | October 2 (Class 14)Peer Teaching Presentation (Speech/Song, Body Percussion, Instruments) GRADED. |
| October 7 (Class 15)Gordon’s Music Learning Theory (MLT)Chants with Rhythm Patterns | October 9 (Class 16)Gordon’s Music Learning Theory ContinuedSongs with Tonal Patterns |
| October 14 (Class 17)Gordon’s Music Learning Theory continuedSongs and Chants | October 16 (Class 18)Observing at Ann Windle School for Young Children  |
| October 21 (Class 19)Songs, Chants, and Movement – Building RepertoireLesson Plannning Introduction | October 23 (Class 20)Dr. Taylor at SMTEGuest Speaker: Dr. Michael Crawford (Drumming) |
| October 28 (Class 21)Lesson Planning for Informal Instruction**Assignment:** Practice your activities, memorize the sequence of instruction, and **submit a video recording** demonstrating your ability to teach your activities with **accuracy**. Due on Canvas by Thursday, October 31 at 11:00 am. Be ready to demonstrate your activities in class on **Thursday, October 30 at 11:00 am**. | October 30 (Class 22)Peer Teaching (2 groups) |
| November 4 (Class 23)Peer Teaching (2 Groups) | November 6 (Class 24)Field teaching #1 at Ann Windle School for Young Children**Assignment:** Ann Windle Teaching Self-Evaluation: Due on Canvas by **Tuesday, November 11 at 11:00 am**. |
| November 11 (Class 25)Teaching Students with Learning Differences: Universal Design for Learning | November 13 (Class 26)Prepare for Lesson #2 at Ann Windle**Assignment:** Practice your activities, memorize the sequence of instruction, and **submit a video recording** demonstrating your ability to teach your activities with **accuracy**. Due on Canvas by **Tuesday, November 18 at 11:00 am**. Be ready to demonstrate your activities in class on November 19. |
| November 18 (Class 27)Peer Teaching (2 groups) | November 20 (Class 28)Peer Teaching (2 groups) |
| December 2 (Class 29)Field Teaching #2 at Ann Windle School for Young ChildrenAssignment: Ann Windle Teaching Self-Evaluation: Due on Canvas by Thursday, December 4 at 11:00 am. | December 4 (Class 30)Course Evaluations (SPOT) and Class Review for Final |
| December 9 (Class 31)Final Exam (10:30am – 12:30pm) |