

MUSIC 114
INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC THEORY

BULLETIN INFORMATION

MUSC 114 - Introduction to Music Theory (3 credit hours)

Course Description:

Practice in basic written theory and aural skills. Concepts of rhythm, melody, harmony, form, and expression

Note: Open to non-music majors. Not for major credit.

SAMPLE COURSE OVERVIEW

TBA

ITEMIZED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of Music 114, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate ability to read music in the treble and bass clefs
2. Notate and identify basic tonal intervals, scales and chords
3. Sing, dictate and play (at the piano) basic melodies and harmonies
4. Notate and interpret theoretical symbols including basic lead-sheet symbols and Roman numerals
5. Discuss musical styles from various style periods
6. Analyze the harmony and texture of tonal works from various style periods
7. Create a musical composition

SAMPLE REQUIRED TEXTS/SUGGESTED READINGS/MATERIALS

1. Joseph N. Straus, *Elements of Music*, Second Edition (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2007). [ISBN-13: 978-0-13-158415-0]. Available at the Russell House Bookstore, other campus bookstores, and online retailers. With accompanying CD [ISBN-13: 978-0-13-158419-8].
2. Along with your text, please bring a notebook, staff paper, and pencil to each class.
3. Web Resources: we will utilize the following sites to drill concepts and practice ear training:
 - a. www.musictheory.net
 - b. www.musicalmind.org

SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS AND/OR EXAM

1. **Reading assignments** should be prepared for the date indicated on the syllabus. Homework assignments are due the following class period unless otherwise specified.

Keep all returned homework in your notebook—your attention to and review of this feedback is an integral part of the course.

2. **Short announced quizzes**
3. **Three 50-minute tests**
4. **Two ear-training (singing) tests**
5. **A 2-hour comprehensive final exam**
6. **A short final writing/composing/arranging project**
7. **Homework** will include written assignments and some assigned ear training drills done online (www.musictheory.net). All written work must be done in pencil (pen is NOT acceptable). Please staple all multi-page assignments.

SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE WITH TIMELINE OF TOPICS, READINGS/ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS/PROJECTS

- Class 1:** Course Introduction / Diagnostic
Reading: xi-xii
Chapter 1: Pitch
- Class 2:** Lesson 1: Staff – put this together w less 2 next year 1-2
- Class 3:** Lesson 2: Keyboard
Reading: 5-7
p. 7: nos. 7, 8; pp. 9-10: All
- Class 4:** Lesson 3: Treble clef, accidentals, enharmonic equivalents
Reading: 11-12
14: 5 (a,b,d,e); 16-20: 3-3 (b,f); 3-4 (a,b); 3-6 (b); 3-7 (all)
- Class 5:** Lesson 4: Bass clef
Reading: 21
22: 5 (a,b,d,e); 24-27: 4-3 (d,f); 4-4 (a,b); 4-6 (b)
- Class 6:** Lesson 5: Great staff
*Students without required materials (including text) will be counted absent, beginning today. Have a day to review before test here
Reading: 28
30: 5 (a); 31-36: 5-1(a); 5-2 (a); 5-3 (a); 5-4 (all); 5-6 (b)
- Class 7:** Test 1: Pitch
- Chapter 2: Elements of Rhythm**
- Class 8:** Lesson 6: Quarter notes, half notes, and whole notes in 4/4 meter
Reading: 43-45

46: 2(c,d) clap beat, write in and speak rhythms; then speak rhythms while conducting 4-pattern; 49-52: 6-1, 6-2 all; 6-3 (a)

- Class 9:** Lesson 7: Eighth notes and sixteenth notes; correct beaming to show the beat
Reading: 53-55
56: 2(a,b) clap beat, write in and speak rhythms; then speak rhythms while expressing the beat; 59-60: 7-1 to 7-3 all
- Class 10:** Lessons 6-7: review
56: 2(d) listen to track w score pp. 405-06 mm. 25-32 (chorus), speak rhythms; then slowly play voice part on piano with RH; 61: 7-5 (a)
- Class 11:** Lesson 8: Dots and Ties
Reading: 63-64
66: 2(c) listen to track w score p. 438 (watch melody, the highest part, only!) while expressing beat, then write in, speak/sing rhythms; 69-71: 8-1 to 8-3 all
- Class 12:** Lesson 9: Rests
Reading: 73-74
75: 2(a-d) express beat, speak rhythms;; 79-80: 9-1 to 9-3 all
- Class 13:** Lessons 8-9: review
76: 2(e) listen to track w score p. 412 while expressing beat, then write in, speak/sing rhythms; 81: 9-5 (a)
- Class 14:** Lesson 10: Duple meter
Reading: 83-84
85: 2(a) listen w score; then write in, speak rhythms mm.1-12; 87-89: 10-1,10-2 (all) 10-3 (b,c)
- Class 15:** Lesson 11: Triple meter
Reading: 91-92
93: 2(a) listen w score while expressing beat; then write in, speak rhythms; 97-98: 11-1, 11-2 (all); 11-3 (a)
- Class 16:** Lesson 12: Compound meter
Reading: 99-100
101: 2(f) listen with score; write and speak rhythms while expressing beat; 103: 12-1, 12-2 (all)
- Class 17:** Lesson 12: cont.
101: 2(a-d) write in and speak rhythms while expressing beat; 2(f) play on piano w RH

Class 18: Lesson 13: Syncopation
Reading: 105
106-07: 2(c,d) listen w score; speak rhythm while conducting all on syllable “da”;
109-10: 13-1 (a,b)

Class 19: Test 2: Rhythm / Keyboard & Ear Training Tests TBA

Chapter 3: Major and Minor Scales

Class 20: Lesson 14: Major scale (C major)
Lesson 15, major scales other than C (interval method)
Reading: 115-17, 126-30
117: 2(a) play on piano first, then sing on solfege syllables with and without piano; 123-25: 14-1 (all), 14-2 (a); 131: 1(all); 137-38: 15-1 (all), 141: 15-7 (a,b)

Class 21: Lesson 16: Major keys and key signatures
Reading: 147-50
149: begin memorizing major circle of fifths; 155-58: 16-1, 16-2, 16-3, 16-4 (all)
Piano scales: Handout
Prepared Melodies: Handout

Class 22: Lesson 16 (adapted): Major keys and key signatures cont. – scale degree practice.
Practice melodies (handout)
157: 16-5(b) ID key, listen w score, then sing melody on solfege syllables;
140: 15-5 (a,c); 15-6 (a,b)
Neatly write ALL 14 major scales using accidentals, not key signatures, on a clean sheet of staff paper (write noteheads, then think of k.s., then add accidentals!)

Class 23: Lesson 17: Minor scale (A minor)
Intro to natural, harmonic, melodic forms (variable scale degrees 6, 7)
Lesson 18: Minor scales other than A minor (interval method)
Reading: 163-64, 173-76
165: 2(a) play, then sing w solfege (la is tonic!); 176-77 1(all)
169-71: 17-1 (all); 17-2 (a)
183-86: 18-1 (all)

Class 24: Lesson 19: Minor keys and key signatures (relative M-m relationship)
196: Begin memorizing minor circle of 5ths; 203-04: 19-1, 19-2, 19-3, 19-4 (all)

Class 25: Lesson 19 (adapted): Minor keys and key signatures cont. Forms of minor.
Reading: 195-97
207: 19-5(e) ID key, listen w score, then sing melody on solfege syllables;
Write the following minor scales, all three forms: D, C, F, E, F#, G#. Use a clean sheet of staff paper; accidentals, not key signatures.

- Class 26:** Scale review and practice, M and m.
Transposition using scale degrees.
Quiz: Circle of 5ths by memory
p. 218: 20-6 (a,b)
p. 143: 15-8 (b)
p. 191: 18-8 (a)
- Class 27:** Lesson 19 (adapted): Comparing major and minor: the parallel M/m relationship.
Schubert's "Der Lindenbaum" from Winterreise (handout)
Quiz: Writing M and m scales
No homework; review for test 2

Class 28: Test 3: Scales and Key Signatures

Chapter 4: Intervals

- Class 29:** Lesson 21: Interval size
Reading: 223-25
227-29: 21-1 (all); 21-2 (a,c); 21-4 (b,c) also play (b) and voice part of (c) on piano
- Class 30:** Lesson 22: Seconds and thirds
Reading: 231-34
234: 1(all) play and sing; 237-41: 22-4 (all); 22-8 (all); 22-9 (all)
- Class 31:** Lesson 23: Sixths and sevenths; inversion
Reading: 243-45
246: 1(b) play and sing, ID 6ths, 7ths; 249-54: 23-4 (b); 23-5 (a, d); 23-9 (c); 23-10 (b,c); 23-11 (all)
- Class 32:** Lesson 24: Fourths and fifths, unisons and octaves
Reading: 255-59
259: 2(b) play and sing, ID 4ths, 5ths; 261-65: 24-4 (a,d); 24-8 (b,c); 24-9 (a,b); 24-10 (a,c)
- Class 33:** Lessons 21-24: review
Handout: Interval ID, writing all intervals above and below
- Class 34:** Lessons 25-26: Intervals in major and minor keys
MORE INTERVAL PRACTICE
Reading: 267-68
277-78 Interval handout cont.
273: 25-2 (all)
283: 26-2 (all)
Do these at the keyboard; play and sing the intervals in a key(s) of your choice

Chapter 5: Triads

- Class 35:** Lesson 27: Triads
Final Project Intro
Reading: 291-93
293: 1(all) on your instrument (or piano), play given root, play and sing note names of both M/m triads
297-98: 27-1, 27-3 (all) (will hand in on 11/29)
- Class 36:** Lesson 27: cont.; intro to I-IV-V / i-iv-V chords
Play I-IV-V (i-iv-V) in 2 major and 2 minor keys on your instrument. Sing the root of each chord as you play.
298-99: 27-4 (a,b); 27-5 (all); 27-6 (a,c)
On staff paper, write I-IV-V in the following major keys: C, G, D, A, F, Bb, Eb (use accidentals, not k.s.)
- Class 37:** Lesson 28: Triads in Inversion
Figured bass (bass position) and pop symbols
Reading: 303-04
307-08: 28-1 (a,b); 28-2 (a,b); 28-3 (all); 28-4 (b,c)
- Class 38:** Lesson 29: Triads in major keys (Roman numerals cont.)
Project Piece Chosen
Reading: 311
315-17: 29-1 (a,b,e,f); 29-2 (a,b); 29-3 (b,c)
- Class 39:** Lesson 30: Triads in minor keys
Final Project Demos / Practice
Reading: 319
323: 30-1 (a,b,e,f); 30-2 (a,b); 30-3 (all)
- Class 40:** Project Due, Class Performances
- Class 41:** Class Performances cont.
Review Handout
- Class 42:** Student course evaluations and review for final exam
- Class 43:** Cumulative **Final Exam, According to university exam schedule**
Keyboard / Ear Training Tests TBA, previous week