

Oxford College of Emory University
Fall 2012
Music 114: Introduction to Theory and Composition
MWF 10:45 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. in Few Choral Rehearsal Room

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Office hours: Monday and Friday 4:00-6:00 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.

Our class conference is on **Learnlink** and is titled **114 Music Archetto**. The syllabus and other important information are posted there. Check the conference daily. Use it to communicate with me and with your classmates. Please also feel free to come to my office to discuss any course-related issues.

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 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 . 10 th Edition ISBN-13: 978-0-495-57220-6 Schirmer (Cengage). 2010 (paperback) One copy of the text is on reserve in the Library
Supplies	Soft lead pencils, erasers, a 3-ring binder, blank staff paper

Assessment of Student Learning

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

--Four Written Tests (80 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.

--One Short Composition (20 points)

--One Long Composition (30 points) to be performed on 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 in order to earn credit.

--Attendance at required events (10 points)

Required Event	Date	Time	Place
Balkan String Quartet	9/20	7:30 PM	Williams
Olga Caceanova, violin	9/24	7:30 PM	Williams

Keiko Ransom, piano	10/8	7:30 PM	Williams
David Coucheron, violin and William Ransom, piano	11/12	7:30 PM	Williams
Oxford Chorale Holiday Concert*	12/6 or 12/7 8:00 PM	Chapel	
Williams	12/8 at 3:00 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.

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
8/29	Explanation of Syllabus The Liberal Arts tradition in education Music Theory in the Western Tradition	Lecture
8/31	Rhythm and Pitch Style periods in Western Music History	Introduction xix-xxiv Chapter 1, pp.1-15
9/3	No class Labor Day Holiday	

9/5	The Keyboard	pp. 15-22
9/7	Practice Materials	pp. 23-30
9/10	Rhythm I: Simple Meter Practice Materials	Chapter 2, pp. 31-42 pp. 43-46
9/12	Focus on Skills	pp. 47-50
9/14	Rhythm II: Compound Meter	Chapter 3, pp. 51-68
9/17	Practice Materials	pp. 69-71
9/19	Pitch Practice materials, Focus on Skills	Chapter 4, pp. 73-83 pp. 85-93
9/21	Test 1	
9/24	Major Scales	Chapter 5, pp.95-106
9/26	Practice Materials	pp. 107-113
9/28	Major Key Signatures Practice Materials	pp. 115-120 pp. 121-123
10/1	Intervals Practice Materials	pp. 125-135 pp. 141-150
10/3	Compound Intervals, Interval Inversion Practice Materials	pp. 136-139 pp. 151-153
10/5	Focus on Skills	pp. 155-157
10/8	Minor key signatures Practice Materials	Chapter 8, pp. 159-166 pp.167-170
10/10	Practice Materials	pp.189-193
10/12	Minor Scales Short Composition Due	pp. 171-187

10/15 No Class – Mid-Semester Vacation

10/17 Practice Materials pp. 194-202

10/19 Test 2

10/22 Pentatonic and Blues Scales pp. 203-210
Practice Materials pp. 211-214

10/24 Focus on Skills pp. 215-218

10/26 Triads pp. 219-227
Practice Materials pp. 233-236

10/29 Inversions of Triads PP. 228-231
Practice Materials pp. 237

10/31 Triads in a Musical Context pp.239-244
Practice Materials pp. 255-259
(through Ex, 12-5

11/2 Seventh chords pp. 244-254
Practice Materials pp. 259-260

11/5 Chord progressions pp. 261-275

11/7 Practice materials, Focus on Skills pp. 277-281

11/9 Test 3

11/12 Writing a Song pp. 283-290

11/14 Musical Form, Practice Materials pp. 290-299

11/16 Clean Draft Copy of Long Composition Due

Individual Consultations with Professor on Composition

History of Music Theory – Antiquity and Middle Ages

11/19 Test 4

11/21 and 11/23

No Classes Thanksgiving Holiday

11/26 History of Music Theory – Renaissance and early Baroque

11/28 History of Music Theory-late Baroque to 19th century (“common practice”)

11/30 Test 4

12/3 Individual consultations on composition

12/5 Individual consultations on composition

12/7 No class. You are required to attend the Oxford Chorale Holiday Concert on 12/16 or 12/27 at 8 p.m., or 12/38 at 3 p.m. in the Chapel

**12/10 IDEA course evaluations
Self-Evaluation Due**

**12/18 Final Exam 2:00-5:00 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.