MUSIC100

Rudiments of Music

3 Credits

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Rudiments of Music

Calendar Description

Fundamentals of music theory approached through aural and written training.

Rationale

This course is designed for beginners in music theory. Classes study music notation, pitch, the keyboard, time, scales, intervals, and elementary concepts of harmony. Classes further relate these elements of music to concepts of music writing, aural recognition of intervals and chords, structural logic, and music composition.

Prerequisites

English 30-1 or Equivalent

Co-Requisites

None

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

1. recognize and hear the basic elements of music (pitch, time, melody, harmony, timbre, and dynamics).
2. read and write musical notation of pitch and rhythm in the treble and bass clefs.
3. relate musical notation to the keyboard, clap, sing, or notate simple phrases of music.
4. visually and aurally recognize intervals, scales, and chords.
5. notate pitch, including tones and semitones, accidentals, enharmonics, the ledger and octave lines.
6. notate rhythm, including meter, note values, notation of rests, tempo, bar lines, measures, simple and compound time, anacrusis, beams, rhythmic reading, and rhythmic dictation.
7. describe principles and notation of scales, including scale degrees, major and minor scales, intervals (major, minor, diminished, augmented, and perfect), key signatures, circle of fifths, relative keys, parallel keys, and solmization.
8. recognize and write chords, including quality, inversions, doubling, dissonance, and consonance.
9. explain and utilize concepts of harmony, including melody harmonization, chord progression (I, IV, V7) and tonal logic.

**Resource Materials**

**Required Text:**


**Reference Text:**

TBA

**Conduct of Course**

This is a 3 credit course with 3 hours of lecture per week. (3-0-0).

Classroom lectures focus on specific principles of music theory. A good part of class time is spent in aural and visual drill. During the course of the term regular reading and practical assignments are scheduled. As consistent drill is essential to this course, it is expected that all assignments are accurately and consistently completed.

**Evaluation Procedures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quiz #1</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Examination</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz #2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Total</td>
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The four examinations are as follows:

Quiz No. 1 (Chapters 1-3)
Midterm Exam (Chapters 4-6)*
Quiz No. 2 (Chapters 7-9)
Final Exam (Chapters 10-13)*

*Both the midterm and final exams will include an ear training component.
No supplemental assignments or examination re-writes are permitted in this course.

Assignments:

There will be frequent assignments. Regular completion of these assignments and attendance are key to developing your musical notation skills in this class.

- Assignments must be legible and completed in pencil. Illegible assignments receive a mark of zero.
- Assignments are to be handed in at the beginning of the class on which they are due.
- Late assignments are penalized 5% per day late.
- Once assignments have been returned to the class, late assignments are marked, but receive a grade of ZERO.

**Grade Equivalents and Course Pass Requirements**

*A minimum grade of D (50%) (1.00) is required to pass this course.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
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<th>D</th>
<th>D+</th>
<th>C-</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>C+</th>
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<td>3.70</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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Students must maintain a cumulative grade of C (GPA - Grade Point Average of 2.00) in order to qualify to graduate.

**Attendance**

Regular attendance at classes is expected of all students. *Instructors have the authority to require attendance at classes.* Irregular attendance may result in exclusion of a student from classes. In cases of repeated absences due to illness, the student may be requested to submit a medical certificate.

**Course Units/Topics**

This course consists of 13 classes of 3 hours duration. Three half classes will be used for examination purposes. Each class covers approximately three chapters in the text *Fundamentals of Music: Rudiments, Musicianship, and Composition* (which contains 13 chapters).

In order for students to fully absorb the contents of this course, it is expected that students will read the materials and complete any pertinent exercises covered in each class within two days of that class. Students are expected to take effective notes during class and to practice written and aural skills until a reasonable proficiency is achieved (this level will be made clear during in-class quizzes).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. Notating Rhythm | • Note values, rest values, measures, time signatures, smaller rhythmic values  
• Larger and smaller note values  
• Dots, ties, flags and beams | Chapter 1 |
| 2. Notating Pitch | • The staff, note names, clefs, stem direction  
• Ledger lines, notating octaves  
• The grand staff | Chapter 2 |
| 3. The Keyboard | • The keyboard, names of white/black keys  
• Octave designation  
• Right and left-hand patterns  
• Accidental and notating accidentals  
• Enharmonic equivalents, diatonic pitches, diatonic and chromatic half steps  
• Ear-training | Chapter 3 |
| 4. Simple Meters | • Triple, duple, and quadruple equivalent meters  
• Rest notation  
• Beat division and subdivision  
• Basic conducting patterns  
• Beaming  
• Syncopation | Chapter 4 |
| 5. Major Scales and Keys | • The major scale, and scale degrees  
• Transposing major scales, whole and half step patterns  
• Major key signatures, order of flats and sharps, circle of fifths  
• Singing major scales | Chapter 5 |
| 6. Intervals       | • Interval size, quality, and understanding quality by major scale comparison  
                      • Major/minor intervals  
                      • Interval construction and identification  
                      • Interval inversion | Chapter 6 |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 7. Compound Meters| • Note values in compound meters  
                      • Compound time signatures, beat subdivision  
                      • Beaming and counting in compound meters  
                      • Borrowed division | Chapter 7  |
| 8. Minor Scales and Keys | • Major and minor modes  
                      • Minor scales, the parallel relationship, minor key signatures, and the relative relationship  
                      • Natural, harmonic, and melodic minor scales  
                      • Singing minor scales | Chapter 8  |
| 9. Introduction to Form | • Identifying and building phrases  
                      • Unifying and extending phrases (repetition, variation, sequence, contrast)  
                      • The period, phrase group, double period  
                      • Other forms (verse and refrain) | Chapter 9  |
| 10. Triads        | • Triad quality, major and minor  
                      • Identifying and constructing major, minor, diminished, and augmented triads  
                      • Triads and stability  
                      • Inverted triads, notating in 1st, and 2nd inversion  
                      • Constructing triads with a given 3rd or 5th  
                      • Ear-training | Chapter 10 |
| 11. Chords and Symbols | • Triad and chord identification  
                      • Doubling, identifying chords, and arpeggiation  
                      • Chord symbols, Roman numeral analysis  
                      • Diatonic triads in major and minor keys | Chapter 11 |
### 12. Tonality
- Texture: homophony, melodic tendency
- Harmonic function (tonic, predominant, and dominant functions)
- Harmonic dissonance (seventh chords and other types of seventh chords and symbols)

### 13. Harmonization
- Harmonic cadences, planning cadences in a melody
- Planning harmonic rhythm in a harmonization
- Harmonizing a melody
- Non-chord tones, keys and transposition, and planning a harmony

Additional topics: Musical terms and symbols as become relevant in examining pieces of music. Terminology included in each chapter is essential and must be studied.