

Oxford College of Emory University

Fall 2013

Music 114: Introduction to Theory and Composition

MWF 10:45 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. in Few Choral Rehearsal Room

Dr. Maria Archetto

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Office hours: Monday and Friday 4:00-5:30 p.m.
and by appointment

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 and follow all course policies. All work in this class is governed by the **College Honor Code**. This means all course work must be your own, and all ideas derived from outside sources must be acknowledged in a scholarly manner.

Course Content

Music 114 is an introductory course exploring basic harmonic practice in Western music. Topics in tonal music theory include 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 create your own original compositions. Classes use lecture and interactive formats. The course fulfills the Oxford College Humanities requirement, the Emory GEP HAP, and prepares students for the music major or minor at Emory College.

Course Goals

- You will be able to read and notate Western music
- You will demonstrate understanding of the basic principles of organization in Western music
- You be able to critically analyze examples of Western tonal music
- You will create an original musical composition in the Western tonal idiom
- You will refine your aesthetic sense by improving your perception and appreciation of beauty in all music

Course Requirements

Text book

William Duckworth, **A Creative Approach to Music Fundamentals**. 11th Edition. Schirmer (Cengage): 2013 (paperback)

Supplies Soft lead pencils, erasers, a 3-ring binder, blank staff paper

A copy of the textbook is on reserve in the Library.

Assessment of Student Learning

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

--Three Written Tests (80 points)

Test 1 20 points Test 2 20 points Test 3 40 points

--5 Practical Skills Tests (50 points)

These tests include rhythm, sight singing, and scales played on the keyboard. They are individual tests given outside of class by appointment.

--Two Short Compositions (10 points each)

--One Long Composition (30 points) due in hard copy and performance at the Final Exam date

--Self-evaluation essay (10 points) (700 words double-spaced)

Explain how and to what extent you achieved the course goals. Describe in detail what you learned and how you believe you learned it. Compare your knowledge and skills at the end of the course with those at the beginning. If you had a particular learning issue, explain how you dealt with it. If you learned something beyond the stated course goals, explain what you learned. Your name, the title of the course, the date, and the word count must be printed in the upper right hand corner of your essay to earn credit.

--Attendance at required events (10 points)

To verify your attendance, get a ticket at the venue 30 minutes before the concert, fill out the ticket with your name, ID, and Music 114. Hand the ticket to an usher when exiting the concert.

Required Concerts	Date	Time	Place
Chamber Music Concert	9/9	7:30 PM	Williams
Elizaveta Agladze	9/16	7:30 PM	Williams
Wendy Warner, cello	10/21	7:30 PM	Williams
Eugene Skovorodnikov, piano	11/11	7:30 PM	Williams

Oxford Chorale Holiday Concert* 12/5 or 12/6 8:00 PM Chapel

**Tickets for this concert will be available the week of the concert at the Student Center Desk.

Grading Scale

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 Ensembles

You may earn up to 5 points for your grade for participation in Oxford Chorale or Oxford Chamber Ensemble. An audition is required by September 10.

Members of Chorale or Ensemble may earn performance credit for Oxford Studies. See the Oxford Studies syllabus for details.

Course Policies

You must come to class well prepared. This means at least three hours of study for each hour of class. All 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.) Original compositions are graded on quality of ideas, organization into an artistic whole, and neatness of manuscript.

You are expected to attend and participate in all classes, to find out about work missed because of absence, and complete homework on time. Students requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act must present the required documentation to the professor before accommodation can be discussed.

All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. **Late work is not accepted.** Extensions may be requested before the due date. Computer or printer problems are not acceptable excuses for missed deadlines. All pages must contain your name, and must be numbered and stapled together. You are responsible for the receipt of all work. Assignments not meeting these criteria will earn a “0”. There is no “make-up” work and there are no “make-up” examinations. Failure to appear for any exam, test, or presentation earns a “0”

Absences will affect your grade negatively. See the college policy on attendance in the Catalog including policy on religious holidays. There are no excused absences except for serious illness or emergency, and religious holidays. These require written documentation, and excuses may or may not be granted at the discretion of the professor. Absences will affect your grade as follows:

4 absences:	The grade will be B or less
5 absences	The grade will be C or less
6 absences	The grade will be D or F

Questions about grades for any work may be asked up to three days following receipt of the grade. Please feel free to make an appointment to come to my office to discuss any course related concern.

Be on time for class. Late arrivals are discourteous and prevent the class from achieving optimal learning. Persons arriving more than 5 minutes after class begins, you will be marked late. Two late arrivals will equal one absence. Do not bring food, chewing gum, or drinks into the classroom. You may bring water or cough drops. Do not use personal electronic devices during class.

Course Outline		Dates are due dates
Date	Topic	Reading/Exercises in Text
8/28	Explanation of Syllabus	
	The Liberal Arts tradition in education	Lecture
	Music Theory in the Western Tradition	
8/30	Rhythm and Pitch	Introduction pp. 1-5 Chapter 1, pp. 7-28

	A Brief Introduction to Timbre	pp. 366-369
	A Brief Discussion of Acoustics	pp. 370-372
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9/2	No class Labor Day Holiday	
9/4	The Keyboard	Chapter 2, pp. 29-34
9/6	Practice Materials	pp. 35-39
	Focus on Skills	pp.41-44
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9/9	Rhythm I: Simple Meter	Chapter 3, pp. 45-57
9/11	Practice Materials	pp. 59-62
9/13	Rhythm II: Compound Meter	Chapter 4, pp. 63-80
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9/16	Practice Materials	pp. 81-83
9/18	Focus on Skills	pp. 85-87
9/20	Test 1	
9/23	Pitch	Chapter 5, pp. 89-100
	Practice materials	pp.101-106
	Focus on Skills	pp. 107-108
9/25	The C Clef	pp. 350-353
9/27	Major Scales	Chapter 6, pp.109-120
	Practice Materials	pp. 121-127
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9/30	Major Key Signatures	Chapter 7, pp. 129-34
	Practice Materials	pp. 135-137
10/2	Focus on Skills	pp. 139-141
10/4	Intervals	Chapter 8, pp. 143-156
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10/7	Practice Materials	pp. 157-171
10/9	Focus on Skills	pp.173-175

10/11 Minor key signatures Practice Materials	Chapter 9, pp. 177-185 pp.187-190
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10/14 No Class Mid-Semester Vacation	
10/16 Test 2	
10/18 Minor Scales	Chapter 10, pp.191-208
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10/21 Short Composition #1 due Practice Materials	pp.209-223
10/23 Pentatonic and Blues Scales Practice materials Focus on Skills	Chapter 11, pp. 225-234 pp.235-238 pp. 239-242
10/25 Other Scales and Modes (you do not need to read Transposing the Modes)	pp. 354-360
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10/28 Triads	Chapter 12, pp. 243-249
10/30 Triads	250-254
11/1 Practice Materials	pp. 255-260
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11/4 Triads in a Musical Context	Chapter 13, pp. 261-267
11/6 Seventh Chords	pp. 267-277
11/8 Short Composition #2 due Practice Materials	pp. 279-284
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11/11 Chord Progressions	Chapter 14, pp.285-302
11/13 Practice Materials Focus on Skills	pp. 303-306 pp. 307-310
11/15 Test 3	
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11/18 Writing a Song

Chapter 15, pp. 311-325

11/20 Practice Materials

pp. 327-330

11/22

11/25 Clean Copy of Long Composition Due

11/27 and 11/29 No Classes Thanksgiving Holiday

12/2 Individual consultations on composition

12/4 Individual consultations on composition

**12/6 No class. You are required to attend the Oxford Chorale Holiday Concert on 12/5 or 12/6 at 8 p.m. in the Chapel.
Tickets will be available the week of the concert.**

**12/9 Revised copy of long composition due
IDEA course evaluations
Self-Evaluation Due**

**12/13 Final Exam 2:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. in Few Choral Rehearsal Room.
Long composition in final written copy and performance due
See College Final Exam Schedule for College policy on final exams.**

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

Student work submitted as part of this course may be reviewed by Oxford College and Emory College faculty and staff for the purposes of improving instruction and enhancing Emory education.