



Accredited Africa Training Institute for Capacity Development

Unit FO409, Hatfield Plaza · 1122 Burnett St, Hatfield 0028 · Pretoria, Gauteng · South Africa

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COURSE BROCHURE

Play a Musical Instrument Certificate

Culture and Arts / Music

Unit Standard 261338 · NQF Level 4 · 15 Credits · 12 Days

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course equips learners with the foundational skills to play a musical instrument, fostering creativity, discipline, and self-expression. It covers instrument selection, basic techniques, music theory, and performance practice, enabling learners to perform simple pieces and appreciate music as a cultural and personal enrichment tool.

Category	Culture and Arts
Subfield	Music
Unit Standard	261338
Accreditation	SAQA Accredited · NQF Level 4 · 15 Credits
Duration	12 days
Training Method	Online, On-Campus, In-House
Certificate	Issued via AATICD LMS – verifiable online

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Demonstrate correct posture, hand positioning, and basic playing techniques on a chosen instrument.
- Apply fundamental music theory concepts including note reading, rhythm, and scales to simple musical pieces.
- Perform a repertoire of short pieces with accurate pitch, timing, and expression.
- Analyze musical elements such as melody, harmony, and dynamics in performed works.
- Evaluate personal progress and identify areas for improvement through self-assessment and feedback.
- Collaborate with others in ensemble playing, demonstrating listening and coordination skills.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- This course is designed for beginners with little or no prior musical experience who wish to learn to play a musical instrument for personal enjoyment, social engagement, or as a stepping stone to further musical studies.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1: Introduction to Musical Instruments and Basic Music Theory

- Overview of instrument families (strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, keyboards).
- Anatomy of a specific instrument (e.g., guitar, keyboard, recorder).
- Reading music: staff, treble/bass clef, note names.
- Rhythm basics: whole, half, quarter notes and rests.
- Time signatures (4/4, 3/4).
- Instrument maintenance and safety.

Day 2: Basic Technique and First Notes

- Posture and instrument hold.
- Breathing techniques (for wind instruments) or bowing/picking (strings).
- Producing a consistent tone.
- Playing first notes (e.g., C D E on keyboard, open strings on guitar).
- Simple melodies (e.g., 'Hot Cross Buns').
- Finger independence exercises.

Day 3: Scales and Simple Chords

- Major scale pattern (whole and half steps).
- C major scale one octave.
- Introduction to chords: triads.
- Common open chords (C, G, Am, F for guitar; C, F, G for keyboard).
- Chord progression exercises.
- Simple improvisation using scale notes.

Day 4: Reading Music and Rhythm Practice

- Rhythmic notation: dotted notes, ties, syncopation.
- Clapping exercises with metronome.
- Playing simple pieces (e.g., 'Ode to Joy').
- Dynamics: p, mf, f.
- Sight-reading basics.
- Metronome practice.

Day 5: Expanding Technique and Articulation

- Finger exercises (Hanon for keyboard, spider walks for guitar).
- Articulation techniques.
- Two-octave major scales.
- Arpeggio patterns.
- Repertoire piece (e.g., 'Lightly Row').
- Performance practice.

Day 6: Chord Progressions and Accompaniment

- I-IV-V-I progression in C major.
- Chord inversions for smoother transitions.
- Strumming patterns for guitar; left-hand accompaniment for keyboard.
- Playing with a backing track.
- Simple song accompaniment (e.g., 'Twinkle Twinkle').

Day 7: Minor Keys and Blues

- Natural minor scale (A minor).
- Minor chords and progressions.
- Blues scale (C blues).
- 12-bar blues structure.
- Blues improvisation.
- Repertoire: simple blues piece.

Day 8: Ensemble Playing and Ear Training

- Ensemble skills: listening, blending.
- Unison playing.
- Call-and-response exercises.
- Interval recognition (major/minor 2nd, 3rd, perfect 5th).
- Simple duet repertoire.
- Group performance.

Day 9: Advanced Techniques and Ornamentation

- Ornamentation: trills, mordents, turns.
- Guitar techniques: hammer-ons, pull-offs, slides.
- Rubato and expressive playing.
- Advanced rhythmic patterns.
- Sight-reading new pieces.
- Repertoire: Baroque piece with ornaments.

Day 10: Music Theory Application and Composition

- Key signatures (up to 2 sharps/flats).
- Circle of fifths introduction.
- Transposition basics.
- Composition techniques: motif, phrase structure.
- Notating music (manuscript or software).
- Sharing compositions.

Day 11: Performance Preparation and Stagecraft

- Selecting and refining a performance piece.
- Performance anxiety strategies.
- Stage presence: posture, eye contact, bowing.
- Dress rehearsal.
- Peer feedback.
- Final adjustments.

Day 12: Final Performance and Course Review

- Final performance (solo or ensemble).
- Audience etiquette.
- Self-assessment and feedback.
- Pathways for further study.
- Certificate presentation.
- Course wrap-up.

ASSESSMENT & CERTIFICATION

Delegates are assessed through exercises and a final test. A mark of **50% or above** earns an **AATICD Certificate of Completion**, issued digitally with a unique verification code. This course carries **15 NQF credits** at **NQF Level 4**.

PRICING (PER DELEGATE, EX-VAT)

Delegates	Training Method	Price per Delegate	Total
1	Online	R 41,000.00	R 41,000.00
1	In-House	R 53,300.00	R 53,300.00
1	On-Campus (Pretoria)	R 61,500.00	R 61,500.00

UPCOMING SESSIONS

No sessions are currently scheduled. Please contact us to arrange a session at a time and location that suits your team.

HOW TO GET A QUOTE OR APPLY

1. **Get an instant quotation online:** visit www.aaticd.co.za, open the page for this course (Unit Standard 261338) and click **Get A Quote / Apply**. Select your training method and number of delegates – your quotation is generated immediately and emailed to you with the course brochure attached.
2. **Apply by email:** send the course title, your preferred training method (Online, In-House or On-Campus Pretoria), the number of delegates and your preferred dates to apply@aaticd.co.za – our team will reply with a formal quotation.
3. **Apply by phone or WhatsApp:** call **+27 12 004 8389** or WhatsApp **+27 65 077 6310** and we will prepare your quotation and reserve your seats.
4. **Confirm your booking:** accept the quotation and settle the invoice. As soon as payment is confirmed your delegates are enrolled and receive their AATICD LMS login details by email, along with joining instructions for their chosen training method.

Group discounts apply automatically – the more delegates you enrol, the lower the price per delegate. No payment is required to request a quotation.

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