



## **HUM 140 – Music Theory I**

2 credits; 1 lab hour

Instructor: Sunny Knable, Email: [sknable@lagcc.cuny.edu](mailto:sknable@lagcc.cuny.edu)

Spring Session 1, Monday (asynchronous) and Wednesday 12:45 - 2:15 pm, Room E-118

Office Hours: Wednesdays 12:15 - 12:45 or 2:15 - 2:45 pm *make an appointment*

### **Course Description**

Music Theory I is a comprehensive study of the key components in the performance, creation, transcription, and analysis of music. Students will build upon the fundamentals of notation and musical literacy to begin to understand how music functions. Topics covered include major and minor scales and keys, diatonic intervals, chromatic intervals, triads, seventh chords, diatonic harmony, transposition, and composition. Students will analyze, compose, and perform music in this course.

**Required Text and Materials:** The Musician's Guide to Theory and Analysis 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition

Jane Piper Clendinning and Elizabeth West Marvin

**Access to Noteflight or comparable notation software**

**Access to Blackboard**

**Book of Manuscript Paper**

### **CLASS DATES:**

#### **MONDAYS**

---

**March 4, 2024**

Introduction to Class

**March 11, 2024**

Chapter 1 – Pitch and Pitch Class

**March 18, 2024**

Chapter 2 – Simple Meters

**March 25, 2024**

Chapter 3 – Pitch Collections,  
Scales and Major Keys

#### **WEDNESDAYS**

---

**March 6, 2024**

Chapter 1 --- Pitch and Pitch Class

*Assignment #1 (due March 11)*

**March 13, 2024**

Chapter 1 --- Pitch and Pitch Class

*Assignment #2 (due March 18)*

**March 20, 2024**

Chapter 2 – Simple Meters

*Assignment #3 (due March 25)*

**March 27, 2024 – Quiz #1**

Chapter 3 – Pitch Collections, cont'd

*Assignment #4 (due April 1)*

(Class Dates continued)

**MONDAYS**

---

**April 1, 2024**

Chapter 4 – Compound Meters

**April 8, 2024**

Chapter 5 – Minor Keys & Diatonic Modes

**April 15, 2024**

Review Day

**April 22, 2024**

**NO CLASS (SPRING BREAK)**

**April 29, 2024**

Chapter 6 – Intervals

**May 6, 2024**

Chapter 7 – Triads

**May 13, 2024**

Chapter 8 – 7<sup>th</sup> Chords in minor keys

**May 20, 2024**

Review for Final

*Composition Assignment explanation*

**May 27, 2024**

**NO CLASS**

**June 3, 2024**

Review, *Reaction Paper Due*

**WEDNESDAYS**

---

**April 3, 2024**

Chapter 4 – Compound Meters

*Assignment #5 (due April 8)*

**April 10, 2024**

Chapter 5 – Minor Keys & Diatonic Modes

*Assignment #6 (due April 15)*

**April 17, 2024**

MIDTERM

**April 24, 2024**

**NO CLASS (SPRING BREAK)**

**May 1**

Chapter 6 – Intervals

*Assignment #7 (due May 6)*

**May 8, 2024**

Chapter 7 – Triads

*Assignment #8 (due May 13)*

**May 15, 2024 – QUIZ #2**

Chapter 8 – harmonic application

*Assignment #9 (due May 20)*

**May 22, 2024**

Review for Final

*Assignment #10 (due May 27)*

**May 29, 2024**

Review, *Composition Assignment Due*

**June 5, 2024**

**LAST CLASS** – Final Review

**\*\*FINAL To Be Announced**

**Course Learning Objectives**

- Understand the basic rudiments of music related to pitch, rhythm and its representation on the written page
- Have the ability to read and interpret music
- Have a working knowledge of musical rudiments including notes, rhythms, scales, chords, diatonic harmony etc.
- Have the ability to interpret, understand and evaluate fundamental musical information
- Increase the student's aural understanding of music
- Understand & utilize the fundamentals of musicianship in performance/composition

## **Blackboard**

A Blackboard page has been established for the class. This page will contain all the information for the class, including the syllabus, announcements about upcoming homework assignments, quiz, and test information, and assignments that will be uploaded directly to Google Classroom. Every Monday at 2 pm, there will be a new video or set of videos to watch. You will be asked to take notes and upload your notes as your “attendance” of that asynchronous class by Wednesday at 10 am. In order for this hybrid model to work, it is necessary that you stay up with the videos to understand the in-class instruction on Wednesdays.

## **Notational Software**

If you don't currently work with a notation software, you will need access to an online notational software called Noteflight. You can set up a free account at [www.noteflight.com](http://www.noteflight.com). This online software is accessed through your internet browser. It allows you to write assignments online and print them as pdfs. Use of this software is free to use in the manner we will be utilizing it.

## **Weekly Assignments, Quizzes, Midterm and Final Exams**

Throughout the semester, there will be weekly assignments handed out in class and posted to Blackboard. There will also be two quizzes, a midterm, a final exam, a reaction paper, and a composition assignment due at the end of the semester. Students are required to be present for all exams and evaluations. No make-up exams will be issued except in the case of verified illness or family emergency.

## **Attendance**

Attendance will be taken at each class and will also be factored into the final grade of the term. Pursuant to the LaGuardia Community College Attendance Policy, students who miss more than 15% of classes with unexcused absences will automatically fail the class. This is the equivalent of three class.

## **Classroom Rules**

There are a few rules for the classroom to help everyone learn and succeed in the class:

1. All cell phones must remain off during the class. No phone calls, texting, internet activity will be tolerated during the class. If there is a reason that you need to be accessible during the class due to a family emergency, please inform Prof. Knable ahead of the class. If you need to use a feature such as audio recording, video recording or photography please inform Prof. Knable ahead of class to make known your intentions.
2. If you must use a laptop for the class, please contact Prof. Knable ahead of the class to make known your intentions. You will only be able to use this technology once approved.
3. There is absolutely no eating or drinking allowed in the classroom due to exposure to instruments and computers. The only exception is the presence of a water bottle. This is a rule handed down by the department.
4. All assignments must be handed in or posted on time. If assignments are not submitted in a timely manner the grade for that assignment will be reduced by 10 points per day, per assignment until it is submitted.

## **Academic Integrity**

Anyone caught cheating during any exam will receive a grade of 0% for that exam. The chairperson of the department will be informed to address the situation formally.

### **Lab Hours**

Lab hours in are held throughout the week E118 and E119. They are also available for tutoring. The lab contains 18 computer stations with piano keyboards interfaced with the computers. The lab hours will be announced. Work pertaining to this course can be done effectively in the lab as there is internet access with Musition loaded on each computer.

### **Reaction Paper and Extra Credit**

You are required to attend one concert below and write a brief reaction paper, 2-3 pages long, doubled spaced, with 12-point font and 1-inch margins. Your comments should relate to topics addressed in class regarding the use of key, rhythm, form, etc. If you are unable to attend any of the following concerts, email me with a proposal for a similar concert. If you would like extra credit, you may attend another concert and write another paper. If you are performing in the Student Showcase, you should choose *another* concert to attend. This is due on Monday, June 3 at 8:45 AM at the absolute latest.

### **Important Dates**

**Spring Music Meeting - Wednesday, March 6 at 2:30pm in E-121.**

There is much to discuss about this semester! In addition to classes and Applied Music, we will be discussing the Music club and the Jazz Ensemble.

**Spring Faculty Sampler Concert - Thursday, March 28, at 7pm, LPAC Little Theatre.**

**Spring Student Showcase Concert - Tuesday, June 4 at 7pm, LPAC Little Theatre.**

**Spring Juries - Wednesday, June 12 from 10am-4pm.** This is only for Applied Music students.

### **Grading**

The final grade for the semester is based on the following factors:

Reaction Paper	5%
Quizzes (5% each)	10%
Attendance/Class Participation	10%
Composition Assignment	15%
Assignments	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

### **Students with Disabilities**

Students with any kind of disability should make their situation known to me immediately so that the appropriate measures can be put in place for your success in the course. This includes all physical and learning disabilities.

### **Questions and Concerns**

If at any time you have questions about any of the material being presented, please contact me either before or after class, during office hours or via email. If you are facing challenges with the material, I need to know immediately.