

Foundations of Music

I. Course Description:

A study of music theory that upon completion will enable the student to both read and perform written music.

II. Text:

A. The Music Kit. Third Edition. Tom Manoff, W.W. Norton & Co., 1994

III. Course Goals and Objectives:

1. The student will be able to read music
2. The student will be able to compose simple tunes based upon I-IV-V chord progressions.
3. The student will be able to play written notes on a piano keyboard.
4. The student will be able to identify intervals.

IV. Course Outline

A. Semester One:

1. Musical staves
2. Ledger lines
3. Rhythm, beat, and tempo
4. Quarter and eighth notes
5. Double bar and repeat signs
6. Fermata sign
7. The piano keyboard
8. Enharmonic spelling
9. Rests
10. Time signatures
11. Counting beats
12. Half and whole steps
13. Accidentals
14. 1st and 2nd endings 15D.C. al fine, and D.S.
16. The major scale
17. Intervals

B. Semester Two

18. Whole, half and dotted-half notes, and their rests
19. Pick-up notes
20. Conducting patterns
21. Key signatures
22. Chromatic and diatonic form

23. The cadence
24. Diminished and augmented intervals
25. Ties across bar lines
26. Subdivision of quarter notes into sixteenth notes
27. The minor scale (natural, harmonic and melodic)
28. Harmony and chords in major and minor triads
29. Simple and compound meters
30. Diminished and augmented triads
31. Transposing chords
32. Triplets
33. 7th chords (major, minor, diminished and half-diminished)
34. Syncopation
35. Mixed meters

V. Teaching Methods

- A. Visual demonstrations
- B. Completing exercises in workbooks
- C. Performing examples on piano keyboard

VI. Evaluation

- A. Components
 1. Daily homework
 2. Final exams

VII. Grading Scale

- 90-100%=A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D
- 59% and lower = F