

College of San Mateo
Official Course Outline

1. COURSE ID: MUS. 100 **TITLE:** Fundamentals of Music **C-ID:** MUS 110

Units: 3.0 units **Hours/Semester:** 48.0-54.0 Lecture hours; and 96.0-108.0 Homework hours

Method of Grading: Letter Grade Only

Recommended Preparation:

Eligibility for ENGL 838 or ENGL 848 or ESL 400.

2. COURSE DESIGNATION:

Degree Credit

Transfer credit: CSU; UC

AA/AS Degree Requirements:

CSM - GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: E5c. Humanities

CSU GE:

CSU GE Area C: ARTS AND HUMANITIES: C1 - Arts (Arts, Cinema, Dance, Music, Theater)

IGETC:

IGETC Area 3: ARTS AND HUMANITIES: A: Arts

3. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

Catalog Description:

An introduction to western music notation and fundamental music theory including pitch, rhythm, meter, fundamental musicianship and basic compositional structures. Students will apply, analyze and compare the use of music theory concepts across various styles of music, cultures and disciplines. Recommended for students with limited or no musical background who wish to gain an understanding of and appreciation for the creative process of music making. Also recommended for education majors.

4. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:

1. Identify the basic elements of music as demonstrated by current and historical music examples from a variety of genres and cultures.
2. Read, write and interpret music notation: notes in treble and bass clef, major, minor, and perfect simple intervals, major and natural minor scales and key signatures.
3. Interpret, analyze, perform and dictate basic rhythms in compound and simple meters.
4. Apply music theory concepts to the discussion of music composed by numerous artists working in various styles from around the world.
5. Compose and constructively critique simple music compositions based on basic music theory principles and common practices.

5. SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:

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

1. Read music.
2. Perform music at sight.
3. Assess how the different elements of music are used to construct a musical piece.
4. Aurally distinguish among the elements of music as they apply to the music of various cultures and ethnicities.

6. COURSE CONTENT:

Lecture Content:

I. Identification and Differentiation of the Elements of Music

1. Melody
2. Harmony
3. Rhythm
4. Pulse
5. Meter (Simple and Compound)
6. Scale
7. Key
8. Tempo
9. Dynamics

II. Analysis and Interpretation of Music Across Various Cultures

1. Use of Musical Elements
2. Form
3. Instrumentation
4. Intent and Emotional Content

III. Survey of cultural and historical development of music theory and notation systems around the world

1. Meter
2. Scale Systems
3. Notation systems
4. Structure

IV. Relationship of the Physics of Sound to Musical Elements

1. Frequency and Pitch
2. Musical Ratios and Intervals
3. Scales and Tuning Systems
4. Amplitude and Dynamics

V. Reading, Writing and Interpreting Western Music

1. Grand Staff
2. Bass and Treble Clefs
3. Pitch (C2 to C6)
4. Piano Keyboard
5. Note and Rest Values
6. Key Signatures
7. Time Signatures

VI. Development of Basic Aural Skills

1. Ear Training for Pitch
2. Ear Training for Rhythm
3. Beat and Tempo
4. Meter
5. Dynamics

VII. Creative Composition

1. Musical Structure
2. Phrasing
3. Notation

7. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Typical methods of instruction may include:

- A. Lecture
- B. Critique
- C. Activity
- D. Observation and Demonstration
- E. Other (Specify): All topics will be presented during class lecture. All topics are presented in the textbook as out-of-class reading assignments. Instructional ear training, music reading and interpreting activities. Attendance at a concert with a written report will reinforce class materials.

8. REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:

Writing Assignments:

Students may be asked to complete essays about course topics and the cultural and historical significance of music theory concepts.

Reading Assignments:

Weekly readings from assigned texts.

Other Outside Assignments:

Composition Assignment: Eight measures, two parts rhythm composition in 4/4 meter

Listening Assignment: Identify and compare musical elements

9. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION

Representative methods of evaluation may include:

- A. Class Participation
- B. Class Performance
- C. Class Work

- D. Exams/Tests
- E. Quizzes
- F. Written examination
- G. Written exams will assess student knowledge of all course topics. Assigned activities from the textbook will evaluate student mastery of all subjects in the course. Students are required to attend one music concert during the semester and to write a review of their experience. Regular, punctual attendance is vital. New work is covered every lesson.

10. **REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):**

Possible textbooks include:

- A. Henry, E., J. Snodgrass, S. Piagentini. *Fundamentals of Music: Rudiments, Musicianship, and Composition*, 7th ed. Pearson, 2019
- B. Duckworth, W.. *A Creative Approach to Music Fundamentals*, 11th ed. Cengage, 2015

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Course Originator: Michael Galisatus