

MUSIC THEORY

Fall 2015 - MUSC 207/307

Instructor, Donna Axton

Sierra Nevada College

SYLLABUS & COURSE OUTLINE - DONNA AXTON - FALL 2015 - MUSC 207/307

Music Theory I/II Sierra Nevada College CRN 80579

Course Code	MUSC 207/307 - Section 1
Course Title	Music Theory (3 credits)
Term and Year	Fall 2015
Course Reference Number	80579/80230
Instructor	Donna Axton
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Email	daxton@sierranevada.edu
Office	David Hall 103
Office Hours	Tuesday- Thursday 1:00-2:00 and by appointment
Class Meeting Time	Tuesday - Thursday 2:30-3:45 .
Location	David Hall 106

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a 3 credit course. A course for the music minor and for qualified general students. Integration of strong music writing and harmonic analysis skills through the study of scales and modes, harmonic and melodic movements, part writing, and voice leading.

COURSE GOALS:

Have a working knowledge of scales, tonality, keys, modes. To be able to transcribe music from sound to paper. To be able to recognize and notate rhythms. To learn to think consciously about patterns in music. To couple this with musical intuition so that the knowledge of music theory is an enhancement of musical experiences.

STUDENT OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, a student will be able to

1. Identify chords, modes, and intervals by sight and by ear
2. Write out an harmonic analysis of a diatonic musical piece
3. Compose the accompaniment to a melody with accurate voice leading
4. Recognize and be able to implement cadences and nonharmonic tones.
5. Distinguish between texture types by ear and by sight
6. Compose a short composition in species one and two counterpoint
7. Listen to and read music and analyze its structure and form

METHODS OF ASSESSING STUDENT OUTCOMES

1. Homework based on assigned readings
2. Tests and exams
3. In-class writing and workbook exercises
4. Class discussion and participation

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

This class will utilize lectures, assigned readings, written assignments, composing exercises, analytic exercises.

TEXTBOOK: MUSIC in THEORY and PRACTICE by Bruce Benward and Marilyn Saker

Attendance: This is a hands-on as well as theoretical learning experience. Therefore, attendance is a requirement if you expect a quality educational experience. Exams and written assignments will be based on work done in the classroom. The understanding of this material depends on a strong early foundation. Therefore it is mandatory to attend each class session.

Written assignments: For each class you will be assigned written exercises from the chapter we have discussed in class. These will include but not be limited to exercises from the text. Writing assignments (creative) will also be included in the assignments. The reading for the next chapter should be finished before class time. Bring any questions you have about the reading.

Exams: A mid-term and a final will test the cumulative knowledge of the course. This can't be faked! You will be prepared for these exams if you consistently study the material, practice the exercises, and do the assignments.

GRADING POLICY

The final grade will be determined as follows:

Attendance	40%
Written assignments	30%
Mid-term Exam	15%
Final Exam	15%

Sanctions for Cheating and/or Plagiarism

The Honor Code

The faculty of SNC believes students must be held to high standards of integrity in all aspects of college life in order to promote the educational mission of the College and to encourage respect for the rights of others. Each student brings to the SNC community unique skills, talents, values and experiences which, when expressed within the community, contribute to the quality of the educational environment and the growth and development of the individual. Students share with members of the faculty, administration and staff the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning and personal development, where actions are guided by mutual respect, integrity, responsibility and trust. The faculty and students alike must make diligent efforts to ensure high standards are upheld by their colleagues and peers as well as themselves. Therefore faculty and students accept responsibility for maintaining these standards at Sierra Nevada College and are obligated to comply with its regulations and procedures, which they are expected to read and understand.

Consequences of Violating the Student Honor Code

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for presenting the Honor Code and the consequences of violating it to students at the start of their classes AND for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes CHEATING, PLAGIARISM and FABRICATION and for refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. Violations of the Honor Code become part of a student's academic record.

- 1st Offense: Student receives a zero for assignment/exam and counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 2nd Offense: Student fails course and receives counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 3rd Offense: Student is expelled.

ADA Accommodations

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, hconover@sierranevada.edu, office in Prim Library: PL-304.

The SNC Email System

The SNC email system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members and administrative staff and is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college email accounts daily during the school year.

Students have a right to forward their SNC e-mail to another e-mail account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having email redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC email account.

Prim Library Resources

Using the library's resources effectively (not just Internet resources) contributes to developing each of SNC's core themes by exposing students to high quality academic resources, diverse opinions, new ideas, and a future that includes building on a liberal arts education. In this course, you will be expected to utilize the library's resources (either on-site or remotely) as you complete your assignments.

1. Reference materials (located just beyond the front desk and for use inside Prim Library): We will use all of these in class

Sadie, S. (2001)*The new grove dictionary of music and musicians*. New York: Grove

REFERENCE ML 100.N4B

2. Books (that can be checked out):

In general, books related to music Library of Congress Classification are found in the mezzanine section listed under "M" as follows:

M indicates actual written music

ML indicates literature written about music.

MT indicates books about music Theory

3. **Lib Guides:** <http://Libguides.sierranevada.edu> These web pages contain instructions about how to use resources available at Prim Library, how to evaluation the appropriateness of information from the Internet for a research paper, how to cite sources, and other topics related to finding and using information.

LOGIN information for SNC Prim Library Electronic Databases

<http://libguides.sierranevada.edu/library>

When you need to access SNC's licensed database content from off campus:

Students: Use your first initial and your last name as the username and your 9 digit student ID number as the password.

The Sierra Nevada College Mission Statement:

Sierra Nevada College graduates will be educated to be scholars of and contributors to a sustainable world. Sierra Nevada College combines the liberal arts and professional preparedness through an interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes entrepreneurial thinking and environmental, social, economic and educational sustainability.

The Core Themes:

Liberal Arts,
Entrepreneurial Thinking

Professional Preparedness
Sustainability

Course Outline and Assignments

THE FUNDAMENTALS OF MUSIC

WEEK 1

Tuesday , August 18 - Overview of course content, activities, goals and learning objectives.

Reading in class: Introduction: The materials of music in sound and time

Thursday, August 20 - Notation

Reading due: Chapter 1 - pps 1-21

WEEK 2

Tuesday, August 25 - Scales and tonality

Reading due: Chapter 2 - pps. 27-38

Thursday, August 27 - Keys and Modes

Reading due: Chapter 2 - pps. 38-49

WEEK

Tuesday, September 1 -NO CLASSES – Labor Day

Thursday, September 3 - Intervals

Reading due: Chapter 3 - pps.55-61

WEEK 4

Tuesday, September 8 - Transposition

Reading due: Chapter 3 - pps. 61-67

Thursday, September 10 - Chords

Reading due: Chapter 4 - pps. 73-77

WEEK 5

Tuesday, September 15 – Chord Analysis

Reading due: Chapter 4 – pps. 77-94

Thursday, September 17

Review

STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS IN MUSIC

WEEK 6

Tuesday, September 22 – Cadences and Non-harmonic tones

Reading due: Chapter 5 - pps. 97-109

Thursday, September 24

Reading due: Chapter 5 - pps. 109-116

WEEK 7

Tuesday, September 29 – Melodic organization

Reading due: Chapter 6 - pps. 119-129

Thursday, October 1

Reading due: Chapter 6 pps. 129-135

WEEK 8

Tuesday, October 6

Review for Midterm

Thursday, October 8

MIDTERM

WEEK 9

Tuesday, October 13 - Texture

Reading due: Chapter 7 – pps. 145-157

Thursday, October 15

Reading due: Chapter 8 – pps. 163-172

WEEK10

Tuesday, October 20

Reading due: Chapter 8 - pps 172-183

Thursday, October 22 – Voice leading

Reading due: Chapter 9 – pps. 191-200

WEEK 11

Tuesday, October 27 - Chorales

Reading due: Chapter 9 – pps. 200-210

Thursday, October 29 – Harmonic progression

Reading due: Chapter 10 – pps. 213-219

WEEK 12

Tuesday, November 3 – Harmonic rhythm

Reading due: Chapter 10 - pps. 219-230

Thursday, November 5 – Dominant 7th Chord

Reading due: Chapter 11 – pps. 230-240

WEEK 13

Tuesday, November 10

Thursday, November 23– Secondary dominants

Reading due: Chapter 14 – pps. 287- 297

WEEK 14

Tuesday, November 17 – Modulation

Reading due: Chapter 15 - pps 315-325

Thursday, November 19 – Binary form

Reading due: Chapter 16 - pps. 337-347

THANKSGIVING BREAK – November 23-27

WEEK 15

Tuesday, December 1 - Ternary form

Reading due: Chapter 17 – pps. 353- 360

Thursday, December 3

Review and wrap-up

STUDY DAY – Monday, December 7 – NO CLASSES – Study Day

Final exam: Friday, December 11th, 11:30-2:30

