

## **General Education Curriculum at VanderCook College of Music**

The general education curriculum at VanderCook serves as the solid foundation for a candidate's preparation as a world citizen and educator. The general education coursework is designed to nurture in a VanderCook graduate the ability to:

- participate in a diverse, complex and ever-changing world;
- develop a global understanding of history, sociology, and the human condition;
- reason and think critically;
- communicate effectively when speaking and writing;
- participate in a technology forward society with the ability to balance the humanizing force of music with science.

The General Education courses offered at VanderCook College of Music are listed below followed by the overarching goal of each course. This goal is used to guide the development of course syllabi in conjunction with the General Education

### **Language Arts I & II (Remedial Coursework) - 2 credits (not toward degree completion)**

Development of basic grammatical, writing and reading comprehension skills as deemed necessary by the candidate's ACT/SAT score and application essay.

### **English I – Composition: Comprehension and Creation - 3 credits**

Proficiency in spelling, grammar and usage skills in Standard English and be able to use these skills to write effectively and expressively. Writing, using essay format, from personal experience, observation and reading.

### **English II – Reading & Rhetoric - 3 credits**

Reading comprehension and the development of critical thinking skills and analytical reading skills, skills needed to critically annotate a text, construct and support a thesis are emphasized.

### **English III - Literature - 3 credits**

Emphasis placed on appreciating, understanding, interpreting, discussing and critiquing literary texts.

### **College Mathematics – 3 credits**

Emphasis placed on critical thinking and reasoning skills and the ability to apply analytical procedures and thought processes to the solution of quantitative and abstract problems. Candidates will acquire an understanding of mathematical principles and methodologies.

### **Intro to Psychology – 3 credits**

Provides the candidate with an introduction to the fundamental principles of human behavior, psychology and the major subjects of psychological inquiry. This course is a prerequisite to Educational Psychology.

### **Public Speaking – 3 credits**

Emphasis on preparation of an effective verbal presentation including content and delivery, analysis of different types of speeches and the development of poise and voice projection.

**US History – 3 credits**

Develop understanding of the creation of the American government and current political system. Utilizes comparative skills to enrich candidate’s appreciation of the American government system.

**Physics of Light & Sound – 3 credits + Lab**

Emphasis on scientific inquiry methods. Develop the musician’s scientific knowledge of sound production and how it travels.

**Socio Political Geography – 3 credits**

Develop knowledge and understanding of the social, political and historical development of societies throughout the world.

**Music History & Culture I - 3 credits**

Contemporaneous trends and styles in art, literature, architecture and society are explored from ancient times to 1750.

**Music History & Culture II – 3 credits**

Contemporaneous trends and styles in art, literature, architecture and society are explored from 1750 to present.

**World Music – 3 credits**

Strengthen knowledge of world culture’s indigenous music and influences.

**Health Education – 2 credits**

Awareness of personal and community health, environmental concerns and health education for the educator.

Following is a chart of the general education curriculum objectives with the course addressing this objective along with the benchmark assessment to address these goals.

**General Education Goals & Institutional Assessment**

Objective	General Education Courses Addressing Objective	Institutional Assessment of the Objective
Participate in a diverse, complex and ever-changing world	English I English II English III Psychology US History Socio Political Geography World Music Health Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade review by Dean</li> <li>• Mid-term Standards Committee review</li> <li>• Candidate Outcomes Assessment</li> <li>• edTPA assessment</li> </ul>

<p>Develop a global understanding of history, sociology, and the human condition</p>	<p>Psychology  US History  Socio Political  Geography  Music History I  Music History II  World Music  Health Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade review by Dean</li> <li>• Mid-term Standards Committee review</li> <li>• Pre-performance interviews for seminar and recitals</li> <li>• Candidate Outcomes Assessment</li> <li>• Student Conductor Integrated Project</li> <li>• edTPA assessment</li> </ul>
<p>Reason and think critically</p>	<p>English II  English III  Math  US History  Physics of Light and Sound  Health Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baseline assessment of academic readiness</li> <li>• Grade review by Dean</li> <li>• Mid-term Standards Committee review</li> <li>• Pre-clinical experience reflections</li> <li>• Candidate Outcomes Assessment</li> <li>• Student Conductor Integrated Project</li> <li>• edTPA assessment</li> </ul>
<p>Communicate effectively when speaking and writing</p>	<p>(Language Arts I &amp; II)  English I  English II  English III  Public Speaking  Physics of Light and Sound  Socio Political  Geography  Music History I  Music History II  Health Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baseline assessment of academic readiness</li> <li>• Grade review by Dean</li> <li>• Mid-term Standards Committee review</li> <li>• Pre-clinical experience reflections</li> <li>• Candidate</li> </ul>

		<p>Outcomes Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Conductor Integrated Project</li> <li>• Student Teaching application</li> <li>• edTPA assessment</li> </ul>
<p>Participate in a technology forward society with the ability to balance the humanizing force of music with science</p>	<p>English III Math Psychology Physics of Light and Sound Music History I Music History II World Music</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade review by Dean</li> <li>• Mid-term Standards Committee review</li> <li>• Candidate Outcomes Assessment</li> <li>• Student conductor integrated project</li> <li>• Student Teaching application</li> <li>• edTPA assessment</li> </ul>