

SOPHOMORE-YEAR REVIEW

[Tuesday, February 16, 2016]

In accordance with the National Association of the Schools of Music, all Music majors are required to undergo a **Sophomore (mid-study academic) Review**. The Sophomore Review is an empirical assessment of academic and artistic progress, guides the student and faculty for the remainder of the student's undergraduate studies in music, and assists the student in formulating a post college career plan.

The Sophomore Review includes:

- a performance in front of faculty (normally the Fall jury of the student's Sophomore year)
- an assessment of the student's academic transcripts and major essay
- an assessment of all previous juries (normally at least two semesters of study on their principal instrument) in consultation with the student's applied teacher
- a formal interview with full-time music faculty, which normally takes place during spring semester of the student's sophomore year. [This year, it is **Tuesday, February 16, 2016**]
- The student must meet with their music adviser, discuss their **major essay** and their **Declaration of Major form** with their adviser, and sign up for sophomore review **at least two weeks prior** to the review itself (**Prior to Feb. 2, 2016**).

MAJOR ESSAY

When declaring a major in music, students must submit an essay in which they articulate their rationale for becoming a music major, including thoughts about their educational goals and career plans. The essay should have at least one paragraph dedicated to each of the questions below:

1. How do the requirements for the music major complement your program of liberal arts study and support your career or life goals?
2. As a music major, how will you (a) build on your current strengths and (b) address areas in which you are in need of improvement?

The essay should be **between 750 and 1000 words** and must accompany the **Declaration of Major form** when a student has their meeting with their major advisor. Normally, a student will need to revise the essay after meeting with their advisor. Students will electronically submit the final, advisor approved, their approved version of the essay along with the major declaration form to the music departmental assistant **two weeks prior to the actual Sophomore Review**. The file name for the essay should be as follows: student's last name, student's first name, and graduation year (for example, doejane2018). The student will discuss their major essay with the music faculty during the Sophomore Review.

MAJOR DECLARATION

Each student must submit their plan for remaining academic requirements to be taken over the remaining semesters at Rhodes on their declaration form. The student, in consultation with their advisor, must layout a clearly articulated plan for how and when they will take the courses required in a realistic fashion for graduation. It is understood that changes may well occur to this plan, but it is essential that the student articulate a well thought-out plan at the time of this review.

The form is available at the following link:

https://express.rhodes.edu/sites/Express/files/Reg_Declaration_of_Major.pdf