



# *Intro to Music Theory*

## **Intro to Music Theory Syllabus**

### **Description**

Intro to Music Theory is designed to help students who know nothing about reading music and helping them to eventually compose their own music! Music theory is the study of reading and writing music, and it is imperative to begin to understand and appreciate music. In the first semester, students will begin by learning all of the symbols on the page. From there, they will learn how to identify keys, scales, chords, and start learning the basics for putting these together. The second semester will focus on a 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century style of composition called counterpoint, which was used by Bach, Palestrina, Mozart, and many, many others. Students will learn how to create their own melodies and harmonies through this practice. This course is for students with beginner to intermediate knowledge of music theory.

### **Materials**

- A pencil
- Staff paper (printable from online)
- Harmonic Practice in Tonal Music (Second Edition)* by Robert Gauldin
- <http://academic.udayton.edu/PhillipMagnuson/soundpatterns/speciescpt/spI3.html>

### **Time**

Wednesdays 11 AM PST (2PM EST)

## **Course Overview**

Class 1: Intro and The Staff

Class 2 and 3: Rhythms

Class 4 and 5: Intervals

Class 6 and 7: Tonic, Scales, and Melody (Exam 1)

Class 8 and 9: Triads, Seventh Chords, Figured Bass

Class 10: Musical Texture and Chordal Spacing

Class 11 and 12: Four Voice Partwriting

Class 13 and 14: Dissonant Embellishing Tones

Class 15: Review (Exam 2)

Class 16: Diatonic Church Modes and Other Scales

Class 17 and 18: Intro to Counterpoint and Species 1

Class 19 and 20: Species 2

Class 21 and 22: Species 3 (Exam 3)

Class 23 and 24: Species 4

Class 25 and 26: Species 5 and Review (Exam 4)

## **Grading**

Your final grade is based on homework and exams. Homework makes up 50% of the grade, and exams make up 50% of the grade as well.

## **Homework**

All homework must be submitted 24 hours before the next class. So, if the next class meets at 1:30 on Thursday, homework is due at 1:30 on Wednesday.

Homework that is handed in late will be deducted 10 points for each consecutive day it is late unless you have received an extension from Mr. Anderson. Any homework that is not submitted a week or more after the due date will receive a zero unless granted an extension by Mr. Anderson.

## **Exams**

There will be four exams throughout the course. All exams will be due by class time one week from the class they are assigned. Exams that are handed in late will be deducted a whole letter grade for each consecutive day it is late unless you have received an extension from Mr. Anderson.

## **Extra Credit**

Extra credit assignments can be administered at the discretion of Mr. Anderson. All extra credit given will be added to the lowest exam grade.

## **Attendance**

Attendance of all live classes is mandatory unless given authorization by Mr. Anderson. While attendance is not graded, it will affect the final grade. Four unexcused absences in a semester will lead to the decrease of a whole letter grade on the final grade. The fifth absence will result in the decrease of a half letter grade. Six absences in one semester will result in a failing grade for the semester.

## **Privacy Policy**

All information (of any type whatsoever) provided to the program is considered strictly confidential and will not be shared with any other persons or entities without the prior permission of the student, except at the request of the student, unless we are required to share such information by law.

## **Tuition**

Tuition is subject to change without notice. However, enrollees that have already paid tuition will not be charged more or credited for the difference. Students on payment plans may withdraw within 72 hours of enrollment by email to [manderson3992@yahoo.com](mailto:manderson3992@yahoo.com), and will not incur any further financial obligation from that point forward.

## **Refunds**

There are no tuition refunds for any monies paid. However, enrollees that have already paid tuition will not be charged more or credited for the difference. Students on payment plans may withdraw within 72 hours of enrollment by email to [manderson3992@yahoo.com](mailto:manderson3992@yahoo.com), and will not incur any further financial obligation from that point forward.