

Oxford College of Emory University
Music 114: Introduction to Theory and Composition
Fall, 2007

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Welcome to Music 114 and the study of theory and composition in the tonal system of Western music. It is your responsibility to read this syllabus, retain it for reference, and follow all course policies. All work in this class is governed by the **College Honor Code**. This means that all homework assignments, tests, and compositions must be your own work, and all ideas derived from outside sources must be acknowledged.

We meet Mon/Wed/Fri 10:40-11:30 a.m. in Few Choral Rehearsal Room. My office hours are Monday through Friday from 2:00-3:00 p.m. and also by appointment. Please feel free to come and speak with me about any course-related issues.

Our class conference, **114 Music Archetto**, is on Learnlink . The syllabus and other information will be posted there. Check the conference daily. Use it to communicate with me and with your classmates about course material.

Course Content:

Music 114 is an introductory course exploring basic harmonic practice in the Western musical tradition. Topics are tonal music theory including pitch notation, rhythm and meter, scales, intervals, triads, harmony, and musical form. You will study how musical compositions are created by analyzing works by a variety of composers from different time periods. You will learn concepts to apply to your own original compositions which you will learn to notate. Classes use lecture and interactive formats. The course fulfills the Oxford College Humanities requirement, the Emory College GER Area IVA and requirements for the music major or minor at Emory College.

Course Goals:

- to develop your ability to read and notate Western music
- to develop your ability to understand the basic principles of organization in Western music
- to develop your ability in the critical analysis of Western tonal music

- to develop your ability to create an original musical composition in the Western tonal idiom
- to develop your aesthetic sense by improving your perception and appreciation of beauty in all music

Course Requirements and Policies:

Required book: William Duckworth, **A Creative Approach to Music Fundamentals**. Ninth Edition (Wadsworth Publishing)
 Required supplies: Pencils, erasers, and one 3-ring binder (1.5")

You must come to class well prepared. This means at least two hours of study for each hour of class. All course work is graded on quality of content and writing style (content includes the quality of ideas and information; writing style includes organization of material and accuracy of spelling, punctuation, and grammar.) Music composition assignments are graded on quality of ideas, organization into an artistic whole, and neatness of manuscript.

You are expected to attend all classes, ask questions, participate in discussions, find out about work missed because of absence, and complete homework on time. Excessive absences will affect your grade negatively. See the College policy on class attendance (including the policy on religious holidays in the College Catalog.) There are no excused absences except in the case of serious illness, emergency, or religious holiday.

All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. **Late assignments will not be accepted.** Extensions may be requested on occasion, but this must be done before the due date. It is the responsibility of the student to be sure that the professor has received his or her paper.

There are no "make-up" tests or quizzes except in cases of severe illness or emergency with documentation. If you fail to appear for any test, you will receive a grade of "0." Be sure to inform the professor (in advance, if possible) of your inability to be present for a test and the reason why.

Be on time for class. If you arrive more than 5 minutes after class begins, you will be marked late. If you are late twice, this will equal one absence. Do not bring food, chewing gum, or drinks into the classroom. You may bring water or cough drops.

Assessment of Student Learning

The grading system is "plus-minus" with a 200 point scale

4 Written Tests (each worth 20 points)

6 Sight-singing/Keyboard Quizzes (each worth 10 points)

(Sight-singing/Keyboard quizzes are individual oral tests given outside of class each week by appointment)

2 Short Compositions (each worth 10 points)

Final exam (worth 30 points)

The final exam is an original extended composition which you will present to the class. This presentation will include:

The final written draft of your composition.

A written analysis of your composition

An oral report explaining your composition

A live performance of your composition

Self-evaluation (worth 5 points)

This is a formal essay (minimum length is two pages, double-spaced) in which you explain how and to what extent you have achieved the goals of the course. Describe in detail what you have learned from the course. If you have learned something not reflected in the goals, describe what further learning you experienced.

Class participation and completion of daily homework (worth 5 points)

The grading scale is as follows:

Points earned	Grade
190	A
180	A-
175	B+
170	B
160	B-
155	C+
150	C
140	C-
130	D
Below 130	F

Credit for participation in Oxford Chorale

You may earn up to 10 extra points in this course for participation in Oxford Chorale or Oxford Instrumental Ensemble. An audition is required. Attendance at specific rehearsals and concert performances is required. More detailed information will be available at the audition.

Credit for concert attendance

Extra points may be earned for attendance at specific concerts to be announced.

Tentative Course Outline:

Date	Topic	Reading and Exercises in Text Assignments are listed on their due date
8/29	Music Theory in the Western Tradition	Lecture
		Introduction xix-xxii
8/31	Rhythm and Pitch	Chapter 1, pp. 1-15
	Style periods in Western Music History	Lecture
	Classical Heritage, Medieval and Renaissance	
9/3	No class	Labor Day Holiday
9/5	The Keyboard	pp. 15-22
	Style Periods in Western Music History	Lecture
	Baroque, Classic, and Romantic	
9/7	Practice Materials	pp. 23-29
	Style Periods in Western Music History	Lecture
	20 th and 21 st centuries	
9/10	Rhythm I: Simple Meter	Chapter 2, pp.31-38
	Practice Materials	pp. 39-42
9/12	Focus on Skills	pp. 43-46
9/14	Rhythm II: Compound Meter	Chapter 3, pp. 47-58
	Musical form	Lecture
	Phrases, Sections, and Movements	
9/17	Practice Materials	pp. 59-60
9/19	Written Test 1	

9/21	Pitch Practice materials	Chapter 4, pp.61-71 pp. 73-77
9/24	Focus on Skills	pp. 79-81
9/26	Major Scales	Chapter 5, pp.83-92
9/28	Rhythm revisited: Beams	pp. 92-95
10/1	Practice materials	pp. 97-104
10/3	Major Key Signatures Practice materials	Chapter 6, pp.105-112 pp. 113-115
10/5	Intervals	Chapter 7, pp.117-131
10/8	No Class – Mid-Semester Vacation	
10/10	Practice materials	pp. 133-145
10/12	Focus on Skills Short Composition #1 due	pp.147-149
10/15	Written test 2	
10/17	Minor key signatures	Chapter 8, pp. 151-160
10/19	Practice materials	pp. 161-163
10/22	Minor Scales	Chapter 9, pp. 165-181
10/24	Practice materials	pp. 183-199
10/26	Pentatonic and Blues Scales	pp.201-208
10/29	Practice materials	pp. 209-212
10/31	Focus on Skills	pp. 213-216
11/2	Triads	pp. 217-229
11/2	Short composition #2 due	
11/5	Practice materials	pp. 231-238
11/7	Triads in a musical context	pp. 239-253
11/9	Practice materials	pp. 255-260
11/12	Written test 3	
11/14	Chord progressions	pp. 261-275
11/16	Practice materials	pp. 277-278
11/29	Focus on Skills	pp. 279-281
11/21 and 11/23	Draft #1 of Long Composition Due No Class Thanksgiving Holiday	

11/26 Writing a Song	pp. 283-295
11/28 Strophic form	Lecture, In-class analysis
11/30 Binary and Ternary Forms	Lecture, In-class analysis

12/3 32-Bar Song Form	Lecture, In-class analysis
12/5 Review	
College course evaluation forms	

12/7 No class at 10:40 a.m. Class meeting is Oxford Chorale Holiday Concert on 12/6 or 12/7 at 8 p.m. in the Chapel. Sign your ticket with your name and Music 101 in order to receive credit.

12/10 Written test #4

12/12 Self-evaluation due in Few 204 by 5 p.m.

12/ Final Exam in Few Choral Rehearsal Room at 9:00 a.m.
Exam includes final draft of Composition with
written report, oral report, and performance.
 See final exam schedule (printed by Records and Registration Office) for College policy on final exams.

The Professor reserves the right to alter this syllabus to suit pedagogical needs.