The edTPA: a performance-based assessment tool focusing on the ability of a novice teacher to: (a) design sequenced lessons based on the needs of students, (b) deliver the lessons effectively while nurturing and monitoring knowledge and skills, and (c) evaluate the teaching and learning processes, through reflection on teaching/learning experiences.

Purposes: (a) a summative capstone assessment of readiness to teach; (b) provides evidence for program review, teacher licensure and/or state and national accreditation; (c) focuses the candidate on student learning rather than teacher performance, and (d) requires relating instruction to principles from research and theory.

Expectations of Candidates: (a) document teaching and learning an instructional segment consistent with National Standards; (b) plan and teach a learning segment of 3-5 lessons.; (c) videotape and analyze 20 minutes of this segment; (d) assess student learning; (e) reflect on practice; and (f) relate their work to learning theories.

Data for edTPA: uses multiple data sources including: school context; lesson plans; teacher artifacts; student work; video clips; and reflections.

Three Major Tasks: Accomplished in the context of a 3 – 5 lesson long learning segment.

Task 1 - Planning Instruction and Assessment
Task 2 - Instructing and Engaging Students in Learning
Task 3 - Assessing Student Learning

Terminology: Academic Language; Function; Central Focus; Learning Segment; Artifacts

Academic Language in Music:
representing musical elements symbolically
explaining or justifying musical techniques
describing a musical performance
recounting the history of a musical form
defining, relating, or contrasting music concepts
evaluating or constructing critiques of music performances
interpreting a musical score through performance

See: http://www.pacttpa.org/_main/hub.php?pageName=Teaching_Event_Handbooks

Resource Materials for Music TPA:


The following has much useful information about the California version of the edTPA called PACT. It includes references to learning theories and a “Pre-PACT” handbook.
http://www.csun.edu/eisner-education/performance-assessment-california-teachers