

Textbook Alternatives Project (TAP)

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MUSC 1A: Music Systems

First course in a four-semester core sequence of study of analytical systems of music. Topics include rhythm, melody, harmony, timbre, structure, texture, style and contexts for performance and composition.

Brief description of the course and its place in the curriculum

Music 1A is a first-year required course for all music majors. This course explores the fundamental structural components of music and is coupled with a continuation course, Music 2A. Students are required to use a \$136 textbook and used copies are seldom available because students heavily annotate their books.

Summary of course re-design activities

Prof. Belet is developing a course pack to replace the current required textbook using AcademicPub, a web-based platform that makes course packs available to students online and in print. The course pack will be tailored specifically to the course objectives, reducing both the size and the cost of the required text. Because it is digital, it will also be easy to update and modify.

Students will be surveyed for their views on the course pack and Prof. Belet will compare the effectiveness of the new book to the existing textbook.

The course pack is expected to be priced around \$65. With an average enrollment of 320 students annually, students could collectively save over \$22,000 a year.

