A person does not hear sound only through the ears; he hears sound through every pore of his body. It permeates the entire being, and according to its particular influence either slows or quickens the rhythm of the blood circulation; it either wakens or soothes the nervous system. It arouses a person to greater passions or it calms him by bringing him peace. According to the sound and its influence a certain effect is produced. Sound becomes visible in the form of radiance. This shows that the same energy which goes into the form of sound before being visible is absorbed by the physical body. In that way the physical body recuperates and becomes charged with new magnetism.”

- “Mysticism of Sound”  By Hazrat Inayat Khan

Sound has been around forever, but most people know very little about what it is and how it works. It is taken for granted that sound surrounds everyone. Sound helps us live; it can change our moods in mere seconds, or stir up an important memory through just a few notes of a song. Sound can also enhance everything from movies to conversations. Our ability to use sound in our daily lives is so important that it is hard to imagine a world without it. But, have you ever wondered how we produce sound? How we interpret sound? Or how we use sound in every aspect of our lives? Sound is a powerful force that can be controlled, and it is my goal to harness that power and use it to create a productive living in the music industry.

Looking back, it all started in my elementary school during music class. I was fascinated to have found something so interesting in music that would have such a profound effect on me. Through my pre-collegiate years, my major endeavors were choir and band. At fifteen, everything came together and I found my calling in life. It was my first Aerosmith concert. I was with my brother, and everything about the night caught my attention. The lights and the staging were larger than life. The t-shirt stands and concessions were packed. The pre-concert music filled my head and prepared me for the night. As we made our way down the hill through the constant moving sea of people, I absorbed the total environment, and that is when I knew this is what I wanted to do for a living. I knew that I wanted to be a part of the music industry, whether as an entertainer, a producer, or even as a listener. A couple years later, I ended up creating a band with friends that is still together today. These experiences were the
driving force to help me in choosing to combine Speech Language Hearing Sciences, Audio Technology, and Communication Studies in my Bachelor of Individualized Studies degree.

Speech Language Hearing Sciences, Audio Technology, and Communication Studies may sound like they have very little in common. Actually, in my opinion, they have many similarities. Speech Language Hearing Sciences is important for understanding the fundamentals of sound. This area will provide me with the scientific knowledge of how sound works and can be manipulated. Audio Technology covers the technical aspects of sound by examining studio and live sound production. Communication Studies examines sound and how it is delivered to the consumer through the images and sounds we hear and see. These areas all fit together because they are the elements that make up the concert environment. The sound is speech language hearing science, the ability to produce the sound and let the crowd listen to it is audio technology, and the production elements and relating with the public is communication studies.

Speech Language Hearing Sciences will provide me with the basic understanding of the elements of sound: what it is and how it is produced and manipulated to create the sounds we hear each day. People don’t just produce sound; they also receive and interpret it. It is fascinating to understand how living things receive sound and how that sound is relayed to the brain. Speech Language Hearing Sciences does that by analyzes the basics of sound and its physiological dimensions.

Intro to Acoustics (SLHS 3301) provided the first step in helping me discover what sound is by providing me with the basic physical principles that govern sound as applied to speech, music, and noise control and how they relate to everyday life. Hearing Science (SLHS 3306) gave me the knowledge that allows me to take a closer look into hearing and ear functions. It provided me with the understanding of the ear as a transducer and medical conditions associated with hearing loss. As Hearing Sciences focused on the ear, Speech Science (SLHS 3305W) focuses on the theories and methods of research
within speech science. This class will provide me with the knowledge of speech from acoustics to perception to production. *Phonetics* (SLHS3304) will cover the differences in pronunciation between individuals and the practice of phonetic transcription. This course will provide me with an ability to transcribe phonetic symbols into words, but also will help in understanding how people around the world speak differently. In *Rehabilitative Audiology* (SLHS 4802) I will have the opportunity to learn ways to improve or cure conditions in hearing loss patients. This will provide an understanding of solutions to disorders and the steps that are taken to help patients that suffer from them. As a whole, SLHS classes will supply me with strong background knowledge on the function and creation of sound.

**Audio Technology** will help me develop my understanding of sound and presentation through equipment. This is my favorite concentration because I enjoy using equipment to enhance recording and editing music and creating sound for live music and theater. Audio Technology lets me explore my creative side without limits, since there is so much one can do with the proper knowledge and the right equipment. It is also my belief that this field is underrated and is easily overlooked because sound is most effective when it is unnoticeable.

**Audio Technology** (TH 4555) is based on the technical elements that make up most sound equipment used today. This class provided me with the basic understanding of sound equipment that will be used throughout the rest of my Audio classes. **Audio Engineering** (TH 5556) gave me the necessary experience of working with a musician and taking his/her sound from an acoustic signal, recording it, and processing it into a finished product. **Sound Design** (TH 5559) allows for creativity in planning and creating a sound design for a theater setting. This course provides more opportunities to practice with equipment while allowing me to gain knowledge about the sound of theater. **Digital Audio and MIDI for Performance** (TH 4556) is concerned with computer generated audio. It will provide experiences with hands on usage of MIDI, and further applications in all aspects of the arts.
Film and Video (TH 4557) will emphasize skills used in capturing, manipulating, and producing audio for media. This course will give me added experiences to experiment with different types of media and apply sound to them.

Communication Studies looks at theories of communication including how, for example, music and electronic media are produced and function as a form of communication with the public. It is a personal interest to see how in-studio taping and media elements are put together to create a finished product. I am also interested in the connection that one can create with an audience through visual stimuli such as advertisements, video and other electronic media methods.

Topics – Media Literacy (COMM 3110) is an introduction to what media is and what it does. It will provide me with a better understanding of how media works, and why the certain images are used instead of others in marketing. Introduction to U.S. Electronic Media (COMM 3211) further investigates how the major media companies work and how their partner companies influence them. This course will give me an increased respect for the power of the media and how it can be used.

Freedom of Speech (COMM 3631) is a class that looks at legal issues relating to communication and speech. This class will provide me with an understanding of what types of speech should be allowed and, when necessary, regulated. Introduction to Communication Theory (COMM 3401) will provide me with an understanding of the theories within communications, while also covering the applications of these theories in research and social settings. Introduction to Electronic Media Production (COMM 3201) teaches the fundamentals of working in a media station including writing scripts, producing, and directing. This class provided hands-on experiences with equipment and working in scenarios similar to those of real media stations, while examining why and how this type of information is absorbed by the consumer. Advanced Electronic Media Production (COMM 3204) provides a more hands-on learning of
media techniques. After this class, I will have the necessary skills and experience to tape, edit and produce quality programming.

It is my belief that this proposed BIS program will direct me to a rewarding position upon completion of my classes and graduation. The knowledge provided through these different courses in each of the areas of concentration will offer an excellent background upon which to enter IPR (The Institute of Production and Recording) where I will follow my passion for sound and music which will eventually lead to a career in the music industry. In putting my proposal together with these areas of concentration, it was my goal to provide myself with a well rounded knowledge of sound so I could better understand all the aspects that are involved with the topic of sound. From the production, application, and then to a finished product sound is an amazing field of study. It is my belief that music is my niche in life and through my proposed program, I will find a life in it. I have allowed music to affect every aspect of my life and it makes perfect sense that my degree should follow the same path. As Plato said, "Rhythm and harmony find their way into the inward places of the soul."
### BIS/IDIM Program Course Worksheet

**Title:** SLHS  
**Dept. Course Code:** SLHS 3301  
**Course Title:** Intro to Acoustics  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 3  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**Title:** SLHS  
**Dept. Course Code:** SLHS 3306  
**Course Title:** Hearing Science  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 3  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**Title:** SLHS  
**Dept. Course Code:** SLHS 3304  
**Course Title:** Phonetics  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 3  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**Title:** SLHS  
**Dept. Course Code:** SLHS 3305W  
**Course Title:** Speech Science  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 3  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**Title:** SLHS  
**Dept. Course Code:** SLHS 4802  
**Course Title:** Rehabilitative Audiology  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 3  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**TOTALS:**  
**3/4/5xxx level credits in area:** 15  
**Total credits in area (IDIM only):**  

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**Title:** Theatre: Audio Tech  
**Dept. Course Code:** TH 4555  
**Course Title:** Audio Technology  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 3  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**Title:** Theatre: Audio Tech  
**Dept. Course Code:** TH 5556  
**Course Title:** Audio Engineering  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 3  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**Title:** Theatre: Audio Tech  
**Dept. Course Code:** TH 5559  
**Course Title:** Sound Design  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 3  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**Title:** Theatre: Audio Tech  
**Dept. Course Code:** TH 4556  
**Course Title:** Digital Audio and MIDI for Performance  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 3  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**Title:** Theatre: Audio Tech  
**Dept. Course Code:** TH 4557  
**Course Title:** Audio for film and video  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 3  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**TOTALS:**  
**3/4/5xxx level credits in area:** 15  
**Total credits in area (IDIM only):**  

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**Title:** Communication Studies  
**Dept. Course Code:** COMM 3110  
**Course Title:** Topics in speech - communication  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 3  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**Title:** Communication Studies  
**Dept. Course Code:** COMM 3631  
**Course Title:** Freedom of speech  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 3  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**Title:** Communication Studies  
**Dept. Course Code:** COMM 3201  
**Course Title:** Introduction to Electronic Media Production  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 4  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**Title:** Communication Studies  
**Dept. Course Code:** COMM 3204  
**Course Title:** Advanced Electronic Media Production  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 4  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**Title:** Communication Studies  
**Dept. Course Code:** COMM 3211  
**Course Title:** Introduction to U.S. Electronic Media  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 3  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**Title:** Communication Studies  
**Dept. Course Code:** COMM 3401  
**Course Title:** Intro to Communications Theory  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 3  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**Title:** Communication Studies  
**Dept. Course Code:** COMM 3995W  
**Course Title:** Senior Paper  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 1  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**Title:** Communication Studies  
**Dept. Course Code:** COMM 4245  
**Course Title:** Critical Television Studies  
**Complete Credits (Grade):** 3  
**Not Complete Credits (Term):**  

**TOTALS:**  
**3/4/5xxx level credits in area:** 24  
**Total credits in area (IDIM only):**