

Oxford College of Emory University
Fall 2014
Music 114: Introduction to Theory and Composition
MWF 10:45 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. in Few Chorale Rehearsal Room

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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 composers from different time periods. You will create your own original compositions. Classes use lecture and interactive formats. It fulfills the Oxford College Humanities requirement, the GEP HAP, and prepares students for courses in the music major at Emory College. This course may be counted for the music minor as one of the three 100-level courses accepted. This course prepares music majors for Music 121, the first required course in the music theory sequence 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 original musical compositions 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

----Six Practical Skills Tests (60 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 (20 points)

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

--Self-evaluation essay (5 points) (500-600 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 (5 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
Manhattan Piano Trio	9/29	7:30 PM	Williams
Amernet Quartet	10/29	7:30 PM	Williams

Four Hand Piano Concert	11/3	7:30 PM	Williams
Oxford Chorale Holiday Concert*	12/4 or 12/5	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 participation in Oxford Chorale or Oxford Chamber Ensemble. An audition is required by September 5.

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 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 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

Date Topic

Dates are due dates

Reading/Exercises in Text

8/27 Explanation of Syllabus

The Liberal Arts tradition in education

Music Theory in the Western Tradition

Lecture

8/28 Rhythm and Pitch

Introduction pp. 1-4

	A Brief Introduction to Timbre A Brief Discussion of Acoustics	Chapter 1, pp. 5-23 Do practice examples pp. 312-315 pp. 316-318
9/1	No class Labor Day Holiday	
9/3	The Keyboard	Chapter 2, pp. 25-30
9/5	Practice Materials Focus on Skills	pp. 31-33 pp. 35-37
9/8	Rhythm I: Simple Meter	Chapter 3, pp. 39-51
9/10	Practice Materials	pp. 53-55
9/12	Rhythm II: Compound Meter	Chapter 4, pp. 57-71
9/15	Practice Materials	pp. 73-74
9/17	Focus on Skills	pp. 75-76
9/19	Test 1	
9/22	Pitch Practice materials Focus on Skills	Chapter 5, pp. 77-86 pp. 87-90 pp. 91-92
9/24	The C Clef	pp. 298-300
9/26	Major Scales Practice Materials	Chapter 6, pp.93-102 pp. 103-107
9/29	Major Key Signatures Practice Materials	Chapter 7, pp. 109-114 pp. 115-116
10/1	Focus on Skills	pp. 117-118
10/3	Intervals	Chapter 8, pp. 119-131
10/6	Practice Materials	pp. 133-141
10/8	Focus on Skills	pp. 143-144

10/10 Minor key signatures Practice Materials	Chapter 9, pp. 145-153 pp.155-157
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10/13 No Class Mid-Semester Vacation

10/15 Test 2

10/17 Minor Scales	Chapter 10, pp.159-173
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10/20 Practice Materials	pp. 175-184
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10/22 Pentatonic and Blues Scales Practice materials	Chapter 11, pp. 185-193 pp. 195-197
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10/24 Focus on Skills Short Composition #1 due	pp. 199-201
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10/27 Other Scales and Modes Transposing the Modes	pp. 301-308 pp. 308-311
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10/29 Triads	Chapter 12, pp. 203-213
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10/31 Practice Materials	pp. 215-218
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11/3 Triads in a Musical Context	Chapter 13, pp. 219-225
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11/5 Seventh Chords	pp. 225-232
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11/7 Short Composition #2 due Practice Materials	pp. 233-235
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11/10 Practice Materials	pp. 235-236
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11/12 Review for Test	
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11/14 Test 3

11/17 Chord Progressions	Chapter 14, pp. 237-253
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11/19 Practice Materials	pp. 255-257
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11/21 Focus on Skills	pp. 259-261
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11/24 Writing a Song Chapter 15, pp. 263-276
Practice Materials pp. 277-278

11/26 and 11/28 **No Classes Thanksgiving Holiday**

12/1 **Clean Draft Copy of Long Composition Due**
Individual consultations on composition

12/3 **No class meeting**
Individual consultations on composition

12/5 **No class meeting**
Individual consultations on composition
You are required to attend the Oxford Chorale Holiday Concert on 12/4 or 12/5 at 8 p.m. in the Chapel.
Tickets will be available the week of the concert in the Student Center.

12/8 **Revised Clean Copy of long composition due**
IDEA course evaluations

12/10 **Self-Evaluation due by 5:00 p.m. in Tarbutton 204**

12/16 **Final Exam 2:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. in Few Chorale 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.