

MUSI-110: FUNDAMENTALS OF MUSIC

Effective Term

Fall 2026

CC Approval

02/02/2026

AS Approval

03/12/2026

BOT Approval

03/19/2026

SECTION A - Course Data Elements

CB04 Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Discipline

Minimum Qualifications	And/Or
Music (Master's Degree)	

Subject Code

MUSI - Music

Course Number

110

Department

Music

Division

Arts and Humanities (ARAH)

Full Course Title

Fundamentals of Music

Short Title

Fundamentals of Music

CB03 TOP Code

1004.00 - Music

CIP Code

50.0901

CB08 Basic Skills Status

NBS - Not Basic Skills

CB09 SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

Rationale

This course is already a part of the curriculum. Not being added.

SECTION B - Course Description

Catalog Course Description

This course is an introduction to the notation and primary elements of tonal music, which incorporates the following concepts: staff notation in treble and bass clefs, rhythm and meter; basic properties of sound; intervals; diatonic scales and triads; and diatonic chords. Development of skills in handwritten notation is excepted. Suitable for music majors (as a pre-requisite for further music theory study) and non-majors, as general education requirement.

SECTION C - Conditions on Enrollment**Open Entry/Open Exit**

No

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Grading Options

Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass

Allow Audit

Yes

Requisites**SECTION D - Course Standards****Is this course variable unit?**

No

Units

3.00

Lecture Hours

54.00

Outside of Class Hours

108

Total Contact Hours

54

Total Student Hours

162

Distance Education Approval**Is this course offered through Distance Education?**

Yes

Online Delivery Methods

DE Modalities	Permanent or Emergency Only?
Entirely Online	Permanent
Hybrid	Permanent
Online with Proctored Exams	Permanent

SECTION E - Course Content**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Read, write, and aurally comprehend basic music notation.
2. Evaluate and critique student musical performance and receive personal performance criticism from others.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Write and recognize staff notation: pitch and rhythm.
2. Read, write and perform basic rhythmic patterns in a variety of tempos.
3. Identify simple and compound meters.

4. Identify and construct intervals, up to an octave, ascending and descending.
5. Identify and construct major and minor scales and key signatures.
6. Recognize and notate time signatures.
7. Identify and construct commonly used diatonic triads and dominant seventh chords.
8. Recognize simple musical form and expressive/tempo markings.

Course Content

1. Basic properties of sounds
 - a. Harmonic series
 - i. Fundamental
 - ii. Overtones/partials
2. Pitch Notation
 - a. Layout of piano keyboard
 - b. Letter names
 - c. Intervallic relationship
 - i. Whole
 - ii. Half steps
 - iii. Perfect/Imperfect
 - iv. Major
 - v. Minor
 - vi. Augmented
 - vii. Diminished
 - d. Accidentals/Enharmonics
 - e. Clefs and staff
 - i. Grand staff
 - ii. Treble/G
 - iii. Bass/F
 - f. Key signatures
 - i. Circle of fifths
 - g. Composition medium
 - i. Handwritten
 1. Pitch notation
 2. Clefs
 3. Key Signatures .
3. Rhythmic Notation
 - a. Beat/pulse
 - i. Simple
 - ii. Compound
 - b. Melodic
 - c. Time signatures
 - d. Basic conducting patterns
 - e. Compositional medium
 - i. Handwritten
 1. Rhythm notation
 2. Time signatures
4. Harmony
 - a. Scales
 - i. Major
 - ii. Minor
 1. Natural
 2. Harmonic
 3. Melodic
 - b. Chords
 - i. Triads
 1. Major
 2. Minor
 3. Augmented
 4. Diminished
 - ii. Dominant seventh

5. Form
 - a. Song forms
 - i. Binary
 - ii. Ternary
6. Expressive Markings
 - a. Dynamics
 - i. Piano (quiet)
 - ii. Forte (loud)
 - b. Tempo

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction

Types	Examples of learning activities
Critique	Written and group oral critiques analyzing musical performance with relation to basic musical elements including pitch, rhythm and harmony.
Discussion	Peer discussions on basic music elements using physical, visual and aural techniques to reinforce students capacity to think critically about musical notation and performance; and to encourage classroom discussion.
Lecture	Audio, DVD and online-enhanced lectures covering terminology and core concepts of musical notation.
Observation and Demonstration	Musical examples using keyboard, CD, DVD and voice covering concepts of pitch, rhythm and harmony.

Online Adaptation

Types	Examples of learning activities
Lecture	Recorded lectures covering terminology and core concepts of musical notation.
Critique	Written and group oral critiques analyzing musical performance with relation to basic musical elements including pitch, rhythm and harmony.
Discussion	Peer online discussions on basic music elements using physical, visual and aural techniques to reinforce students capacity to think critically about musical notation and performance.
Directed Study	Students may work independently on learning modules, practice exercises, or composition projects at their own pace while receiving structured guidance, regular feedback, and individualized support from the instructor through digital platforms.

Instructor-Initiated Online Contact Types

Announcements/Bulletin Boards
 Chat Rooms
 Discussion Boards
 E-mail Communication
 Video or Teleconferencing

Student-Initiated Online Contact Types

Chat Rooms
 Discussions
 Group Work

Course design is accessible

Yes

Methods of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation

Types	Examples of classroom assessments
Exams/Tests	Written and performance skill exams. Final Exam - Written exam over notational concepts.
Quizzes	Written and performance skill quizzes.

Homework	Written assignments.
Performances	Performance skills.

Assignments

Reading Assignments

1. Read chapter one in Music First! text on pitch, being prepared to identify notes on the Grand Staff by next class period.
2. Read musical notation in the song "Santa Lucia" identifying clef, key signature, time signature and note names.

Writing Assignments

1. Problem solve number of beats to a measure, by having student write bar lines in a prepared melody with time signature from instructor handout.
2. Perform C major scale and its relative minor on piano keyboard.

SECTION F - Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Material Type

Textbook

Author

White, G

Title

Music First!

Edition/Version

6th

Publisher

McGraw-Hill Publishers

Year

2010

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Duckworth, W

Title

A Creative Approach to Music Fundamentals

Edition/Version

11th

Publisher

Schirmer Publishing

Year

2012

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Bruce Benward and Marilyn Saker

Title

Music in Theory and Practice

Edition/Version

10th Edition

Publisher

MCGraw-Hill

Year

2021

ISBN #

1260493458

SECTION G - Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity

How does your course and/or course outline of record reflect strategies for accommodating and engaging diverse student populations, advancing equitable outcomes, and fostering inclusion for all students?

This course accommodates diverse student populations through multiple learning modalities (visual, auditory, kinesthetic), flexible pacing, and varied assessment methods. It advances equitable outcomes by incorporating repertoire from multiple cultures and genres, allowing student choice in music selection, and welcoming learners at all skill levels. The course fosters inclusion through collaborative learning, ensemble playing, growth mindset emphasis, and principles that ensure all students can access and engage with content regardless of their background, learning style, or prior experience.

Course Codes (Admin Only)

CB00 State ID

CCC000152485

CB10 Cooperative Work Experience Status

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

CB11 Course Classification Status

Y - Credit Course

CB13 Special Class Status

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

CB23 Funding Agency Category

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

CB24 Program Course Status

Program Applicable

Allow Pass/No Pass

Yes

Only Pass/No Pass

No