

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, SPRING 2026
MUSIC IN CHILDHOOD
TTH: 11:00am-12:20pm

Ms. Jamie Rives

E-Mail: Jamie.Rives@unt.edu

Office Phone: (817) 793-9627

Office: MU 317

Office Hours: TTH: 1:30-2:30pm, pending clinical teacher observations

Other times available by appointment

Optional Text:

John Martin Feierabend. (2020). *First steps in music for preschool and beyond : the curriculum*. 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.

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.

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. Absences for illness *may* be accepted with a doctor's note, at the discretion of the professor.

Extra Information Regarding Attendance

1. Basically, it comes down to this: you do not need to come to me for an excuse. You are allowed three absences outside of university-sponsored events or illness with documentation. 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:
 - a. Cell phone use (unless directed by instructor)
 - b. Sleeping in class
 - c. 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 Canvas.**
- **It is your responsibility to find out what was assigned for the following class. Regardless of whether you were absent, you are expected to turn in work on time.**

Grading Policy

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

Assignments must be submitted via Canvas. If you use google drive, give commenting privileges to jamieLrives@gmail.com.

Grades will be based on the following assignment categories:

Assignments and Quizzes on Canvas- 30%

Peer/Early Childhood Teaching Experiences- 20%

Observation Attendance- 15%

Class Participation- 15%

Final Exam- 20%

Proposed Calendar: Spring 2026

TUESDAY	THURSDAY
<p>January 13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Syllabus ● Introductions ● Singing Research ● Assignment Expectations <p>Assignment- Complete “Introductions” in Canvas. Due on Wednesday, January 14, 11:59pm. <i>Bring your government issued ID with you on Thursday.</i></p> <p>Venmo Mr. Rives \$2 OR get cash to give to Ms. Rives on Thursday. Due on Thursday, January 15, 12:00 noon.</p>	<p>January 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complete Singing Research, if needed ● Denton ISD Background Check ● CYC Background Check ● How to Teach a Song ● Choose a song to teach next week. It must be approved in class. ● Assignment Expectations/Rubric <p>Assignments- “Choosing a Song to Teach”- Submit the name of the song and a master copy of the song you are teaching and what method you will use. You may not use “echo singing.” Due Monday, January 19, 11:59pm.</p> <p>Practice teaching your song to someone. You will teach it next week in class to your peers for a grade. Names will be drawn at random.</p> <p>Forward your Denton ISD Background Check email confirmation to me at jamie.rives@unt.edu. Cc Laura Russell at Laura.Russell@unt.edu. Due Monday, January 19, 11:59pm.</p>
<p>January 20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Peer Teach- teaching a song 	<p>January 22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Peer Teach- teaching a song <p>Assignments- “Scott and Abril Articles: Selecting Quality Songs.” These are linked in the assignment in Canvas. Canvas Quiz is due Monday, January 27, 11:59pm.</p> <p>“Teaching a Song” teaching reflection due Monday, January 27, 11:59pm.</p>

<p>January 27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEKS • Various Scope and Sequences • Choosing Culturally Sensitive Songs 	<p>January 29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kodály Approach: History, Philosophy • The Kodály Process: Prepare, Present, Practice • Kodály Lesson Planning <p>Assignment/Quiz- “Kodály Group Work” assignment. Due Monday, February 2, 11:59pm.</p>
<p>February 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rives Teaching Demo, Rhythm and Pitch • Kodály Teach Planning in Groups (3 people per group, 7 groups) <p>Assignment – Work on your Kodály teach.</p>	<p>February 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued Kodály Teach Planning/Practice in Groups (3 groups, 7 people per group) <p>Assignment- Upload your slide show and group script for your Kodály teach. Due on Monday, February 9, 11:59pm.</p>
<p>February 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued Kodály Teach Practice in Groups (3 groups, 7 people per group) <p>Assignment – Practice your “Kodály Teach”- practice to teach your peers next week.</p>	<p>February 12- TMEA</p> <p>NO in person class. Please complete the assignment listed below!</p> <p>Assignment – Practice your “Kodály Teach”- practice to teach your peers next week.</p>
<p>February 17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kodály Group Teaches <p>Assignment-“Kodály” teaching reflection due Wednesday, February 18, 11:59pm.</p>	<p>February 19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observation Assignment Overviews and Expectations- classroom management, teacher talk, what concepts are being taught? • Look at signup genius and additional options for observations. • Orff Schulwerk History, Philosophy, Practice Speech, Body Percussion, Instruments <p>Assignment- “Orff Group Work” assignment. Due Monday, February 2, 11:59pm.</p>

<p>February 24</p> <p>NO in person class. Please complete the assignments listed below!</p> <p>Assignment- Signup for a time to do your elementary observation and submit it in Canvas. If you are observing through another option, what will it be? Submit evidence that it is being planned. Due by Wednesday, February 25, 11:59pm</p> <p>Assignment: Read “Me? Teach Improvisation to Children?” by Julie Scott. Canvas Quiz due Wednesday, February 25, 11:59pm.</p>	<p>February 26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rives Orff Teaching Demo ● Orff Schulwerk- Writing Simple Borduns and Sound Color ● Assignment Expectations- “Create an Orff Arrangement” ● Orff Teaching Preparation- Choosing a song, work on arrangements and practice your teach <p>Assignment- Submit a master copy of the song you will use for your Orff arrangement. Due Monday, March 2, 11:59pm. Start working on your Orff arrangement and how you will teach it.</p>
<p>March 3</p> <p>NO in person class. Go observe an elementary or early childhood music teacher!</p> <p>Work on your Orff arrangement and how you will teach it.</p>	<p>March 5</p> <p>NO in person class. Go observe an elementary or early childhood music teacher!</p> <p>Assignment- “Create an Orff Arrangement”- 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. Upload a copy of the Orff arrangement you created. Due on Monday, March 16, 11:59pm.</p>
<p>March 10 & 12</p> <p>No Class</p> <p>Spring Break</p>	
<p>March 17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Orff Teaching preparation and practice <p>Assignment- Practice your “Orff Teach.” Teaches will begin on Thursday.</p>	<p>March 19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Orff Peer Teaching <p>Assignment- Practice your Orff peer teach</p>
<p>March 24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Orff Peer Teaching ● Create a B section <p>Assignment- “Orff” teaching reflection due Wednesday, March 25, 11:59pm.</p>	<p>March 26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Catch up day or move on

March 31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gordon's Music Learning Theory • Laban • Dalcroze 	April 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish Lecture from Tuesday, if needed or move on.
April 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching Students with Learning Differences: Universal Design for Learning 	April 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rives Early Childhood teaching demo • Class assignments for individual activities <p>Assignment- "Early Childhood Activity 1"- upload a video of you leading your assigned activity in Canvas. Due on Monday, April 13, 11:59pm</p>
April 14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In class practice for Early Childhood teaches <p>Assignment- practice for your Early Childhood teach</p>	April 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Childhood Teach OR Elementary Class Observation <p>Assignment- practice for your Early Childhood teach</p>
April 21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Childhood Teach OR Elementary Class Observation <p>Assignment- practice for your Early Childhood teach "Early Childhood" teaching reflections #1 & #2 due Wednesday, April 22, 11:59pm.</p>	April 23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Childhood Teach OR Elementary Class Observation <p>Assignment- practice for your Early Childhood teach. Please complete your SPOT Evaluation.</p>
April 28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Childhood Teach OR Elementary Class Observation <p>Assignment- "Early Childhood" teaching reflection #3 & 4 due Wednesday, April 29, 11:59pm.</p>	April 30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class Review for Final • Class Feedback <p>Assignment- Make sure to submit your 3 observation assignments in Canvas. They are Due by Monday, May 4, 11:59pm</p> <p>Study for your final exam.</p>
May 5 <p>Final Exam (10:00am-12:00pm)</p>	

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that 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](#) 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](#) 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](#). 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](#) LINK: 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](#) LINK: 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](#) Link:
<https://registrar.unt.edu/students>

Academic Calendar, Spring 2026 See: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-academic-calendar.html>
Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/sites/default/files/spring-2026-academic-calendar.pdf>

Final Exam Schedule, Spring 2026 <https://registrar.unt.edu/sites/default/files/final-exam-schedule-spring-2026-main.pdf>

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 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](#) 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](#) 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](#) 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](#)
Link: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>.

For more information on mental health resources, please visit: See: [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](#) 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 students, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others. See: [Care Team](#) Link: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team>