



Northwest College  
Music Fundamentals  
MUSI 1301 – Music Fundamentals  
CRN: 41995, 2 – 3:50 pm  
Northwest College, Katy campus  
3-hour lecture course / September 25 – December 17, 2017  
Instructor: Dr. Woody Witt  
Instructor Contact Information: 713.718.5601; [woodrow.witt@hccs.edu](mailto:woodrow.witt@hccs.edu)

### **Office location and hours**

Please feel free to contact me concerning any problems that you are experiencing in this course. You do not need to wait until you have received a poor grade before asking for my assistance. Your performance in my class is very important to me. I am available to hear your concerns and just to discuss course topics. Feel free to come by my office anytime during these hours.

### **Course Description**

This is a core music course designed to introduce the student to the elements of music including the study of clefs, staff, key signatures, notation of meter and rhythm, sight singing, major and minor scales, major and minor chords, ear training and basic keyboard harmony.

### **Prerequisites**

Student must be placed into GUST 0342 or higher in reading, MATH 0308 or higher and ENGL 0310/0349 or higher in writing.

### **Course Goal**

Advanced knowledge in musical fundamentals.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Construct all major and minor scales and key signatures.
2. Construct simple and compound intervals, triads and seventh chords of any quality.
3. Identify and perform basic rhythmic and pitch patterns common in tonal music, and properly notate basic rhythms in simple or compound meters.
4. Identify fundamental musical elements aurally and/or on the keyboard.
5. Use appropriate musical vocabulary to describe theoretical concepts.

### **Learning Objectives**

Student will use the Student Learning Outcome skills to successfully move into college level Music Theory. SCANS or Core Curriculum Statement and Other Standards

**Credit: 3 (3 lecture)**

This course is designed to prepare students for college level Theory and aural skills. This class may serve as a fine arts elective.

**10 Week Calendar**

This class will cover chapters on a semi-rigid schedule, about 1 week/section. There will be a review for each test.

**Assessments**

Test I – 15%

Test II – 15%

Test III – 15%

Test IV – 15%

Test V (Final Exam) – 15%

Homework – 15%

Participation – 10%

**Attendance:**

Two unexcused misses – one grade drop (an A becomes a B)

Four unexcused misses – two grade drops (an A becomes a C)

Six + unexcused misses – automatic failure

**Instructional Materials**

"Workbook in Music Fundamentals-- College Level" Author: Dimitrios Sellountos. ISBN-10: 0-9982739-0-2 ISBN-13: 978-0-9982739-0-7

The purchase of the workbook is required as it includes a unique access code for the class' online material. You can purchase it at HCC bookstore."

NOTE: YOU MUST BRING THIS BOOK TO EACH CLASS

Manuscript Paper, which can be downloaded from the internet (For free) or purchased from a music store

**Title IX Addendum**

Houston Community College is committed to cultivating an environment free from inappropriate conduct of a sexual or gender-based nature including sex discrimination, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual violence. Sex discrimination includes all forms of sexual and gender-based misconduct and violates an individual's fundamental rights and personal dignity. Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex-including pregnancy and parental status-in educational programs and activities. If you require an accommodation due to pregnancy, please contact an Abilities Services Counselor. The Director of EEO/Compliance is designated as the Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator. All inquiries concerning HCC policies, compliance with applicable laws, statutes, and regulations (such as Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504), and complaints may be directed to <http://www.hccs.edu/district/students/disability-services/>

## **HCC Policy Statement - ADA**

### Services to Students with Disabilities

HCC strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please meet with a campus Abilities Counselor as soon as possible in order to establish reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and Ability Services. It is the policy and practice of HCC to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law.

## **Campus Carry**

At HCC the safety of our students, staff, and faculty is our first priority. As of August 1, 2017, Houston Community College is subject to the Campus Carry Law (SB11 2015). For more information, visit the HCC Campus Carry web page at <http://www.hccs.edu/district/departments/police/campus-carry/>

## **Academic Honesty**

A student who is academically dishonest is, by definition, not showing that the coursework has been learned, and that student is claiming an advantage not available to other students. The instructor is responsible for measuring each student's individual achievements and also for ensuring that all students compete on a level playing field. Thus, in our system, the instructor has teaching, grading, and enforcement roles. You are expected to be familiar with the University's Policy on Academic Honesty, found in the catalog. What that means is: If you are charged with an offense, pleading ignorance of the rules will not help you. Students are responsible for conducting themselves with honor and integrity in fulfilling course requirements. Penalties and/or disciplinary proceedings may be initiated by College System officials against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty. "Scholastic dishonesty": includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.

Cheating on a test includes:

- Copying from another students' test paper;
- Using materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- Collaborating with another student during a test without authorization;
- Knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of a test that has not been administered;
- Bribing another person to obtain a test that is to be administered.

Plagiarism means the appropriation of another's work and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work in one's own written work offered for credit.

Collusion mean the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work offered for credit. Possible punishments for academic dishonesty may include a grade of 0 or F in the particular assignment, failure in the course, and/or recommendation for probation or dismissal from the College System. (See the Student Handbook)

## **HCC Policy Statements**

**Class Attendance** - It is important that you come to class! Attending class regularly is the best way to succeed in this class. Research has shown that the single most important factor in student success is attendance. Simply put, going to class greatly increases your ability to succeed. You are expected to attend all lecture and labs regularly. You are responsible for materials covered during your absences. Class attendance is checked daily. Although it is your responsibility to drop a course for nonattendance, the instructor has the authority to drop you for excessive absences. If you are not attending class, you are not learning the information. As the information that is discussed in class is important for your career, students may be dropped from a course after accumulating absences in excess of 12.5% hours of instruction. The six hours of class time would include any total classes missed or for excessive tardiness or leaving class early.

You may decide NOT to come to class for whatever reason. As an adult making the decision not to attend, you do not have to notify the instructor prior to missing a class. However, if this happens too many times, you may suddenly find that you have “lost” the class.

Poor attendance records tend to correlate with poor grades. If you miss any class, including the first week, you are responsible for all material missed. It is a good idea to find a friend or a buddy in class who would be willing to share class notes or discussion or be able to hand in paper if you unavoidably miss a class.

Class attendance equals class success.

## **HCC Course Withdrawal Policy**

If you feel that you cannot complete this course, you will need to withdraw from the course prior to the final date of withdrawal. Before, you withdraw from your course; please take the time to meet with the instructor to discuss why you feel it is necessary to do so. The instructor may be able to provide you with suggestions that would enable you to complete the course. Your success is very important. Beginning in fall 2007, the Texas Legislature passed a law limiting first time entering freshmen to no more than SIX total course withdrawals throughout their educational career in obtaining a certificate and/or degree.

To help students avoid having to drop/withdraw from any class, HCC has instituted an Early Alert process by which your professor may “alert” you and HCC counselors that you might fail a class because of excessive absences and/or poor academic performance. It is your responsibility to visit with your professor or a counselor to learn about what, if any, HCC interventions might be available to assist you – online tutoring, child care, financial aid, job placement, etc. – to stay in class and improve your academic performance.

If you plan on withdrawing from your class, you must do so PRIOR to the withdrawal deadline to receive a “W” on your transcript. \*\*Final withdrawal deadlines vary each semester and/or depending on class length, please visit the online registration calendars, HCC schedule of classes and catalog, any HCC Registration Office, or any HCC counselor to determine class withdrawal deadlines. Remember to allow a 24-hour response time when communicating via email and/or telephone with a

professor and/or counselor. Do not submit a request to discuss withdrawal options less than a day before the deadline. If you do not withdraw before the deadline, you will receive the grade that you are making in the class as your final grade.

### **Repeat Course Fee**

The State of Texas encourages students to complete college without having to repeat failed classes. To increase student success, students who repeat the same course more than twice, are required to pay extra tuition. The purpose of this extra tuition fee is to encourage students to pass their courses and to graduate. Effective fall 2006, HCC will charge a higher tuition rate to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. If you are considering course withdrawal because you are not earning passing grades, confer with your instructor/counselor as early as possible about your study habits, reading and writing homework, test taking skills, attendance, course participation, and opportunities for tutoring or other assistance that might be available.

### **Classroom Behavior**

As your instructor and as a student in this class, it is our shared responsibility to develop and maintain a positive learning environment for everyone. Your instructor takes this responsibility very seriously and will inform members of the class if their behavior makes it difficult for him/her to carry out this task. As a fellow learner, you are asked to respect the learning needs of your classmates and assist your instructor achieve this critical goal.

#### **Use of Camera and/or Recording Devices**

As a student active in the learning community of this course, it is your responsibility to be respectful of the learning atmosphere in your classroom. To show respect of your fellow students and instructor, you will turn off your phone and other electronic devices, and will not use these devices in the classroom unless you receive permission from the instructor.

Use of recording devices, including camera phones and tape recorders, is prohibited in classrooms, laboratories, faculty offices, and other locations where instruction, tutoring, or testing occurs. Students with disabilities who need to use a recording device as a reasonable accommodation should contact the Office for Students with Disabilities for information regarding reasonable accommodations

### **Instructor Requirements**

As your Instructor, it is my responsibility to:

- Provide the grading scale and detailed grading formula explaining how student grades are to be derived
- Facilitate an effective learning environment through class activities, discussions, and lectures
- Description of any special projects or assignments
- Inform students of policies such as attendance, withdrawal, tardiness and make up
- Provide the course outline and class calendar which will include a description of any special projects or assignments
- Arrange to meet with individual students before and after class as required

To be successful in this class, it is the student's responsibility to:

- Turn in all homework
- Pass regular and final exams
- Participate in classroom activities

### **Grading**

Your instructor will conduct assessments that you can use to determine how successful you are at achieving the course learning outcomes (mastery of course content and skills) outlined in the syllabus. If you find you are not mastering the material and skills, you are encouraged to reflect on how you study and prepare for each class. Your instructor welcomes a dialogue on what you discover and may be able to assist you in finding resources on campus that will improve your performance.

#### Grading Scale

90 - 100 = A

80 - 89 = B

70 - 79 = C

60 - 69 = D

Below 60 = F

#### Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System (EGLS3)

At Houston Community College, professors believe that thoughtful student feedback is necessary to improve teaching and learning. During a designated time, you will be asked to answer a short online survey of research-based questions related to instruction. The anonymous results of the survey will be made available to your professors and division chairs for continual improvement of instruction. Look for the survey as part of the Houston Community College Student System online near the end of the term.

### **GROVE MUSIC DICTIONARY ON-LINE**

Log into [www.edurisksolutions.org](http://www.edurisksolutions.org). Sign in using your HCC student email account, then go to the

button at the top right that says Login and enter your student number

We are fortunate to have access to the On-line version of the Groves Dictionary of Music. This is a

wonderful resource, and we need to use it, so we won't lose it!

I am asking my students to access this resource and write a summary of the pages you have visited

including an assessment of how you think this will be useful in your studies.

Here is the link:

[https://www.dropbox.com/s/8nabx3adyzh552d/HCCPPT\\_Music.pptx?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/8nabx3adyzh552d/HCCPPT_Music.pptx?dl=0)

This link will take you to a power point presentation and a tutorial video.