

Sul Ross State University
Fundamentals of Music-MUS 1303
Spring 2017

Professor: Mary-Elizabeth Thompson, D.M.A.

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Office: FAB 202

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Class Meetings: T/R 12:30-1:45 p.m., Fine Arts Building 200

Office Hours: Monday 1:00-2:00 p.m.; Tuesday/Thursday 12:00-12:30 p.m.; Wednesday 10:00-11:00 a.m., 3:15-4:00 p.m.; Friday-by appointment

Description

This course addresses the fundamentals of music for general students. Singing, piano keyboard, listening activities, and a study of clefs, keys, and rhythms will be used to explore these fundamentals. This course meets Fine Arts requirements. No prior musical training is required for this course.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

After completing this course students should be able to:

- 1) demonstrate a general knowledge of reading and notating music. (*Knowledge, Skills*)
- 2) demonstrate a general knowledge of harmonic and rhythmic musical structures. (*Knowledge, Skills*)
- 3) evaluate musical excerpts and compositions for their basic musical content. (*Attitudes or Dispositions*)
- 4) perform basic skills on the piano, including recognition of appropriate notes and identification and execution of melodic and harmonic intervals. (*Skills*)
- 5) critique live musical performances using appropriate terminology to describe the performance, repertoire, and characteristics of the performer. (*Attitudes or Dispositions*)
- 6) synthesize musical concepts through the analysis of a musical composition. (*Skills, Attitudes or dispositions*)

Major Assignments with Matched SLOs

- Six to eight quizzes will be given throughout the semester to evaluate student progress and understanding of material covered. (*1,2,4*)
- Homework assignments will be given throughout the semester in order to assess students' understanding of the material and the rate at which the class should progress. These assignments include, but are not limited to, exercises from the text, current articles about music, and basic piano exercises. (*1,2,4*)
- Two concert reviews will be completed during the semester. Students will be required to attend two live performances on the SRSU campus or the surrounding area and will write a 500-750-word review about the concert. (*3,5*)
- The final project's exact compilation will be decided by the instructor based on the progress of the class through the text. The final project will either be entirely an analysis project on a musical composition OR will be combination of a partial analysis of a musical composition and a presentation on the piece as a whole, considering other elements such as time period, composer information, significance in classical repertoire, etc. (*2,3,6*)

Required Materials

- Text: A Creative Approach to Music Fundamentals, 11th Edition
Author: William Duckworth
ISBN: 9780840029997
- manuscript paper
- 3-ring binder notebook
- pencils with erasers

Class Attendance and Participation

- **Absences will be excused for medical emergencies or serious personal conflicts, but prior approval or documentation is required.**
- A tardy of no more than 10 minutes will equate to one third of an absence.
- A tardy of more than 10 minutes will be recorded as an absence. (I still encourage you to come to come to class if you'll be more than 10 minutes late- you will be less likely to miss information that way.)
- Please call or email if you are going to be absent or tardy to class. Call *prior* to the start of class.
- Paying attention, asking relevant questions, giving constructive feedback when called upon will all be considered when determining the class participation grade. **With that in mind; the use of cell phones, pagers, beepers, iPods, iPads and any other personal electronic devices are strictly prohibited by students.** If you are found to be using any of these devices during class, I will **PERMANENTLY** take possession of the device and you will be asked to leave class for the day, counting it as an unexcused absence.
- **Six absences result in you being dropped from the course with a grade of "F" as per university policy.** Upon the 3rd unexcused absence you will be dropped one letter grade. Upon the 4th unexcused absence you will be dropped another letter grade. And upon the 5th unexcused absence you will be dropped yet another letter grade.

Grading Procedures

Your final grade will be determined by the following formula:

1. Attendance and participation 10%
2. Quizzes 35%
3. Homework 20%
4. Concert Reviews 15%
5. Final Project 20%

The instructor will provide detailed information and due dates for assignments, concert reviews, and the final project on a separate handout.

--NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES will be given without a doctor's note or professor's prior approval.

-The acceptance of late assignments without a doctor's note or professor's prior approval is up to the discretion of the professor and will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

Professional Communication Policy

- All communication with me should be done either in person, by office phone, or through email.
- You are expected to check your email on a DAILY basis.

Students with Disabilities

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartz, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8691. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu

Tentative Weekly Course Outline (Subject to change)

1. Week of January 16
Syllabus and Introduction; Chapter 1

2. Week of January 23
Chapter 1

3. Week of January 30

Quiz (*meter, note values, identifying/writing clefs, notes on the staff*); Chapters 2, 3

4. Week of February 6
Chapters 2, 3

5. Week of February 13
Quiz (*identifying/playing notes at the keyboard; time signatures, simple meter*); Chapter 4

6. Week of February 20
Chapters 4, 5

7. Week of February 27
Quiz (*compound meter; review of rhythm*) Chapter 5; **No Class-3/2—assignment**

8. Week of March 6
Chapter 5, 6;

9. Week of March 13
Spring Break, No classes

10. Week of March 20
Concert Review I Due; Chapters 6, 7; **Quiz** (*pitched; dynamic terms; writing/identifying major scales; scale degrees*)

11. Week of March 27
Chapter 7; **No Class-3/30—assignment**

12. Week of April 3
Quiz (*Circle of Fifths-major keys*); Chapter 8

13. Week of April 10
Chapters 8, 9; **Quiz** (*playing and writing melodic and harmonic intervals*)

14. Week of April 17
Chapter 9

15. Week of April 24
Quiz (*Circle of Fifths-minor keys*); Chapter 10

16. Week of May 1
Quiz (*writing/identifying minor scales*); Chapter 11; **Projects due; Concert Review II Due**

17. Wednesday, May 10
Final Exam: 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.