

**Eastern Illinois University
College of Arts and Humanities
Department of Music**

PROGRAM REVISION

Rationale

The Music Department at Eastern Illinois University is committed to offering the best possible training for all students seeking a degree in music. Such a commitment requires continuing self-study and evaluation and a desire to construct curricula that properly prepare students for their chosen career, and maintain the department's competitive edge in the face of rapidly changing fields of music. It is precisely this desire that drives the enclosed program revision.

The most extensive changes are to the Teacher Certification Degree Option, which continues to have the highest enrollment in the department. The field of music education is undergoing great changes throughout the nation, and the enclosed revision is designed to better prepare our students for the challenges they will face in the teaching profession. In crafting this new curriculum, we have carefully studied and implemented the standards and guidelines set forth by the Illinois State Board of Education, the National Association of Schools of Music, and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. The Music Department firmly believes that this new Teacher Certification Option is in full compliance with these standards and, in fact, exceeds them.

The proliferation of hours in music education degrees throughout the state and nation has made it increasingly difficult to attract students. The Music Department has taken the initiative to create a program that is of high quality and allows for timely degree completion. The result is a highly competitive and attractive four-year degree.