

Mississippi State University
Department of Music

Course: MU 1213-01 - Music Theory I, (3-credit hr.)
Schedule: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8:00 to 8:50 A.M.
Classroom #: Building B – Room 112 (Theory Room)
Instructor: Dr. Sebba
Office #: Building A, # F
Office Phone: 325-2854
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 09:15 to 10:00 A.M. (or by appointment)
Email: rys3@colled.msstate.edu

Books: Kostka, Stefan and Dorothy Payne. Tonal Harmony, with an introduction to Twentieth Century Music, sixth edition, McGraw-Hill, 2009. ISBN-13 9780073401355. Textbook
Kostka, Stefan and Dorothy Payne. Tonal Harmony, with an introduction to Twentieth-Century Music, sixth edition, McGraw-Hill, 2009. ISBN-13 9780077269968. Workbook
Burkhart, Charles and William Rothstein. Anthology for Musical Analysis, Postmodern Update, sixth edition, Schirmer, 2008. ISBN-10: 0-495-18976-6. ISBN-13: 978-0-495-18976-3
Staff paper, notebook, pencil, and eraser.

Course Description:

The first theory class is given as part of a requisite for music majors and minors. The class meets three times a week and it is an introduction to diatonic and chromatic harmony. By the end of the semester the students not only will be able to read music but will be able to analyze harmonically and to understand its structure independently of their instrument of emphasis.

CFPO # 1, 3, 4, 6; INTASC # 1, 6, 7; MENC # 5, 6, 7, 8, 9; NASM # 2b, 2c, 2d, 3b, 4d

Relationship to Other Courses:

Music Theory I, II, III and IV are pre-requisite for all the Upper Level courses. An exam will be given at the last semester of theory as the UDPE (Upper Division Proficiency Exam) and students who pass the exam will be allowed to enroll in the upper courses of the program. Other classes, such as music history, piano classes, and studio lessons, are closely related to the subject. Students should not proceed to the next semester if the final grade is lower than a C and enrollment in two different sections during the same semester is unacceptable.

CFPO # 3, 5; INTASC # 4, 6, 7; MENC # 7

Objectives:

The objectives of a Music Theory class for freshman are to give the students a thorough understanding of the basic materials of music, such as: pitch and rhythmic notation, harmonic analysis using functional harmony and popular symbols, idea of phrase structure, sections and cadence, non-harmonic tones and three and four-voice part writing. The class emphasis is learning by doing, with each topic presented at least within a week prior to the exam, with a

series of exercises from the book, workbook and handouts. The purpose is on the exposition of theoretical procedures rather than on individual composers' interpretations of these procedures.
CFPO # 3; INTASC # 4; MENC #5, 6; NASM # 2a, 2b, 3c, 4d

Diversity:

This course is designed with an opportunity for the instructor to acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to help all students learn. To achieve the final goal the instructor will offer a variety of extra materials as well as different approaches to the subject.
CFPO # 7; INTASC # 1, 3, 6, 8; MENC # 5, 8, 9; NASM # 2c

Technology:

According to **ISTE National Educational Technology Standards (NETS):**

“Standard I. Teachers demonstrate a sound understanding of technology operations and concepts

Standard II. Teachers plan and design effective learning environments and experiences supported by technology.

Standard III. Teachers implement curriculum plans that include methods and strategies for applying technology to maximize student learning.

Standard IV. Teachers apply technology to facilitate a variety of effective assessment and evaluation strategies.

Standard V. Teachers use technology to enhance their productivity and professional practice.

Standard VI. Teachers understand the social, ethical, legal, and human issues surrounding the use of technology in PK-12 schools and apply those principles in Practice.”

With the six standards in mind this course will use Finale applied on assignments such as: harmonization, three and four-voice part writing, and general music writing. Other music programs are also encouraged to be used.

CFPO # 3, 5, 6, 10; INTASC # 1, 4, 6; MENC # 4; NASM # 1, 3a, 5a, 5c

Class participation/attendance:

Presence is imperative and absences are not allowed with exceptions of administrative excuses or serious medical and family reasons. Please, do not arrive late or leave early and any student who arrives 5 minutes late will be counted absent. The door will be closed after 8:05 and students will not be allowed to enter or interrupt the class after started. ***More than four unexcused absences will result in the lowering of your final grade by one letter (10.00 points). After that, each absence will lower your final grade by 5.00 points.***

Each student should be part of the activities in class without disturbing the classroom pace, and should purchase his/her own books, pencil, and eraser as well as any other material asked. If the student forgets his/her books, he/she will be excused once, and by the second time he/she will be considered as absent.

All students will be treated equally, even the non-major students who are aware of the class difficulty and pace.

Outline:

Weeks: 1-4	Chapters: 2 – Elements of Rhythm 1 – Elements of Pitch
	<i>Exam #1: September 14, 2007</i>
Weeks: 5-7	Chapters: 3 – Introduction to Triads and 7 th Chords 4 – Diatonic Chords in Major and Minor Keys
	<i>Exam #2: (Midterm) October 5, 2007</i>
Weeks: 8-11	Chapters: 11 – Non-Chord Tones 1 12 – Non-Chord Tones 2 10 – Cadences, Phrases, and Periods
	<i>Exam #3: November 2, 2007</i>
Weeks: 12-15	Chapters: 5 – Principles of Voice Leading 6 – Root Position Part Writing 7 – Harmonic Progression 8 – Triads in First Inversion 9 – Triads in Second Inversion
	<i>Exam #4: November 30, 2007 from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM</i>

Schedule and dates are subject to change according to the pace of the class and the students' need. All dates and material will be given at least a week prior to any exam.

Grading:

80% - There will be four exams during the semester, each one representing 20% of your final grade (including Midterm and Final exams), a total of 80%. It is imperative that each student is present for each exam, and *no make-up exams are allowed*, even with a doctor's excuse. *In case of absence the grade of the final exam will replace the missing grade at the end of the semester.*

10% - Homework, small assignments, and pop quizzes: they will be averaged and will count as 10% of the final grade. It is very important to turn in homework and assignments on time; late ones *will not* be accepted being considered as *zero*. Student will have until 5:00 PM to return their homework or assignments to be graded and they can be placed in the instructor's mailbox.

10% - Written and Creative Assignments:

One written project (micro-theme/essay/short paper) and a creative project will be given and a creative project will be given worth 5% each.

5% - Written project: a brief paper (not more than three pages) analyzing a given score. The final paper is due on the last class before the Mid-Term exam at 8:00 AM. I will guide you through the analysis, correcting your drafts until the class before its due date. Late assignments will not be correct or accepted.

5% - Creative project: a brief composition (ca. 4 measures) for a SATB choir on a given figured bass. The composition should follow the rules of four-voice part writing. The final project is due on the last day of class at 8:00 AM. You should use Finale for this project and hand-written projects are unacceptable. I will guide you through the part-writing, correcting your drafts until the class before its due date. Late assignments will not be correct or accepted.

CFPO # 1, 3, 6, 7, 10; INTASC # 1, 4, 7; MENC # 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7; NASM # 1, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3f, 3g, 4a, 4b, 4d, 5a, 5d, 5e

Final Grade Percentage:

Exam 1, 2, 3, 4	= 80%
Assig, homework, pop quizzes, etc.	= 10%
Written and creative projects	= 10%

Grades:

A=	100.00 - 90.00
B=	89.00 - 80.00
C=	79.00 - 70.00
D=	69.00 - 60.00
F=	59.00 - 0.00

According to the *Bulletin of the Mississippi State University*, page 195:

“To be eligible for student teaching, the student must have completed a minimum of 18 semester credit hours in the major subject with a minimum of 2.5 Q.P.A. or higher at the time of application. Final eligibility (2.5 GPA) is determined through screening at the end of the semester prior to student teaching. The student must also have completed all professional education and methods courses with a minimum grade of “C” prior to student teaching.”

Exams’ Material:

Exams will cover the material from classes, books, handouts, homework, and assignments. There will be **no make-up exams** (see under **Grading**). All exams are comprehensive and will cover the materials given in class.

The class prior to the exam will be a review section with extra materials and discussion groups, if necessary. Students will receive their exam corrected and graded the class after the exam when I will go through the exam answering any question concerning grades and methods of evaluation.

Honor Code:

“As a Mississippi State University student I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do.”

For an entire description of the Mississippi State University Student’s Honor Code visit the following website: <http://students.msstate.edu/honorcode/>

Statement of Student Rights and Academic Miscount:

“Any student with a documented disability who may require special accommodations should self-identify to the instructor as early in the semester as possible to receive effective and timely accommodations.”

"All occurrences of academic miscount will be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines and procedures outlined in the Academic Miscount Policy which may be accessed on the web at: http://www.msstate.edu/web/student_policies.html."

If students are caught cheating, both (the one who gives the answers and the one who asks for the answers) will receive a grade of zero for the assignment, homework, and/or exam.

Bibliography:

- Aldwell, Edward and Carl Schachter. Harmony & Voice Leading, third edition, Schirmer, 2003. ISBN: 0-15-506242-5
- Benjamin, Thomas/Michael Horvit/Robert Nelson. Techniques & Materials of Music From the Common Practice Period Through the Twentieth Century, sixth edition, Schirmer, 2003. ISBN: 0-534-51759-5
- _____. Music for Analysis – Examples from the Common Practice and the Twentieth Century, fourth edition, Wadsworth Publishing Company, 1996. ISBN: 0-534-25506-X
- Benward, Bruce and Marilyn Saker. Music – in Theory and Practice, volumes I and II, seventh edition, McGraw-Hill, 2003. ISBN: 0-07-241430-8
- Kostka, Stefan and Dorothy Payne. Tonal Harmony with an Introduction to Twentieth-Century Music, fourth edition, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1999. ISBN: 0-0289782-1
- Laitz, Steven G. The Complete Musician – An Integrated Approach to Tonal Theory, Analysis, and Listening, McGraw Hill, New York, 2003. ISBN: 0-19-509567-7
- Melcher, Robert, Willard F. Warch, and Paul B. Mast. Music for Study. A Source Book of Excerpts, third edition, New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 1991. ISBN: 0-13-607474-X
- Ottman, Robert W. Advanced Harmony Theory and Practice, fourth edition, Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 1992. ISBN: 0-13-006016-X
- Ottman, Robert W. Elementary Harmony, fourth edition, Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 1992. ISBN: 0-13-257288-5
- Roig-Francolí, Miguel A. Harmony in Context, McGraw-Hill, New York, 2003. ISBN: 0-697-35487-3
- Searl, James A. and Joseph K. Distefano. Music and Materials for Analysis – An Anthology, Ardsley House Publishers, Incorporated, 1995. ISBN: 1-880157-19-5
- Spencer, Peter. The Practice of Harmony, fifth edition, Prentice Hall, New Jersey, 2000. ISBN: 0-13-182660-3