

Oxford College of Emory University
Fall, 2003
Music 114: Introduction to Theory and Composition
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Welcome to Music 114 and the study of basic music 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. You are responsible for all material covered in class and for all assignments. All of your work in this class is governed by the **College Honor Code** (See [College Catalog](#).)

Music 114 meets Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 10:40-11:30 a.m. in Few Choral Rehearsal Room. My office hours are Monday through Friday from 2:30-3:30 p.m. and also by appointment. Please feel free to come to my office and speak with me about any course-related issues.

Our class conference is **114 Music Archetto** on Learnlink. The syllabus and other information will be posted on the conference. Please check the conference daily, and please use it to communicate with me and to discuss course material with your classmates.

Course Content

Music 114 is an introductory course exploring basic harmonic practice in the Western musical tradition. Fundamental topics in tonal music theory including pitch notation, rhythm and meter, scales, intervals, triads, harmony, and musical form are covered. You will learn some ways in which composers have used these elements of music to create musical works by analysis of examples of high quality compositions by a variety of composers. From your analysis, you will learn concepts to be applied to your own original composition which you will also learn to notate. The course fulfills: a Humanities requirement at Oxford and the Area IVA requirement for Emory College. Classes use lecture and interactive format. Tests consist of objective and analytical questions. There are also an original composition, sight-singing, ear-training and keyboard tests.

Course Goals

The main goals of the course are:

1. to develop your ability to notate music in the Western tradition
2. to develop your ability to read music in the Western tradition

3. to develop your abilities in understanding the principles of organization in music of the Western tradition
3. to develop your abilities in the critical analysis of Western tonal music
4. to develop your abilities in creating an original musical composition in the Western tonal idiom
5. to develop your aesthetic sense by improving your perception and appreciation of beauty in music

Assessment of Student Progress

The grading system is "plus-minus."

8 Written Tests (40% of grade)

8 Sight-singing/Keyboard Tests (20%) These tests are given outside of class time on Fridays. Participation in Oxford Chorale may be substituted for the sight-singing component

Final exam (20%) The final examination is an original composition. The final draft of the composition is due by 5 p.m. on December 10. At the time of the final examination, you will present a written analysis and performance of the composition.

Class participation and completion of homework (10%)

Self-evaluation (10%) The self-evaluation is an essay (minimum length is 3 pages) due by 5 p.m. on December 15. In this essay you should explain how and to what extent you have achieved the goals of the course which are listed above, i.e., you should describe in detail what you have learned from the course. If you have learned something not reflected in the specific goals of the course, describe what further learning you experienced. Content, spelling, grammar, and writing style are graded in this essay.

Course Requirements and Policies

Required book : William Duckworth, **A Creative Approach to Music Fundamentals**. Seventh Edition (Wadsworth Publishing)

Required supplies: Pencils and erasers, music staff paper, 3-ring binder (1.5")

The successful student in Music 114 will come to class well prepared. This means at least two hours of studying for each hour of class time. All tests and assignments are graded on quality of content and level of writing style (content includes the quality of ideas and information, writing style includes organization of material and accuracy of spelling and grammar.) Music composition assignments are graded on quality of ideas and the methods of organization into an artistic whole, and neatness of manuscript.

You are expected to attend all classes, ask questions, and participate in discussions, and to find out about work missed because of absence. Completion of homework on time is also expected. Excessive absences and lack of preparation for class will affect your grade negatively. See the College policy on class attendance (including on religious holidays, College Catalog) You are allowed three absences without penalty. Please use these for serious illness and emergencies.

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. Online practice exercises may be found on the CD ROM accompanying the text. and at <http://imlc.rutgers.edu> under Musical Exercises.

There are no "make-up" tests except in cases of severe illness or emergency as documented in writing by a medical professional and determined by the professor. If you fail to appear in class for a test during the time specified, 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.

Please be on time for class. Late arrivals are discourteous to everyone. If you arrive after 10:45 a.m., you will be marked late. If you are late twice, this will equal one absence. Please do not bring food (including chewing gum) or drinks into the classroom. You may bring water or cough drops.

Tentative Course Outline:

Date Topic Assignments (Reading and Exercises in Text)
Assignments are listed on their due date, for example, Exercises through 1-7 are due on 8/29

8/27 Music Theory in the Western Tradition Class discussion
8/29 Rhythm Ch. 1, pp. 1-16, Ex. 1-1 through 1-7

9/1 No Class—Labor Day Holiday

9/3	Rhythm	Ch. 1, pp. 17-25, Ex. 1-8 through 1-13
9/5	Rhythm	Ch. 1, pp. 53- Ex. 1-14-1-16

9/8	Melody	Ch. 2, pp. 43-52, Ex. 2-1 through 2-7
9/10	Melody	Ch. 2, pp. 53-66, Ex. 2-8 through 2-11
9/12	The Keyboard	Ch. 3, pp. 67-76, Ex. 3-1 through 3-4

9/15 Review: Rhythm, Melody, and Keyboard.
Do Focus on Skills I, pp. 77-79

9/17 Musical Form: Binary form (AB)

9/19 Written Test 1 in class

Sight-singing/Keyboard Test outside of class

9/22	Major Scales	Ch. 4, pp. 81-92, Ex. 4-1 through 4-5
9/24	Major Scales	Ch. 4, pp. 92-96, Ex. 4-6- and 4-7
9/26	Major Scales	Ch. 4, pp. 96-100, Ex. 4-8 and 4-9

9/29 Major scales Ch. 4, pp. 101-103, Ex. 4-10

10/1 Musical Form: Review of Binary Form
Ternary form (ABA)

10/3 Written Test 2 in class

Sight-singing/Keyboard Test outside of class

10/6	Major Key Signatures	Ch.5, pp. 105-113, Ex. 5-1 through 5-5
10/8	Major Key Signatures	Ch 5., pp. 113-115, Ex. 5-6

10/10 Written Test 3

Sight-singing/Keyboard Test outside of class

10/13 No Class—Mid-Semester Vacation

10/15 Intervals Ch. 6, pp. 117-123, Ex. 6-1 through 6-4

10/17 Intervals Ch. 6, pp. 124-134, Ex. 6-5 through 6-9

10/20 Intervals Ch. 6, pp. 135-149, Ex. 6-10 through 6-14

10/22 Review Major Scales, Major key signatures, Intervals, Binary form,
Ternary Form Do Focus on Skills II, pp. 151-153

10/24 Written Test 4 in class

Sight-Singing/Keyboard Test outside of class

10/27 Minor key signatures Ch. 7, pp. 155-158, Ex. 7-1, 7-2, 7-3

10/29 Minor key signatures Ch. 7, pp. 158-166, Ex. 7-4, 7-5

10/31 Written Test 5 in class

Sight-Singing/Keyboard Test outside of class

11/3 Minor scales-natural Ch. 8, pp. 167-179, Ex. 8-1 through 8-4
11/5 Minor scales-harmonic Ch. 8, pp. 179-188, Ex. 8-5 through 8-11
11/7 Minor scales-melodic Ch. 8, pp. 189-195, Ex. 8-12 through 8-14

11/10 Minor scales-sight-singing Ch. 8 pp.195-200, Ex. 8-15
11/12 Review Binary and Ternary form
Strophic form Do Focus on Skills III, pp. 221-224, nos. 1-6

11/14 Written Test 6 in class
Sight-Singing/Keyboard Test outside of class

11/17 Triads Ch. 10, pp. 227-240, Ex. 10-1 through 10-10
11/19 Triads Ch. 10, pp. 241-250 Ex. 10-11 through 10-14
11/21 Dominant Seventh Chord Ch. 10, pp. 251-264, Ex. 10-15 through 10-20

11/24 Written Test 7 in class
Sight-Singing/Keyboard Test outside of class
11/26 and 11/28 No class-Thanksgiving Vacation

12/1 Tonality Ch. 11, pp. 265-293. Do Musical Problem, p.290
12/3 Tonality Do Focus on Skills IV, pp. 295-299
Course Evaluations
12/5 No class at 10:40/Attend Oxford Chorale Holiday Concert on 12/4 or 12/5 at 8 p.m. in the Chapel

12/8 Written Test 8 in class
Sight-Singing/Keyboard Test outside of class

12/10 Written Composition due in final form by 5 p.m.
12/15 Written Self-Evaluation due by 5 p.m.

12/17 Final Exam 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Choral Rehearsal Room. Final exam is presentation of written analysis and performance of composition.

See final exam schedule (printed by Records and Registration Office) for College policy on final exams.