

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

MUTH 12203 Music Theory I

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Prerequisite: Music major or minor, or consent of instructor

Corequisite: MUTH 12001 Sight Singing and Ear Training I

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Focuses on the study of melody writing, as well as the formation of chords and their proper use. Instruction in intervals, primary and secondary triads in root position, inversions of major and minor triads, embellishing tones, as well as techniques of melody writing. Additional instruction in dominant seventh chords, the study of harmony in minor keys, and in composing music with piano accompaniment and short piano pieces.

B. Additional Information

Class will be taught in a large classroom in order to present musical activities involving class participation. The course will consist of daily assignments due the following class period. There will be five major tests given this semester. Class time will consist of short lectures by the teacher followed by practice exercises, analysis of musical compositions, and part-writing.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

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

1. Identify intervals, and keys.
2. Identify chords in all keys.
3. Identify chords in all inversions
4. Demonstrate understanding of correction music notation
5. Demonstrate knowledge of transposition.
6. Show understanding of harmonic progression and correct voice leading in Four- part Chorale writing.

B. University Learning Outcomes

MUTH 12203 Music Theory I enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills

Students will draw conclusions and/or solve problems using proper musical terminology; personal expression within the context of musical performance.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently using proper musical terminology; personal expression within the context of a musical performance.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes whether in musical research, presentation, or performance.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will appreciate and reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Properties of Sound
- B. Notation
- C. Scales, Tonality
- D. Key, Modes
- E. Intervals
- F. Transposition
- G. Chords
- H. Cadences
- I. Non-harmonic Tones
- J. Melodic Organization Texture
- K. Voice Leading in Four-Part Chorale, Harmonic Progression
- L. Harmonic Rhythm
- M. The Dominant Seventh Chord