

MUT 1001-1852: Fundamentals of Music (Fall Term 2015)

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Office Hours By appointment
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Classroom HS - 112
Meeting Time Tuesday / Thursday - 2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.
Credits 3 credit hours
Humanities Chair Nancy Smith Office: HS 118
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Optional Materials

This course is designed to meet the needs of a variety of learning styles and affordability options. The clear course objectives for each module in MyCourses allow students to succeed using several different resources of their choice. Please watch the Empowerment/Personalized Learning Video, located in the “start here” module, for more details.

For students who prefer a text, we recommend the following:

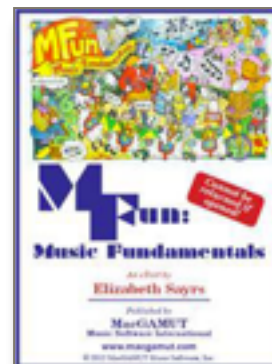
MFun: Music Fundamentals (Interactive CD) - Elizabeth

Sayrs

Publisher: MacGamut

ISBN: 978-1-886997-23-3

Available in the SPC Gibbs campus bookstore or order online at www.macgamut.com



Blank staff paper (a pdf of music staff paper will be available through MyCourses in the Course Content to print as needed). It is also recommended that the student purchase 12-stave staff paper available at the bookstore or online.

Other Course Materials

Much of this course relies heavily upon the use and familiarity of the piano keyboard. All students have access to pianos, practice rooms, and music labs while on campus. It is highly recommended that students spend time outside class studying the keyboard. For more information on campus access to these items, please visit the Humanities Office, HS 118.

Course Description

This course is designed for: those who need it as a prerequisite in the Music Industry / Recording Arts degree program, those with little music theory background, or non-music majors. It introduces the student to the fundamentals of music notation pitch & rhythm, scales, the formation of chords, and harmony.

The goal of music theory, along with its counterpart, ear training, is to improve literacy and accuracy with music and to help students develop a better understanding and comprehension of music. This course is essential to the development of the conscious, active listening musician, and for all areas of musical study, whether a student chooses classical music or pop/contemporary music for their medium. No prior knowledge or musical experience is required, but previous experience will be helpful.

Prerequisites

There is no prerequisite for MUT 1001. Fundamentals of Music is a prerequisite class for the traditional Music Theory sequence, as well as Contemporary Music Theory I, and several other courses in the Music Industry/Recording Arts (MIRA) program.

Technological Requirements

1) Access to a PC or Mac computer.

- a. The text for this course is an interactive CD e-text (MFun). As long as your Mac or PC computer has a CD drive, you may load the software and work from your own computer. You will also need internet access to register the software and receive your transcript.mft file.
- b. MFun software is installed on some of the computers in the SPC Library and all the computers in the HS 116 Music Lab. Please ask the Desk Attendant for help on which computers currently have the software installed.

*If you choose to work on MFun in a computer lab, you will need to use a flash drive to store and keep track of your transcript.mft file. You should also provide your own headphones to hear audio examples.

- c. Registration of software and FAQ about the MFun software is located at macgamut.com.

2) Using MyCourses, the online LMS (Learning Management System)

This course uses the SPC MyCourses system to keep track of attendance, assign and complete homework, and display grades. Students will be able to view their progress at any time during the course. Students should use MyCourses to communicate with classmates and the instructor regarding course material and to complete assignments given in class.

Although this course is not an online course, students should make a habit of checking their MyCourses modules on a daily basis for announcements, notices, and emails. Students should also update their contact information through the MySPC system so that proper contact with the professor can be maintained. <https://mycourses.spcollege.edu> Use your student number and your MySPC password to login.

Course Expectations

- 1) Read the Syllabus, Course Schedule, and all announcements and assignments thoroughly, and bring any questions you have to your instructor as soon as possible.
- 2) Check MyCourses and your SPC e-mail account regularly. You may wish to forward your SPC e-mails to another address if needed.
- 3) Spend time preparing homework assignments multiple days of the week.
- 4) Maintain a professional, respectful attitude towards other students and your instructor. Ensure that discussion posts are appropriate, relevant to the topic at hand, and clearly communicate your thoughts and ideas.
- 5) If you're having trouble with any part of the class, notify your instructor immediately. In-person meetings will be held on campus only.

Course Objectives

- 1) Acquire fluency in basic visual / aural concepts of pitch and rhythmic notation through practical application of voice, keyboard, and/or other instruments.
- 2) Gain practical skills in written and oral notation for pitch and rhythm.
- 3) Realize simple rhythms and melodies from written sources.
- 4) Communicate using the common practice music notation method to create and express original musical ideas.
- 5) Become familiar with the piano keyboard; notes, chords, and scales.
- 6) Fulfill the prerequisites for upper level music and theory courses.

Coursework

Coursework for Fundamentals of Music will be given through the MyCourses wheel and consists of the following:

- 1) **Reading Course Objectives**
- 2) **Accessing Learning Resources**
- 3) **Self-Assessments (not graded)**
- 4) **Quizzes - MyCourses modules and In-Class quizzes**
- 5) **Optional Discussions**
- 6) **Attendance and Participation**

Grading Weights

MyCourses Module Quizzes - 35%

Midterm Exam - 25%

Final Exam - 25%

In-Class Quizzes - 15%

Grading Policy

90 - 100% = A

80 - 89% = B

70 - 79% = C

60 - 69% = D

0 - 59% = F

1) Reading Course Objectives

Each module contains several objectives. After completion of the module and associated submodules, the student should have a clear understanding of the objectives.

2) Accessing Learning Resources

Students have a number of choices for learning the material discussed in class. Optional learning methods may be comprised of the following:

- a) YFIO (You Figure It Out)**
- b) Video Lesson**
- c) Online Reading**
- d) Interactive Lesson**
- e) MFun Digital Text**
- f) Other theory texts**

Students can also view the “**SPC Music Theory QuickThink**” at the bottom of the page that will summarize the main points of the submodule and offer tips and notes on the submodule material.

3) Self-Assessments (not graded)

Students will have the option to complete a self-assessment of the material for the submodule. These assessments are not factored into the final grade, however, it is highly encouraged that students complete these BEFORE attempting the graded submodule quiz.

4) MyCourses Module Quizzes (35% of final grade)

The MyCourses Module Quizzes make up the bulk of the course assignments. Each module in the Course Content of the MyCourses shell has between 1 and 10 submodules. There is one quiz for each submodule that must be completed to receive credit. The student will receive immediate feedback for each quiz once completed. Scores will be recorded instantly to the grade book. Students may attempt each quiz ONLY ONCE so students should feel well-prepared before attempting the submodule quizzes. Students who do not complete these quizzes before the assigned due dates will receive a 0% score.

5) In-Class Quizzes (15%)

There will be four in-class quizzes given throughout the semester. All in-class quizzes will be announced ahead of time. These quizzes cannot be made up if missed.

6) Midterm and Final Exams (50%: each worth 25%)

The midterm and final exams will be available through the MyCourses Content shell.

Exams and quizzes cannot be made up if missed!

Attendance Policy

This section of Fundamentals of Music meets 2 times per week. Class attendance is **required**. Students are expected to attend every class meeting, to be on time, and to be prepared for each class session. If absent from class, it is the student's responsibility to learn the material covered in class.

- 1) Absences** - Students may miss ***four undocumented classes*** without further affecting their grade. Each undocumented / unexcused absence beyond four will result in a ***half a letter grade drop*** after the calculation of the final grade. Absences needing consideration for excuse should be reported to your instructor at least one week in advance.

In accordance with SPC attendance policy: Students are subject to being dropped if they miss more than four days during the term. Again, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor of ANY absence. For absences of one week or more, the student must also notify the associate provost.

- 2) Excused Absences** - Absences may only be considered for excuse in the event of the following:
 - Illness, as documented by a physician
 - Documented family emergencies
 - Religious observances - Student must notify instructor of these during the first week of class.
 - Documentation must be presented to the professor within one week of the absence in order to be excused (i.e. doctor's note, etc.). In the case of a death in the family or other such emergency, the instructor must be notified in advance of the expected absence. All other reasons for absence will not be excused.
- 3) Absence Limit** - Excluding excused absences, students who have **more than four (4) absences** before the 60% Participation Marker **may be withdrawn from the course with a WF grade.**
- 4) Arriving late to class** - Class will start promptly at the designated time. For every **three (3) tardy marks, one (1) absence** will be given. Students arriving more than 10 minutes late may be marked absent.

Class Participation

Students are expected to attend each class and participate accordingly. Students who violate the following participation guidelines are subject to an attendance penalty (absence) and/or dismissal from class.

Guidelines for Class Participation:

- 1) Cell Phones** - All phones must be turned **OFF** during class. Do not text or call while in class, ever. If there are emergency circumstances that require you to leave your phone on vibrate, come talk to me. Students caught improperly using their cell phones or any other communication device during class will have their device confiscated and will be dismissed from class with an absence for the day.
- 2) Sleeping in Class** - Please come to class alert and ready to participate. Students consistently sleeping in class may be asked to leave and marked absent for the day.
- 3) Disruptive & Threatening Behavior** - Disrupting class for any reason will not be tolerated. If the instructor feels a student is being disruptive, he / she will be asked to leave and given an absence for the day. Any threatening behavior (raised voice, profanity, etc.) directed towards other students or the instructor will be taken very seriously. All threatening or dangerous behavior will be reported to Campus Security and the Provost.
- 4) Emergencies & Leaving Class Early** - If a personal emergency occurs during class, students may quietly excuse themselves. Students leaving class early (for any reason) without returning must contact the professor **before the next class meeting**. Failure to do so will result in an absence for that day.
- 5) Personal Computers & Other Devices** - Students caught using their personal devices for non-class related activities (checking email, Facebook, Twitter, etc.) will be dismissed from class with an absence for the day and may lose the privilege of using such devices in class. Recording class lectures is allowed with permission from the instructor.
- 6) 60% Participation** - SPC requires students to attend and participate in 60% of each class. Students not meeting this requirement will be subject to withdrawal from this course with a "WF" grade. Guidelines to meet the requirement for this class are as follows:
 - 1) Students must have **no more than 5 absences** before the 60% participation marker as listed in the syllabus calendar. This includes absences given by the instructor for tardies and violations of the Class Participation guidelines.
 - 2) Students must have **no more than 3 missing homework assignments** before the 60% participation marker.
 - 3) Students must **complete the Midterm Exam**. Exams cannot be made up.

Late work will not be accepted! Any work that is not turned in by the deadline will be graded as an automatic zero. Coursework should not be completed during class / lecture time. Students who know they will be absent from class should turn in homework ahead of time; that means **before** the due date. In extreme emergency situations, students must speak with the instructor beforehand or as soon as possible for work to be accepted.

Personal Conflicts

It is the student's responsibility to adjust his/her schedule to work out in advance any personal conflicts that may interfere with regular class meetings. All students should secure transportation to and from class meetings. Failure to do so **will NOT** be accepted as an excuse for an absence. Any jobs that you hold, including musical performance opportunities on or off campus, **will NOT** automatically excuse you from class, assignments, quizzes or exams. If there is a conflict with any of these, speak with the instructor at least 48 hours prior to a class meeting.

Important Dates

Please mark the following dates in your calendar.

8/21 - Last day to drop with refund, or audit.
10/8 - Midterm Exam
10/20 - College Day - NO CLASS
10/22 - Last day to withdraw with a "W" grade. 60% Participation marker
11/25 - 11/29 - Thanksgiving Holiday - NO CLASS
12/8 - 12/10 - Final Exams

Technical Support

If you are having problems using MyCourses, contact the Technical Support Desk, open 7 days a week from 7:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m. (midnight) at 727-341-4357 or at onlinehelp@spcollege.edu.

Help and Tutoring

I am available to help you! Contact me through email at vickrey.austin@spcollege.edu, or through MyCourses Email.

Other Links and SPC Policies

Students with Disabilities

Disability Resources at SPC wants to help you succeed. If you have a documented disability or think that you may have a learning or other disability and would like to request accommodations, please make an appointment with the Learning Specialist on your campus. If you will need assistance during an emergency classroom evacuation, please contact your campus learning specialist immediately about arrangements for your safety. Disability Resources staff can be reached at 791-2628 or 791-2710 (CL and EPI), 341-4316 (SP/G), 394-6289 (SE), 712-5789 (TS), 341-3721 (HEC), 341-4532

(AC), or 341-7965 (DT). If you would like more information, you can learn more about Disability Resources on our website: <http://www.spcollege.edu/dr/>

Academic Integrity

Cheating, plagiarism, bribery, misrepresentation, conspiracy, fabrication, etc., are outlined in the Student Honesty Policy. <http://www.spcollege.edu/AcademicHonesty/>
Bottom line, don't do it.

Syllabus Addendum

Follow the link below for more information on SPC College Policy regarding the following: Course Drop / Add Audit information, Grading and Repeat Course Policies, Attendance / Active Participation / Withdrawal Policies, Financial Aid and Total Withdrawal from the college, Dual Enrollment, Early Admission, Early College Students, Academic Honesty (above), Student Expectations, Emergency, Safety and Security Policies; Sexual Predator and Offender Information, Disability Resources
<http://www.spcollege.edu/addendum/>

College Calendar

www.spcollege.edu/calendar

SPC Libraries and Services

<http://www.spcollege.edu/libraries/>

Career Development Services

<http://www.spcollege.edu/careerservices/>

International Student Services

<http://www.spcollege.edu/internationalstudents/>

Learning Support Commons (Tutorial Services)

www.spcollege.edu/tutoring/

SPC Veteran Affairs

<http://www.spcollege.edu/veterans/>

New Initiative Program (NIP)

<http://www.spcollege.edu/nip/>

Downtown Learning Support Center and Study Hall

<http://www.spcollege.edu/downtown/campus/tutoring.htm>