

MUSC 1131 – Music Theory I

Common Course Outline

I. Reviewed: Spring 2007

II. Catalog Description: (for Music Theory I and II)

These courses provide a study of the materials and structure of music including notation, intervals, scales, four voice chorale style, melodic form and structure, diatonic and secondary harmony, binary and ternary forms. These courses are open to students who desire a rigorous music course.

Prerequisite: Concurrent registration in MUSC 1181 and MUSC 1157 is required for majors and minors, 3 credits.

III. Recommended Entry Skills and Knowledge:

- A. COMP 0900 or placement level of COMP 1101.
- B. READ 0960 or placement level of READ 1106 or above.

IV. Course Content:

This course includes the development of basic skills required for reading, writing and the interpretation of music. The content includes identification and application of music symbols, simple and compound metric organization, major, minor and modal scales, simple and compound intervals, diatonic triads and tetrads, transposition, phrases, cadences, and accompaniment patterns. Study of 18th century harmony will begin with figured bass, non-harmonic tones and cadences. A music historical style period will be developed. Students will arrange a chorale for a quartet of instruments and will transpose the overtone series.

V. Student Learning Outcomes:

In order to complete this course successfully, the student will be able to:

- A. Comprehend, identify and use simple, compound and complex meter signatures. (MNTC goal 2a, 2b)
- B. Organize, identify and use major and minor scales and their key signatures and the church modes and chromatic scales. (MNTC goal a, 2b)
- C. Identify simple and compound intervals in all areas of the pitch gamut and will use intervals in melodic and harmonic organization. (MNTC goal 2a, 2b)
- D. Identify triads and tetrads in major and minor tonalities and in recognition and organization of accompaniment patterns. (MNTC goal 2a, 2b)
 - The understanding of Outcomes A, B, C and D will enable the student to respond critically during the reading and listening processes. (MNTC goal 6c)
- E. Compose melodies that contain the basic element studied this semester. (These compositions, besides containing meters, scales, key signatures, intervals, triadic implication, and tonality focus will also be transposed, use tempo and dynamic indicators, phrases, and cadences.) (MNTC goal 6c, 2d)
- F. Recognize and read figured bass symbols in diatonic triadic harmony. (MNTC goal 2a)
- G. Comprehend the range and transposition of musical instruments and voices; arrange a composition for a quartet of instruments and conduct a reading of the score. (MNTC goal 6d, 2c)
- H. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works of music by creating a historical context and listening to a variety of compositions within this context. (MNTC goals 6e, 2d)

VI. Methods for Evaluation of Student Learning:

- A. Students will write melodies according to a specific set of guides. The guides reflect the content areas studied. Assessment of the compositions is based on adherence to the guidelines. They will also arrange a chorus for a quartet of instruments.
- B. Students will be tested on the factual material covered. This will occur at the end of chapters and/or other major sections and will be similar to the "Mastery Tests" given in the text. They will also be asked to write on music staff paper examples of the factual materials covered.
- C. Students will be evaluated on a daily basis through their class preparation, participation and attendance.

VII. Other Information: none