
Abstract
Numerous studies show a correlational relationship between the study of music and academic achievement, but what principles of music study enhance the higher order learning skills required for academic excellence? This research study looked at the experiences of students at UT Dallas taking music and sound design classes who are not music majors, through a Qualtrics survey and follow-up interviews. The data from the survey and interviews was analyzed using phenomenological methods. Additionally, three cohort comparisons were conducted: music and sound design students; STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) majors and non-STEM majors; and ATEC (Arts, Technology and Emerging Media) majors and other STEM majors. From the analyses, we conclude students who have taken music and sound design courses feel that those experiences enhance their lives in many ways, and the majority of them feel it enhances their academic abilities. Students benefit by the nature of their experiences in music and sound design, but they benefit the most from the more analytical aspects of music and sound design courses. Those that had taken music theory saw a great benefit from those experiences. They benefit from the experience of listening to aural streams for extended periods of time with attentiveness to detail. Students experience "flow" during music or sound design experiences, which may transfer to other subjects. Students benefit from the two-dimensional nature of both music and sound design by the requirement of analyzing a score or sound design project in both the vertical and horizontal directions. The results of this work can lead to future research projects, and use the specific skills that were reported by students as a testing ground for evidence-based research. Further, the study has pedagogical implications for curriculum in both music and sound design. Courses should place more emphasis on the analytical skills that transfer to other academic subjects. While study in music and sound design gives students many psychological benefits, the educational benefits should be studied more and in a controlled environment, in order to significantly add to the body of evidence that courses in the arts can lead to higher academic achievement.

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Six sophomore music majors, recommended by their theory professors as consistently successful in melodic dictation, completed two cycles each of a standard dictation coupled with a follow-up reflection interview focused on strategies. Three overarching themes emerged from data analysis: (1) Participants are highly skilled at directing their attention during dictation, (2) participants prioritize tasks carefully during each listening of a dictation, and (3) participants skillfully coordinate a variety of musical and problem-solving skills to complete dictations successfully. Method This qualitative study was based on phenomenological inquiry (Finlay, 2009). Take a multidisciplinary approach to studying sound and music. Applying an understanding of issues and practice in music (from at least two of performance, composition, history and analysis) and articulating and utilising relevant knowledge and skills in computing, engineering and science. Transfer knowledge of the techniques and technologies of audio capture, production and control across a wide range of applications and interactions with business and industry for a sustainable career in a variety of sound practices and audio professions. The majority of our students go on to graduate-level jobs in music and related professions. Others undertake further study for an MA, PhD, conservatoire programme or a PGCE. The Benefits of Studying with Music. Does Music Help You Study? With that highly detailed Biology exam just around the corner, you have been hitting the books with every spare second you have. During nightly, starlit studying sessions, you continuously trudge past midnight, and the hours multiply. The Theory. You have likely heard before that music helps you study. But, do you know why parents and professors alike are urging you to tune to iTunes? Studies have shown that music produces several positive effects on a human's body and brain. Music activates both the left and right brain at the same time, and the activation of both hemispheres can maximize learning and improve memory. Find out music's effect on your body and brain, and see how to enhance your studying with songs! Majoring in music history means focusing on the history of music of Europe and North America, including all periods, styles and genres. Music history majors are proficient on an instrument and will likely be expected to play in a school performance group. However, music history majors typically pursue an area of music other than intensive performance. Schools that offer a bachelor's degree in music history (often with music literature) require about a third of the classes in music history and literature, a third in performance and musicianship, and a third in general studies. According to the