

Montgomery County Community College
MUS 221
Music Theory 1
3-3-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

For students with some musical background who wish to expand their understanding of music theory. Emphasis will be on the study of Western music harmonic practices of the 18th and 19th centuries. The course will concentrate on musical analysis (melodic, harmonic and formal) and creative application of the concepts studied. Throughout the course, both technical and aesthetic considerations will be given equal attention. Students will also research a composer of choice from the above mentioned time period and prepare a properly documented presentation on that composer's life and musical style. A working knowledge of musical symbols and notation is required.

REQUISITES:*Previous Course Requirement*

- Music 120 Music Fundamentals with a minimum grade of "C"

Concurrent Course Requirement

None

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Identify different musical elements (key, chords, phrases, cadences, etc.) within a musical score	Study, Analysis, and Discussion of Written Musical Examples Completion of Written Compositional Exercises	Written Compositional Exercises Written Analysis Assignments and Tests
2. Explain basic harmonic and aesthetic principles in Western music (chord structures, harmonic progression, voice leading, etc.)	Study, Analysis, and Discussion of Written Musical Examples Completion of Written Compositional Exercises	Written Compositional Exercises Written Analysis Assignments and Tests

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
3. Explain the technical and aesthetic function of musical elements and harmonic principles within a given musical example.	Study, Analysis, and Discussion of Written Musical Examples	Written Analysis Assignments and Tests
4. Apply learned compositional principles through the solution of assigned harmonic and melodic problems.	Apply Compositional Principles to Solve Harmonic and Melodic Problems	Written Compositional Exercises
5. Describe the career, compositional techniques, and aesthetic principles of at least one representative composer of the 18 th or 19 th Century.	Individual Research Project	Individual Research Project (written or in-class presentation)

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria*.

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. Major/minor scales
2. Key signatures
3. Diatonic triads & seventh chords/Roman numerals
4. Chord inversions and figured bass
5. Part writing/Root position
6. Harmonic progression
7. Melodic harmonization
8. Part-writing/First inversion
9. Part-writing/Second inversion
10. Cadences & Form
11. Non-chord tones

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Text: Kostka, Stefan, and Dorothy Payne. 2013. *Tonal Harmony: With an Introduction to Twentieth Century Music*. McGraw-Hill:

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by:	Date:
VPAA/Provost Compliance Verification:	Date:
Revised by: Andrew Kosciesza	Date: 4/2004
Revised by: Andrew Kosciesza	Date: 11/2009
Revised by: Andrew Kosciesza	Date: 5/2013
VPAA/Provost Compliance Verification: Victoria Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 5/10/2013
Revised by: Andrew Kosciesza	Date: 12/27/2017
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:	Date: 1/10/2018



This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.