

Music 141

Seattle Central Community College
Humanities/Social Sciences Division
Music Department

Music 141 OL (Music Theory I)

Winter Quarter 2020

Professor Brian Kirk M.A. Music

Office: Broadway Performance Hall Room 204.

Hours: By appointment only (zoom conferencing)

Website:

<http://seattlecentral.edu/faculty/bkirk/>

Primary email

Brian.Kirk@seattlecolleges.edu

Personal email

bkirkscce@yahoo.com

Music Theory 141 Syllabus

This course is intended to provide students with skills and information necessary for advanced study in music. This course is designed for all students including those with little or no previous knowledge as well as those with knowledge and skills in some areas but with deficiencies in others. **The course teaches Music Fundamentals.** The approach used in the instruction of this course will provide students with 1) work in written concepts, terminology, and the nomenclature of music notation 2) exercises in music reading, sight-singing, and ear training to develop the “musical ear” 3) drills in rhythm using exercises that incorporate clapping rhythmic patterns and melodic singing.

Students with Exceptional Learning Abilities

If you need course adaptations or accommodations due to a disability, or if you have emergency medical information to share, please contact me by email to discuss your needs.

ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING

I have a zoom conferencing account that I can invite students to help with assignments in real time. I will help students Monday – Friday. **Times TBA**

Music 141

Course materials:

Title: ONMUSIC FUNDAMENTALS

Publisher: CONNECT FOR EDUCATION

Students may purchase the course materials at the campus bookstore or through our online store: **OnMusic Fundamentals, Third**

Edition <https://store.connect4education.com/product/onmusic-fundamentals-third-edition/?dids=2>

Evaluation and Grading

Course Activity	Percentage of Final Grade
20 Quizzes	30%
Midterm Exam	35%
Final Exam	35%

Assignments For Extra Credit	Course Enhancement Assignments
Playground Sessions	25 Points Extra Credit
Tone Savvy Drills and Exercises	25 Points Extra Credit
Total Extra Credit Assignments	50 Points (additional 5% to grade total)

Course Objectives:

Provide understanding of music fundamentals which will prepare the student for further experience in music as well as further study in music history, form and analysis, music education and performance.

Provide instruction in sight-reading and aural skills which will prepare the student for further experiences music performance and composition.

Provide instruction in basic keyboard/piano skills including knowledge in sight reading, scales, fingerings, and the understanding of the grand staff.

Provide instruction in computer composition and software notation skills which will prepare the student for further experiences in music as well as further study in music performance, composition and audio production.

Music 141

Student Outcomes

The student will learn and understand the principles of music fundamentals
Students will learn the building blocks of music pitches, rhythms scales, chords.
Students will understand the piano keyboard arrangement through scales, melodies and intervals.
Students will have the ability to understand simple musical structure
Students will be able to sight-sing beginning level diatonic musical examples using scale degree numbers, and understand the notation rhythms in various meters

Assessment:

Students will demonstrate their level of competence in understanding and mastery of these outcomes through their regular homework assignments, mastery quizzes, online music theory drills and keyboard songs and exercises (of sight-singing and rhythm reading assignments) and examinations.

Class Participation

Students are expected participate in every course lesson barring highly unusual conflicts or illness. It is not likely that you will successfully complete the work required unless you complete the work consistently and on time. **Excessive missing OR LATE assignments will result in lowering of the student's grade.**

ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES:

SATURDAY 11:59 pm PST

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

ONLY THREE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED LATE

Students who do not turn in assignments at the Saturday Deadline can submit up to 3 late assignments late (within 24 hours)
One day late = 50% ASSIGNMENT CREDIT

Music 141

ASSIGNMENTS ON MUSIC FUNDAMENTALS	5 HOURS WEEKLY
Ear Training/Theory Drills Website (tonesavvy.com) Teacher Code: 386	2 Hours Weekly Supplemental Course Content Extra Credit Assignments
Playground Sessions	3 hours Weekly Supplemental Course Content Extra Credit Assignment

COURSE ENHANCEMENT MATERIAL

Playground Sessions is a course within a course. (EXTRA CREDIT)

Developed by Quincy Jones this innovative program teaches students how to play the piano. It reinforces the music theory lessons you are studying by enabling you to play simple piano exercises with tracks and songs. **Students must have the required equipment to use Playground Sessions. (See below)**

Your instructor has selected assignments that will enable you to enjoy learning to play the piano in playground sessions.

Student Accounts – each student will have a playground session account. You have a username and password that allows you access to the playground sessions websites that features lessons, instructional videos and songs to play. See [Playground Session Pages in Modules](#). Participation in playground sessions is not mandatory.

Tone Savvy (Extra Credit) Students have an account to practice notes, keyboard pitches, rhythms and ear training. Tone Savvy accounts have a computer generated username and password. See [Tone Savvy Page in Modules](#). Participation in Tone Savvy is not mandatory. Log into [ToneSavvy.com](#) and practice your weekly lesson. **Teacher Code: 386**

Equipment Needs for using Playground Sessions

To Use Playground Sessions, you'll need:

- A device to install the program onto (Mac, PC, or iPad)
- A keyboard or digital piano, and the corresponding cable needed to connect your keyboard to your device

With these, you're all set to use our program!

For more information on computer minimum requirements, visit our [system requirements](#) page.

Music 141

Music Theory 141

Contract – Instructor and Student

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

In this course, Students have the right to an Instructor who will:

- assist students to learn the material presented in this course
- be organized, and share that organization with students
- establish realistic goals
- pay attention to students' needs
- be aware of different learning styles
- attend and participate consistently
- maintain open lines of communication
- be a good resource for students
- share knowledge
- offer constructive criticism
- maintain an open mind
- treat the course and all its participants with dignity and respect

In this course, the Students are responsible for:

- practicing to learn the material presented in this course
- attending class consistently
- coming to class prepared to work
- completing all assigned readings and assignments on time
- submitting all assignments on time
- participating in all activities of the course
- seeking assistance when it's needed
- maintaining open minds
- giving the course and all its work their best effort
- taking control of their own attitude, time, and performance
- participating in Q and A Discussion Boards
- treating the course and all its participants with dignity and respect

Music 141

Week 1

Week 1: January 6 -10

SECTION 1: THE KEYBOARD

Section 1: The Keyboard

Section 1: The Keyboard

The Keyboard I: Introduction.

The Keyboard II: Pitch Page

The Keyboard II: Pitch.

Note Name Recognition

The Keyboard III: Letter Names and Key Groups

The Keyboard III: Letter Names and Key Groups.

The Keyboard IV: Half and Whole Steps

Week 2

Week 2: January 13 - 17

Accidentals and The Octave

Accidentals and The Octave. The Keyboard V: Accidentals

The Keyboard VI: Other Accidentals and Enharmonics

The Keyboard VII: The Octave

Practice Worksheet: Keyboard Quiz Practice

Worksheet: Keyboard

Quiz: Pitch Quiz: Pitch

Quiz: Keyboard

Section 2: The Staff

Note Placement

The Staff I: Introduction.

The Staff II: Note Placement

The Staff III: Notation Practice

Music 141

Week 3

Week 3: January 20 - 27

Clefs

Clefs I: Introduction

Clefs II: The Treble Clef

.

Clefs III: The Bass Clef

.

Clefs IV: The C Clef

Clefs V: The Grand Staff

Clefs VI: Summary

Exercise: Pitch Identification (Practice Mode) Exercise: Pitch Identification (Practice Mode)

Exercise: Pitch Identification with Accidentals

Practice Worksheet: Clef Quiz

Practice Worksheet: Ledger Lines Quiz

Quiz: Clefs and Ledger Lines

Section 3: Rhythm and Meter

Rhythm I: Introduction.

Rhythm II: Pulse and Tempo

Rhythm II: Pulse and Tempo.

Rhythm III: Note Values

Rhythm II

Rhythm IV: Rests.

Rhythm V: Dots

Rhythm VI: Ties

Rhythm VII: Dotted Rhythms

Practice Worksheet: Rhythm

Quiz Practice Worksheet: Rhythm

Quiz: Rhythm

Music 141

Week 4

Week 4: January 27 - February 3

Meter

Meter I: Introduction

Meter II: Barlines and Measures

Meter III: Time Signatures

Meter IV: Beaming

Meter V: Incomplete Measures

Practice Worksheet: Meter

Quiz: Meter

Section 4: Major Scales and Key Signatures

Scales

Scales I: Introduction

Scales II: Diatonic and Chromatic Scales

Scales III: The Major Scale

Scales IV: Transposing the Major Scale

Week 5

Week 5: February 6 - 10

Building Major Scales I

Scales V: Building Major Scales

Scales VI: Scale Degree Names

Practice Worksheet: Whole and Half Steps

Quiz: Whole and Half Steps

Practice Worksheet: Scale Degrees

Quiz: Whole and Half Steps

Quiz: Scale Degrees

Build Major Scales Using Tetrachords

Scales VII: The Major Scale Pattern

Scales VIII: Functions of the Key Signatures

Scales IX: Building Major Scales II

Scales X: The Circle of Fifths

Instructions for Exercises: Major Scales Ascending and Descending

Exercise: Build Ascending Major Scales Exercise:

Music 141

Key Signatures I
Key Signatures II: Sharp Keys
Key Signatures III: Flat Keys
Key Signatures II
Key Signatures IV: Transposing Keys
Key Signatures V: The Circle of Fifths
Exercise: Identify Key Signatures
Practice Worksheet: Major Scales and Key Signatures
Major Scales and Key Signatures I
Practice Worksheet: Major Scales and Key Signatures II
Practice Worksheet: Major Scales and Key Signatures II
Quiz: Major Scales
Quiz: Major Key Signatures

Week 6

Week 6: February 10 - 17- MIDTERM EXAM

Midterm Exam
Section 5: Meter Types

Meter Types I
Meter Types I: Introduction
Meter Types II: Simple Duple Meter
Meter Types III: Simple Triple Meter
Meter Types IV: Simple Quadruple Meter

Meter Types II

Meter Types V: Compound Meter
Meter Types VI: Compound Duple Meter
Meter Types VII: Compound Triple Meter
Meter Types VIII: Compound Quadruple Meter
Meter Types IX: Triplets and Duplets
Meter Types X: Irregular and Mixed Meter
Practice Exercise: Rhythm Pattern Recognition 1
Practice Exercise: Rhythm Pattern Recognition 2
Practice Exercise: Rhythm Pattern Recognition 3
Practice Exercise: Rhythm Pattern Recognition 4
Practice Worksheet: Meter Types
Quiz: Meter Types
Section 6: Intervals

Intervals I

Intervals I: Introduction

Music 141

Intervals II: Interval Size
Intervals III: Interval Quality
Intervals IV: Perfect Intervals
Intervals V: Spelling and Identifying Perfect Intervals.
Practice Worksheet: Interval Numeric Size
Quiz: Interval Numeric Size

Week 7

Week 7: February 17 - 24
Intervals II

Intervals VI: Major/Minor Intervals
Intervals VII: Spelling and Identifying Major/Minor Intervals
Intervals VIII: Hearing Intervals
Intervals IX: Interval Inversions

Intervals III
Intervals X: Compound Intervals
Intervals XI: Intervals in the Major Scale
Instructions for Exercises: Building Ascending Intervals
Practice Exercise: Building Ascending Intervals

Instructions for Ear Training Practice Exercises
Practice Exercise: Ear Training Practice Exercise: Ear Training 1
Practice Exercise: Ear Training Practice Exercise: Ear Training 2
Practice Exercise: Ear Training Practice Exercise: Ear Training 3
Practice Exercise: Ear Training Practice Exercise: Ear Training 4
Practice Exercise: Ear Training Practice Exercise: Ear Training 5
Practice Exercise: Ear Training Practice Exercise: Ear Training 6
Practice Exercise: Ear Training Practice Exercise: Ear Training 7
Practice Exercise: Ear Training Practice Exercise: Ear Training 8
Practice Exercise: Ear Training Practice Exercise: Ear Training 9
Practice Exercise: Ear Training Practice Exercise: Ear Training 10
Practice Worksheet: Interval Quality
Quiz: Intervals

Section 7: Minor Scales

The Minor Scale
Minor Scales I: Introduction
Minor Scales II: The Natural Minor Scale
Minor Scales III: Building Minor Scales
Minor Scales IV: Minor Key Signatures

Music 141

Week 8

Week 8: February 24 - March 2

Minor Key Signatures

Minor Scales V: Relative Keys

Minor Scales VI: Parallel Keys

The Harmonic and Melodic Minor Scales

Minor Scales VII: Harmonic and Melodic Minor

Minor Scales VIII: Circle of Fifths

Instructions for Building Minor Scales Exercise

Exercise: Ascending Natural and Melodic Minor Scales

Exercise: Ascending Natural and Melodic Minor Scales II

Exercise: Descending Natural and Melodic Minor Scales

Exercise: Build Ascending Natural Minor Scales

Exercise: Build Descending Natural Minor Scales

Exercise: Identify Key Signatures Including Major and Minor Keys

Practice Worksheet: Minor Scales and Key Signatures

Quiz: Minor Scales

Quiz: Minor Key Signatures

Section 8: Triads

Class 23: Triads

Triads I: Triad Basics

Triads II: Triad Qualities

Triads III: White-Key Triads

Class 24: Spelling and Identifying Triads

Triads IV: Spelling Triads

Triads V: Identifying Triads

Music 141

Week 9

Week 9: March 2 – 9

Triads - Spacing, Doubling, and Inversions

Triads VI: Triad Spacing and Doubling

Triads VII: Triad Inversions

Instructions for Practice

Excercise: Building Triads

Practice Worksheet: Triads

Quiz: Triad Identification

Quiz: Triad Inversions

Quiz: Triads

Dominant Sevenths

Sevenths I: The Dominant Seventh Chord

Sevenths II: Other Seventh Chords

Sevenths III: Seventh Inversions

Practice Worksheet: Dominant Sevenths

Cadences

Cadences I: Authentic Cadences

Cadences II: Half Cadences

Music 141

Week 10

Week 10: March 9 - 16

Section 9: Harmony

Harmony - Triads in Major and Minor Keys

Harmony I: Triads in a Major Key

Harmony II: Triads in a Minor Key

Harmonic Analysis and Progressions

Harmony III: Harmonic Analysis

Harmony IV: Harmonic Progressions

Harmony V: Summary

Quiz: Harmony, Dominant Sevenths, and Cadences

Quiz: Harmonic Analysis

Week 11

Week 11: March 23 –

FINAL EXAM

Music 141

WHY IS PRACTICING SO IMPORTANT?

We practice everything that is taught in this course, EVERYDAY. Concepts such as rhythmic training, common music theoretical methodology, SCALES, KEYS, KEY SIGNATURES, TONALITY, SIGHT-SINGING, RHYTHMIC DICTATION, and MELODIC DICTATION **must be practiced DAILY.**

REASON #2

YOU WANT TO PASS THIS COURSE

10 Reasons why Scales are important!



Scales are boring - **WRONG!!**

You can get ahead of the music practice game by taking your scales seriously and realizing that they are far from boring. In fact there is a huge range of possibilities when you begin to think about it. Those that think scales are boring are on the track to slow progression. Realize the potential that scales have

to improve your music practice and you will be in the fast lane. **Not convinced?**

Here are 10 reasons why scales should be an integral part of your practice diet.

- 1. Timing** - to play together with other people you need to have good time, good internal time. One of the best ways to develop this is to practice scales. Slowly at first, with a metronome if needed until you are placing each and every note exactly where it needs to be, not too soon or too late - just right.
- 2. Intonation** - for most instruments (piano aside) there is a need to make sure we are playing in tune. This does not end when you have tuned a single note or string on your instrument - that only tells you that note is in tune. Scales are a great way to check the tuning of each and every note. The distance between each should be just right. Careful listening is very important here.
- 3. Co-ordination** - during music practice we have lots of things to remember and the really difficult thing is to remember to do them all at the same time (breathe, sit up straight, bend those fingers, 4th finger, etc.) Scales give you an opportunity to focus on bringing all of those elements together. Once you have learned the notes of a scale you can make sure that everything else happens just at the right moment to make the scale sound perfect.
- 4. Dexterity** - one part of learning an instrument involves training parts of the body to do new things, to repeat them and then do them very quickly. Scales are a great training partner. They will help you refine and improve your speed. Slow careful

Music 141

practice of scales at the outset will have you whizzing up and down in no time.

5. Muscle Memory - this is a really big benefit of practicing scales. When you have practiced a scale for a while you will begin to 'just get it' and the scale will flow naturally from your instrument. What you have done is to begin to develop muscular memory. This is a very useful thing to have. When you see this scale again or indeed a similar one you will be able to rely partially on this muscle memory to help you play the scale. This also applies to snippets of scales, of which there are a lot in music.

6. Ears - if you can't hear what is wrong you can't correct it. This is true of all of your music practice. Learn to listen very, very carefully when you practice your scales and you will start to hear areas where you can improve your other playing; pay attention to tuning, articulation, tone quality, consistency etc. Imagine what a perfect scale would sound like in every way and try to make each of your scales sound like that.

7. Sight Reading - if you can translate the notes you see on the page quickly into sounds on your instrument you can develop good sight reading. If those notes form patterns that you are familiar with then you will be able to do this even quicker. Knowing your scales will give your sight reading a boost as you will frequently come across patterns and groups of notes with which you are familiar.

8. Theory - key signatures, chords, modulations, modes and many other areas of music theory are much easier to understand if you know your scales.

9. Exams & Auditions - most musicians do these at some point and they invariably involve scales. If you already practice scales regularly you will have a head start on those that don't. You'll also ease the workload in the long run up to the event.

10. Building Blocks of all music - If you hadn't realized it, scales are the things from which most music is made. Just look at the pieces you are currently learning and you will see scales or parts of scales all over it. Their importance cannot be underestimated, be good at scales and you are likely to be good at your instrument.

Music 141

Go into the arts. I'm not kidding. The arts are not a way to make a living. They are a very human way of making life more bearable. Practicing an art, no matter how well or badly, is a way to make your soul grow, for heaven's sake. Sing in the shower. Dance to the radio. Tell stories. Write a poem to a friend, even a lousy poem. Do it as well as you possibly can. You will get an enormous reward. You will have created something."

- Kurt Vonnegut

Music 141