



This program roadmap represents one possible pathway to complete the program. **Please see a counselor** to create an education plan that is customized to meet your needs. This roadmap is not a guarantee of course availability or financial aid applicability.

**Catalog:** 2025-26

**GE Pattern:** local AA/AS

**Total Units:** 60

## First Year

### Semester 1

8 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	<b>MUSM 342</b> Recording Studio Techniques I	3		
GE	<b>ENGL C1000</b> Academic Reading and Writing <b>or</b> <b>ENGL C1000H<sup>H</sup></b> Academic Reading and Writing - Honors	3		L1A
GE	any Area L7B (Life Development Skills) course	2		L7B

### Semester 2

9 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	<b>MUSM 344</b> Recording Studio Techniques II	3	MUSM 342	
Req	<b>MUSM 356</b> Pro Tools 101, Introduction to Pro Tools	1.5		
Req	<b>MUSM 357</b> Pro Tools 110 Intermediate Pro Tools	1.5	MUSM 356	
GE	<b>MATH 300</b> Introduction to Mathematical Ideas	3		L2

## Second Year

### Semester 3

6 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	<b>MUSM 350</b> Recording Studio Techniques III	3	MUSM 344	
Req	<b>MUSM 311</b> Introduction to Music Business	3		

### Semester 4

6 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	<b>MUSM 334</b> Introduction to Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI)	2		
RE	<b>MUFHL 321</b> Basic Musicianship	3		L3

## CAREER PATH

### Career Options:

ARC's Commercial Music: Recording program provides students the core skills needed to enter a career in audio engineering. Foundational classes in the theory and art of recording are coupled with laboratory experiences in order to prepare the student for further study at a four-year institution or for an entry-level career position. Many students work in a recording studio or even start a studio/business of their own.

Once students have gained a background in music production, coupled with business and entrepreneurship skills, they are prepared to work in a wide variety of niches in the music industry such as:

- recording studio audio engineer/audio engineering assistant
- music producer
- post-production audio (voiceover, audio FX, Foley and ADR for film/TV)
- mastering engineer
- live sound operator
- acoustic design and installation engineer
- audio/media specialist for houses of worship
- audio engineer for video
- audio gaming engineer
- audio multimedia specialist
- audiovisual consultant
- multimedia educators and specialist (K-12, college, university,

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
GE	any Area L7A (Physical Education) course	1		L7A

## Third Year

### Semester 5

7 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	MUSM 367 Audio for Video Post Production	3	MUSM 344	
Req	ET 302 Principles of Electricity and Electronics	4		

### Semester 6

9 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	MUSM 362 Mixing and Mastering Music Projects	3	MUSM 350, 356 and 357	
Req	MUSM 306 Live Sound Reinforcement	3	MUSM 342	
GE	any Area L4 (Social & Behavioral Sciences) course	3		L4

## Fourth Year

### Semester 7

9 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	MUSM 120 Contemporary Songwriting I	3	MUFHL 321	
RE	MUSM 361 Advanced Studio Sessions	3	MUSM 350	
GE	any Area LIB (Oral Communication & Critical Thinking) course	3		L1B

### Semester 8

6 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
GE	any Area L5 (Natural Sciences) course	3		L5
GE	any Area L6 (Ethnic Studies) course	3		L6

<sup>H</sup> honors courses

conservatory, private studio)

- stage technician
- studio manager

### Advising Notes:

- Students should meet with a counselor and the Commercial Music program director to ensure they are following an education plan that takes their needs and goals into consideration.
- This degree can be completed using either the local AA/AS general education (GE) pattern or the Cal-GETC transfer GE pattern. [See a counselor](#) to determine which pattern is best for you based on your academic goals.
- Students can substitute ESLW 340 for ENGL C1000/C1000H (formerly known as ENGWR 300/480).

### Scheduling Notes:

- MUSM 356 is scheduled during the 1<sup>st</sup> 8 weeks and MUSM 357 during the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8 weeks in the spring, so they can be taken in the same semester.
- MUSM 367 is offered in the fall.
- MUSM 140 and 362 are offered in the spring.

### Other Notes:

- Students can use this degree, with additional coursework, to prepare to transfer to earn bachelor's degrees in Audio Recording, Music Production, Acoustical Engineering, and other related fields.
- At the end of semester 4 students qualify for the **Digital Audio Production certificate**, and at the end of semester 7 students qualify for the **Commercial Music: Recording certificate**.

### EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES

Req	Required Core	A course that is required for this program
GE	General Education	A course that fulfills a specific general education requirement for a degree, which can be replaced with another course that meets the same requirement
RE	Restricted Elective	A course selected from a list of elective courses specified for this program in the course list in the catalog, which can be replaced with another course from the same list

