

Course Catalog Introduction

Virtual NEMC includes online musical course offerings which mirror and enhance the traditional NEMC experience. Course registration will be available shortly.

During the four weeks of Virtual NEMC, musical classes will follow a Monday to Friday schedule. Students will be directly engaged in online courses for about 12-15 hours per week. These hours include 2 half-hour private lessons, performance-based group classes, technique-building seminars, and literature exploration. These practical and engaging courses, led by our faculty of professional artist-educators, will help all students achieve success in their musical, social, and personal lives.

Each class is 45 minutes in length and meets either one or two times per week. This allows for students to choose a wide variety of courses and to learn from numerous faculty and guests. All students will be required to take the following courses specific to their instrument: private lessons, studio class, and performance master-class. The remaining hours can be scheduled with applied classes and electives. Students should not exceed 18 hours of class time per week.

The final course schedule will depend on student enrollment. I will make every effort to accommodate scheduling requests. We are excited for you to join us at Virtual NEMC!

Bethany Niedbala, Registrar
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VIRTUAL NEMC COURSE CATALOG

Private Lessons - Camp tuition includes two ½-hour private lessons per week on your declared major. You may take extra lessons, which are available at \$30 per half-hour, but you should keep in mind that extra practice time will be needed. Schedule your total class load accordingly. We recommend no more than two lessons a week on one instrument and the study of no more than two instruments. These ½-hour private lessons will be scheduled Monday through Friday, between 1pm and 4pm.

Minor Performing Groups

Virtual NEMC allows for the creation of one or two small ensembles which will rehearse individually, perform for each other during class meetings and then send recordings to each other. These ensembles may ultimately have a “group performance” of spliced parts. For each minor performing group, students will be pre-selected and groups will be formed before July 5.

Wind Chamber Ensemble: A combination of flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, and/or horn players.

Brass Chamber Ensemble: A combination of trumpet, trombone, horn, and/or euphonium/tuba players.

Saxophone Quartet: A select group of saxophone players will learn and perform saxophone literature.

Jazz Combo: Select small group consists of one piano, one bass, one drum set, one saxophone, trumpet and/or trombone.

String Chamber Ensemble: A select combination of violin, viola, cello, bass, and/or piano players.

Guitar Ensemble: This course is for intermediate to advanced guitarists. Students will study a variety of guitar repertoire.

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Applied Classes

AP Music Theory Prep: All campers are encouraged to become proficient in music theory. Students are tested prior to July and then placed in class levels I-IV. Topics include aural skills/sight-singing, dictation, counterpoint, harmony and score analysis. Only students who successfully complete Theory IV are advised to attempt the AP Music Theory exam. ***2 classes per week***

Memorization Seminar: Instrumentalists will jump right into memorizing a movement or part of a movement using different techniques including: mnemonic devices, solfege, harmonic analysis, application of verbal memorization, and kinesthetic memory. This class is designed to prepare instrumentalists, who often are overwhelmed when the first thing they are asked to memorize is for a competition. ***1 class per week***

“Insider” Strategies for Mindful Practice: Geared for instrumentalists, this course is a consolidated platform to share all the practicing “tricks” and techniques the faculty has picked up as professionals. All the different rhythmic variations like those found in the Galamian book, backwards and forwards chaining, mirror isolation, effective use of the metronome (speeding up 10 then slowing down 5 etc), using large pulses only on downbeats to build internal pulse, drone usage for intonation (Tuning CD). Additionally in this masterclass type setting, students will gain self-awareness in areas such as posture, breathing, dynamic control, vibrato, tone production, and other practice subjects. The faculty in this class will distribute resources and cover how to use them as much as possible within one class. This class will give the students a chance to “practice” in front of a teacher while possibly picking up more efficient and lasting methods. ***2 classes per week***

Audition Workshop for Instrumentalists: Strategies on preparation for All-State, summer festival, college and scholarship auditions, as well as information on professional orchestral auditions. Students will workshop their repertoire using specific self-recording techniques, how to use recordings in playback with a tuner and metronome, guides to mock auditions, and mental training. ***1-2 classes per week***

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VOICE AND MUSICAL THEATER

Voice Class: Voice class at NEMC will be a time for exploring singing techniques, vocal pedagogy, vocal health topics, breath management, repertoire selection, and practice strategies as a group. Each session will include stretching, posture exercises, vocal warm ups, and specific singing topics to be discussed, demonstrated, and worked through in a supportive and positive environment. By the end of the course, singers will have a more thorough understanding of their voice as an instrument, and how to best prepare for practice and performance as a singer. *Voice Class I is geared for students with less singing experience, while Voice Class II is designed for the advancing singer.*

2 classes per week

Diction: This course will present and discuss principles of diction as they apply to singing in English, Italian, Germany and French. The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) will serve as the framework for the course. Singers will be expected to sing in the languages being studied. ***1 class per week***

Choral Conducting: Basic conducting technique, conducting patterns, and score reading are introduced. Discussion will include repertoire selection, rehearsal techniques, and practical choral directing experiences. Students ages 15 and over are encouraged to enroll. ***2 classes per week***

Acting (Levels I and II): Students will strengthen the foundation of their acting technique by understanding the preparation, character development, and backstory necessary to create roles for the stage. Students will focus on contemporary and classical monologues and scenes from both the musical theater and stage play repertoire. Emphasis will be placed on creating a safe and fun environment in which to discover and deepen the craft of stage acting. Level I is geared for students just beginning their study, while Level II is designed for a student with more experience.

2 classes per week

Voice Studio Performance Class: This class will function as a master-class in which the participants perform pieces of their choice or pieces that they are working on in lessons while the rest of the class, along with faculty, observes and offers constructive commentary. ***2-3 classes per week***

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Vocal History and Literature: Created for the classical music lover, this course serves to educate the student in the deep history of repertoire, composers, and performers from the baroque, classical, and romantic periods. Composers of study may include Schumann, Wagner, and Schubert. ***2 classes per week***

Intro to Opera: Verdi, Puccini, Mozart? Pavarotti, Maria Callas, Andrea Bocelli? This introductory course will explore various opera literature, through listening, study and performance. Students will learn about opera literature, themes, composers, and performances. In addition, students will gain an inside look at being an opera performer. ***2 classes per week***

Musical Theater History and Performance: Calling all Broadway lovers! Here is your chance to listen, learn, and perform repertoire of the American Musical Theater genre. From Rodgers and Hammerstein to Sondheim and Andrew Lloyd Webber, students will explore a variety of methods including plot and character summaries, scene and song video viewing, and in-class singing. In addition, our faculty includes former Broadway artists who will share a backstage peek into the industry.

2 classes per week

Virtual Audition Preparedness: This class is designed to prepare students who may have an upcoming virtual or live audition. Topics to be discussed will include: how to do an online audition for a pre-screening or live audition, what type of equipment is needed to prepare, and how to work with a reader or accompanist off screen. This will help prepare students for the audition and the actual procedure surrounding the audition as an event. ***1 class per week***

College Application Process for Vocalists: This course will discuss many crucial aspects to preparing for a college audition. Students will develop methods for healthy practice techniques, time management, goal setting, and overcoming performance anxiety. Sample topics covered: what to look for when selecting a music program, college, or university setting; applying for scholarships and financial aid; proper etiquette for working with other musicians; apps to help you practice; and resume writing. ***1 class per week***

VIRTUAL NEMC COURSE CATALOG

STRINGS

String Studio Classes: Divided by instrument, students in studio classes will learn healthy warm-ups, develop safe practice habits, and take a deeper look into techniques specific to their instrument. Students will have an opportunity to learn about new repertoire from other students, and perform for each other in a small group setting.

2 classes per week

String Performance Masterclass: Every Friday, students will perform for each other. Students will receive feedback from string faculty. Friday masterclasses may include guests such as NEMC alums or former faculty. ***1 class per week***

String Orchestral Excerpts: In this course, students will learn about the most common orchestral excerpts for their instrument. Students will have a chance to practice an “audition” for a faculty member and receive live feedback with strategies for improvement. This course is designed for advancing students in preparation for upcoming orchestral auditions. Class will be divided by instrument. ***1 class per week***

Exploration of String Chamber Music: In this course, students will take an interactive approach to string chamber literature, through listening to various performances, analyzing scores, studying historical aspects of compositions. Students may learn one or more movements while studying the piece. ***2 classes per week***

Fiddle Club: Open to violin, viola, cello and bass students, as well as students wishing to play rhythm (acoustic not classical) guitar or ukulele. Students will learn fiddle tunes by ear from a variety of traditional folk music styles. No prior experience in fiddling or learning by ear is necessary. Guitar players should be comfortable switching between 3-4 chords and have a guitar with steel strings, picks, and a capo. Ukulele players should be comfortable playing and switching between 5-6 chords. ***2 classes per week***

WOODWINDS

Woodwind Studio Classes: Divided by instrument, students in studio classes will learn healthy warm-ups, develop safe practice habits, and take a deeper look into techniques specific to their instrument. Students will have an opportunity to learn about new repertoire from other students, and perform for each other in a small group setting.

2 classes per week

VIRTUAL NEMC COURSE CATALOG

Woodwind Performance Masterclass: Every Friday, students will perform for each other. Students will receive feedback from woodwind faculty. Friday masterclasses may include guests such as NEMC alums or former faculty. ***1 class per week***

Woodwind Orchestral Excerpts: In this course, students will learn about the most common orchestral excerpts for their instrument. Students will have a chance to practice an “audition” for a faculty member and receive live feedback with strategies for improvement. This course is designed for advancing students in preparation for upcoming orchestral auditions. ***1 class per week***

Exploration of Woodwind Chamber Music: In this course, students will take an interactive approach to woodwind chamber literature, through listening to various performances, analyzing scores, studying historical aspects of compositions. Students may learn one or more movements while studying the piece. ***2 classes per week***

Reed Making: Oboe and bassoon students will receive instruction and virtual supervision in making reeds for their particular instruments. Students should own reed making materials (thread, knife, wood block, plaque, and stone). Further instructions will be sent prior to July. ***2 classes per week***

Woodwind Doubling: Are you a clarinet player who has been asked to play flute? Or a saxophone player who is looking to play clarinet? This course is designed to encourage woodwind players to learn how to “double” or play two instruments in the same setting, such as a musical pit orchestra. In addition to their primary instrument, students must have secondary instruments available for participation in this course.

2 classes per week

BRASS

Brass Warm ups: This course will help all brass students develop a healthy daily warm-up routine. Students will focus on embouchure safety while discussing strategies to avoid fatigue during long playing sessions. ***2 classes per week***

Brass Studio Classes: Divided by instrument, students in studio classes will develop safe practice habits and take a deeper look into techniques specific to their instrument. Students will have an opportunity to learn about new repertoire from other students, and perform for each other in a small group setting. ***2 classes per week***

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Brass Performance Masterclass: Every Friday, students will perform for each other. Students will receive feedback from brass faculty. Friday masterclasses may include guests such as NEMC alums or former faculty. ***1 class per week***

Brass Orchestral Excerpts: In this course, students will learn about the most common orchestral excerpts for their instrument. Students will have a chance to practice an “audition” for a faculty member and receive live feedback with strategies for improvement. This course is designed for advancing students in preparation for upcoming orchestral auditions. ***1 class per week***

Exploration of Brass Chamber Music: In this course, students will take an interactive approach to brass chamber literature, through listening to various performances, analyzing scores, studying historical aspects of compositions. Students may learn one or more movements while studying the piece. ***2 classes per week***

PERCUSSION

Percussion Studio Class: Students in this studio class will learn healthy practice habits for percussionists, including safe handling of instruments, how to prevent playing fatigue, and ensemble training for playing multiple instruments. Students will perform for each other and receive feedback. ***2 classes per week***

Interactive Listening: Students in this course will develop strong aural skills through identification of percussion instruments in various musical excerpts. Faculty will encourage students to “listen deep” as they pick out specific percussion sounds in ensemble performances. Discussions will lead to a strong return to the ensemble for percussion students of all levels. ***1 class per week***

Percussion Masterclass: This course will provide an opportunity for percussion students to learn from some of the greats in our NEMC family and their professional colleagues. Engaging discussions and interviews with weekly guests will provide invaluable knowledge on all aspects of percussion playing. ***1 class per week***

JAZZ STUDENTS

Intro to Jazz Improvisation: This course offers basic coaching in the technique of jazz improvisation focusing on the 12-bar blues, blues notes and basic concepts of jazz improvisation. ***1-2 classes per week***

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Jazz Improv II: Designed for students who have prior knowledge and performance in jazz improv, this class will provide additional opportunities for practice and performance of the concepts of jazz improvisation. **1-2 classes per week**

Drum Set Studio Class: Students in this course will perform for each other and learn new techniques, styles, and skills that will help for future drum set playing. Jazz tracks may be sent to students in advance for at-home practice. **1-2 classes per week**

Jazz/Commercial Harmony: Designed for students with prior music theory knowledge, this course will include jazz theory, harmony, and analysis. Aural skills, score analysis, listening components, and popular music discussions will keep students engaged. **2 classes per week**

Jazz Studio Class: This studio class will allow students to perform jazz standards and solos in a safe and supportive environment. Students will receive feedback while also developing a deeper knowledge of jazz literature. **2 classes per week**

Jazz History and Literature: This course is for students who want to learn more about the great jazz composers, performers, and historical implications surrounding the jazz genre in America. Topics to be discussed include: jazz standards, composers, performers, notable performances, and history. This course may be divided into two sections, depending on enrollment and experience. **2 classes per week**

PIANO

Piano Studio Class: Students will exchange ideas regarding practice and performance. All participants must perform more than once for the other students in the course. All piano majors are encouraged to take this course. **2 classes per week**

Keyboard Skills: For pianists of moderate proficiency, this class will present basic technique skills, sight reading skills and entry level chamber ensemble skills. Students will be assigned solo etudes to learn these skills as soloists. Students may perform for each other. **2 classes per week**

Collaborative Piano I and II: This is a performance class for advanced pianists where the piano serves a collaborative role. Piano accompaniments of beginning and intermediate instrumental repertoire, art songs, four-hands literature, and piano as an orchestral substitute will be assigned and coached. **2 classes per week**

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Exploration of Piano Chamber Music: In this course, students will take an interactive approach to piano chamber literature, through listening to various performances, analyzing scores, studying historical aspects of compositions. Students may learn one or more movements while studying the piece. ***2 classes per week***

Piano Literature: Upon completion of this course, students will have deeper knowledge of solo piano repertoire. Through the study of various composers and a closer look into literature, students will gain important insight for how to best perform these pieces. ***1 class per week***

Electives

So you want a career in music?: This interactive seminar will explore numerous professions in the music field and the practical aspects of selecting a career in music. Members of the NEMC family, including alums, spouses, and relatives, will describe their music career and what steps they followed toward building and preparing for that career. ***1 class per week***

College Application Process for Instrumentalists: This course will discuss many crucial aspects of preparing for your college application. Students will develop methods for healthy practice techniques, time management, goal setting, and overcoming performance anxiety. Sample topics covered: what to look for when selecting a music program, college, or university setting; applying for scholarships and financial aid; proper etiquette for working with other musicians; and resume writing.

1 class per week

Conquering Performance Anxiety: All musicians have fears, doubts, and uncertainties when it comes to performing in front of others. This course will feature a panel of various musicians who will share, demonstrate, and divulge their secrets on how to overcome anxiety. Students will examine various factors that contribute to anxiety, and practice new techniques to cope. Students will discover what works best for themselves as an individual. ***1 class per week***

Orchestral Literature: Students will explore the vast orchestral repertoire of the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries; listen to representative compositions; view videos of rehearsals and concerts by world-renowned conductors and orchestras; and discuss world history and politics and their influence on composers and performers.

2 classes per week

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Instrumental Conducting: Basic baton/stick technique, conducting patterns and score reading are introduced. Repertoire selection and ensemble rehearsal techniques are introduced. Campers over age 15 are encouraged to enroll.

2 classes per week

Exploration of World Music: In the USA, we often think of music as a form of entertainment, or as a vehicle for expressing emotion. In this class, we will explore the many different meanings, associations, and ideas that music holds for other communities around the world. Through audio, video, and performance, we will discover new ways of hearing music by studying different cultures around the world. Students are encouraged to play their instruments, and open minds to this new class!

2 classes per week

Listening to and performing New Music: Contemporary music is often met with anxiety, apprehension, and sometimes dread. However, there is an undeniable sense of excitement and exhilaration at discovering a new piece of music from a living composer. In this class, we will explore a few of the 20th and 21st centuries most influential composers and consider their musical contribution. There will also be opportunities to perform and create new music. ***2 classes per week***

Music in Film: This course examines the various ways music is used in movies. Students will watch a variety of short clips and analyze how music is used to set the mood or provide atmosphere, build a sense of continuity throughout the movie, and convey emotion throughout the plot. Popcorn not required, but encouraged!

2 classes per week

Music Technology and Composition: Music Technology will introduce students to the uses, concepts, techniques, and terminology of computing through music applications. The students will gain experience with current hardware and software for music sequencing, synthesis, and music performance practice. Aspects of recording, sound engineering, and in-home studio set-up may be discussed. *This course may be split into different sections depending on available home software and equipment.*

2 classes per week

Intro to Improv Acting: Students will learn the basics of Improv based on the teachings of Del Close as practiced in the famed comedy venues of Second City and the Upright Citizens Brigade. They will learn how to find “the game” in a scene, and how to “yes, and,” any situation in order to support their partners and show the story, rather than just tell it. ***2 classes per week***

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Basic Harmony and Melody for Guitar: This course is for beginning guitarists. Students will learn how to read single note melodies and basic harmonies from chord charts. Students will learn how to read notes in the first position and the most common chord shapes in frequently used keys. Upon completion of the class, the student will play simple melodies in time and accompany those melodies by strumming chord changes in time. *Students must have a guitar at home. 2 classes per week*

Beethoven's 250th Birthday Celebration: The great Ludwig van Beethoven was born in 1770 in Bonn, Germany. NEMC faculty member Chris Brigham, who is a German resident, will take you on an in-person journey through Beethoven's hometown. Beethoven's life and compositions will be discussed in this special interactive course. Knowledge of the German language is NOT required. *2 classes per week*

German Musical Hot-spots "Live": On location with Chris Brigham, NEMC horn faculty member and German resident, students will travel through Germany visiting historical music venues, performance halls, homes of composers, and much more. Join us as Chris takes us on a musical German journey. *2 classes per week*

Tai Chi: This course explores the traditional Chinese exercise of Tai Chi Chuan. It provides for the development of basic skills and techniques that lead toward an integration of the mind-body-spirit trilogy. *2 classes per week*

Classical Composition Workshop: Students will share recent classical compositions with fellow students and faculty in a collaborative and virtual setting. Faculty and students will provide suggestions, feedback, and analysis of student-written work. Students must have prior music theory and composition knowledge, and have composed pieces they are willing to share and fine-tune with the others in the class.

1-2 classes per week

Singer-Songwriter Workshop: In this interactive workshop, students will learn the fundamentals around writing their own songs, including elements such as form, harmony, solo singing, and accompaniment. In the course of each week, one class will be devoted to building upon musical theory knowledge for songwriting and one class will allow students to perform and workshop their ideas for peers. *2 classes per week*