

**MUSC 1503 Section 101 Basic Music  
Fall 2022 Syllabus  
Midwestern State University**

	Instructor Course Information
Instructor	Dr. Susan Harvey
Time	TR 2:00 pm – 3:20 pm
Place	Fain Fine Arts Center C117C
Email	susan.harvey@msutexas.edu
Office	C117O
Office Hours	TBA posted outside office door Plus 5 hours for appointments
Phone	930-397-4916

**Course Description**

A study of the basic elements of music theory, including the reading of musical notation on treble and bass staves, key signatures, scales, and chords.

This course is designed to develop your understanding of the basic elements of music theory. This includes the reading of musical notation on treble and bass staves, key signatures, scales, chords, and chord progressions. Aural skills are also incorporated in this class.

**Course Objectives**

1. To develop musicianship skills (reading and aural)
2. To read music in treble and bass clefs
3. To understand and use a rhythm system for both duple and triple
4. To understand key signatures
5. To construct triads
6. To recognize visually and aurally major and minor scales
7. To recognize visually and aurally cadences

**Required Textbooks and Materials**

*OnMusic Fundamentals* (online textbook), published by Connect4Education

The textbook includes homework (practice sheets), quizzes, midterm, and final exam. All work is to be completed within the textbook.

**Purchasing Access Codes:**

Students may purchase the course materials at the campus bookstore or through our online store at the following links:

- **OnMusic Fundamentals Third Edition:** <https://store.connect4education.com/product/onmusic-fundamentals-third-edition/>

If your bookstore has not yet requested Access Cards for students to purchase, please provide your bookstore manager with the following link to our Bookstore Ordering Information page: <https://store.connect4education.com/bookstore-orders/>.

### **Student Resources:**

If your students have any questions regarding the Access Code purchase/registration process or the course access process, please provide them with our C4E Student Guide, which can be found below:

[http://dbkf6lrdbagw3.cloudfront.net/support/C4EStudentGuide\\_c4elink.pdf](http://dbkf6lrdbagw3.cloudfront.net/support/C4EStudentGuide_c4elink.pdf)

In addition to the Student Guide, our student tutorial video is another helpful tool in orienting students to your course. This video can be found at: <https://c4e.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/115004392227-Getting-to-Know-C4Elink-Student-Tutorial-Video->.

For helpful FAQ articles on many common processes, students may also reference our Student Help Center: <https://c4e.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/categories/204187808-Student>.

### **Course Assignments and Deadlines:**

All Assignments are due no later than midnight on the Saturday that ends the week. For example, the first week of class shows an assignment for Monday, August 23. The 'leeway' in that deadline is that it must absolutely be completed no later than Saturday, August 28 at midnight. There will be no further extensions or exceptions or delays in submitting assignments. Any assignments not completed by the Saturday evening at midnight corresponding to that week, will immediately become a 0. *The 0 grade will not be changed under any circumstances.* Please be sure to complete all work for the week no later than Saturday evening at midnight.

Class assignments are generally divided into three portions for each week to closely align with assignments.

### **Attendance**

Students participate in daily group and individual activities. Activities are cumulative in organization, building on previously learned concepts. Therefore, attendance is crucial to personal development. Students may miss class twice without a final grade reduction. Each absence that exceeds the allotted absences reduces the final grade by one letter grade. Tardies count toward absences. Students who arrive ten minutes late will be marked absent from class. **Nonparticipation in class equals one absence for each occurrence.** Class participation includes all classroom activities (singing, moving, rhythm activities, improvisation, chording, etc.).

### **Students Expectations/Conduct**

Students are required to participate in all class activities. Students are to practice assigned material in preparation for each class.

Students are to conduct themselves in a professional manner so that all students may learn without distraction or disruption. This includes cell phones turned off and no texting.

College students are adults and are expected to behave accordingly. Classroom behavior that interferes with either the instructor's ability to conduct class or the ability of the other students to benefit from instruction will result in the instructor's removing the disruptive student(s) from class, either temporarily or permanently (instructor drop), and receive a final lower grade, up to and including an F. In addition, and depending on the nature of the behavior or conduct, the student(s) may be subject to further disciplinary actions as per MSU policies.

### **Cell Phones and Other Recording Devices**

The use of cell phones and other recording or electronic devices is strictly prohibited during class. The instructor may direct, from time to time, on the possible use of cell phones for legitimate class reasons. Recording the class is prohibited, unless it is part of a reasonable accommodation under ADA, or by obtaining written consent by the instructor.

### **Grading Scale**

%	Letter Grade
90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-60	D
59-below	F

### **Course Evaluation**

%	Assignments
60	Quizzes from online textbook
20	Midterm
20	Final Exam

### **Academic Changes:**

The instructor reserves the right to adjust or cancel grading ranges, assignments, reports, projects, exams, assignments dates, due dates, and other as the course progresses; and to modify, extend, or correct the present syllabus by providing students with a three days' notice, or shorter in case of emergencies.

### **Covid-19: Vaccines and Face Coverings:**

Scientific data shows that being fully vaccinated is the most effective way to prevent and slow the spread of COVID-19 and has the greatest probability of avoiding serious illness if infected in all age groups. Although MSU Texas is not mandating vaccinations in compliance with Governor Abbott's executive orders, we highly encourage eligible members of our community to get a vaccination. If you have questions or concerns about the vaccine, please contact your primary care physician or health care professional.

Given the recent rise in cases, individuals are also strongly encouraged to wear facial coverings when indoors among groups of people, regardless of vaccination status. Although MSU Texas is not currently requiring facial coverings, they have been an effective strategy in slowing the spread.

### **Classroom Cleaning Protocols**

Each classroom on campus has cleaning protocols. Students in the Department of Music are encouraged to follow cleaning protocol before and after class. Students will be taught cleaning protocols and will have time allotted to clean their area at the end of class.

### **D2L**

D2L houses the syllabus for class. However, all assignments, quizzes, midterm, and final exam are embedded in the textbook. All assignments will be submitted in the textbook.

All handouts and other information will be available through the MSU D2L system, the gradebook in D2L will be enabled. Students are expected to understand how to navigate D2L.

If you experience problems with D2L, please let me know as soon as possible. In addition, the D2L page has a "Report A Problem" function on the top navigation bar as well as a FAQ function in the middle of the page on the right.

### **Office Hours:**

Dr. Harvey has five schedule office hours to meet with her. Requesting a meeting during office hours is preferred to ensure she is available. If you are unavailable during those times, she has five flexible hours to coordinate a meeting. Meetings can be in-person, via phone, zoom, or facetime. You may call her office during scheduled office hours. However, she may not answer if she is meeting with a student.

### **Special Needs**

If a student needs class accommodation(s) because of a documented disability, (2) has an emergency medical condition that may interfere with class performance, or (3) requires special handling in case the building must be evacuated, he/she is encouraged to contact the office of Disability Support Services in room 168 Clark Student Center 940(397-4140) and make an appointment with the professor as soon as possible

### **Privacy Statement**

Midwestern State University adheres to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA). Federal law prohibits the instructor from releasing information about students to parties outside the university without the signed consent of the student. Thus, in almost all cases the instructor will not discuss a student's academic progress or other matters with his/her parents without the proper release from students.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty including plagiarism and giving or receiving unauthorized assistance is prohibited. Plagiarism is (1) the use of source material of other persons

(either published or unpublished, including the Internet) without following the accepted techniques of giving credit or (2) the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given. If a student in the class plagiarizes material, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken. The Student Honor Creed developed and adopted by the MSU Student Government reinforces the discouragement of plagiarism and other unethical behaviors. The first statement of the creed reads, "As an MSU student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, steal, or help anyone else do so." Plagiarism is lying, cheating, and stealing.

### **Social Justice**

Social justice is one of Midwestern State University's stated core values, and the professor considers the classroom a place where students are treated with respect as human beings, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age, or ability. Moreover, diversity of thought is appreciated and encouraged, provided the students can agree to disagree. The professor's expectation is that ALL students consider the classroom a safe environment.

### **Campus Carry**

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at [MSU Campus Carry Rules](#).

## **Weekly Topics**

### **Week 1 August 23 and 25**

The Keyboard I: Introduction

The Keyboard II: Pitch

The Keyboard III: Letter Names and Key Groups

Keyboard IV: Half and Whole Steps

### **Week 2 August 30 September 1**

The Keyboard V: Accidentals

The Keyboard VI: Other Accidentals and Enharmonics

The Keyboard VII: The Octave

Quiz: Pitch

Quiz: Keyboard

Section 2: The Staff

Selection Overview

Outlines and Objectives

Note Placement

The Staff I: Introduction

The Staff II: Note Placement

The Staff III: Notation Practice

### **Week 3 September 7 and 9**

Clefs I: Introduction

Clefs II: The Treble Clef

Clefs III: The Bass Clef

Clefs: IV: The C Clef

Clefs: The Grand Staff

Quiz: Clefs and Ledger Lines

### **Week 4 September 13 and 15**

Rhythm I: Introduction

Rhythm II: Pulse and Tempo

Rhythm III: Note Values

Rhythm IV: Rests

Rhythm V: Dots

Rhythm VI: Ties

Rhythm VII: Dotted Rhythms

Quiz: Rhythm

### **Week 5 September 20 and 22**

Meter I: Introduction

Meter II: Barlines and Measures

Meter III: Time Signatures

Meter IV: Beaming

Meter V: Incomplete Measures

Quiz: Meter  
Scales I: Introduction  
Scales II: Diatonic and Chromatic Scales  
Quiz: Whole and Half Steps  
Scales III: The Major Scale  
Scales IV: Transposing the Major Scale

**Week 6 September 27 and 29**

Scales V: Building Major Scales  
Scales VI: Scale Degree Names  
Quiz: Scales Degrees  
Scales VII: The Major Scale Pattern  
Scales VIII: Functions of the Key Signature  
Scales IX: Building Major Scales II  
Scales X: The Circle of Fifths  
Quiz Major Scales  
Key Signatures I: Introduction  
Key Signatures II: Sharp Keys  
Key Signatures III: Flat Keys

**Week 8 October 4 and 6**

Key Signatures IV: Transposing Keys  
Key Signatures V: The Circle of Fifths  
Quiz: Major Scales  
Quiz: Major Key Signatures  
Midterm

**Week 9 October 11 and 13**

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

**Week 10 October 18 and 20**

Intervals I: Introduction  
Intervals II: Interval Size  
Quiz: Interval Numeric Size  
Intervals III: Interval Quality  
Intervals IV: Perfect Intervals

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

**Week 12 October 26 and 28**

Intervals X: Compound Intervals  
Intervals XI: Intervals in the Major Scale  
Quiz: Interval Quality  
Quiz: Intervals  
Minor Scales I: Introduction  
Minor Scales II: The Natural Minor Scales  
Minor Scales III: Building Minor Scales  
Quiz: minor Scales  
Minor Scales IV: Minor Key Signatures

**Week 11 November 1 and 4**

Minor Scales V: Relative Keys  
Minor Scales VI: Parallel Keys  
Minor Scales VII: Harmonic and Melodic Minor  
Minor Scales VIII: Circle of Fifths  
Quiz Minor Scales  
Quiz Minor Key Signatures

**Week 12 November 8 and 10**

Triads I: Triad Basics  
Triads II: Triad Qualities  
Triads III: White Key Triads  
Triads IV: Spelling Triads  
Triads V: Identifying Triads

**Week 13 November 15 and 17**

Triads VI: Triad Spacing and Doubling  
Quiz: Triad Identification  
Triads VII: Triad Inversions  
Quiz: Triad Inversions  
Quiz Triads  
Harmony I: Triads in a major Key  
Harmony II: Triads in a Minor Key

**Week 14 November 22**

Harmony III: Harmonic Analysis  
Harmony IV: Harmonic Progressions  
Harmony V: Summary



**Week 15 November 29 and 31**

Sevenths I: The Dominant Seventh Chord

Sevenths II: Other Seventh Chords

Sevenths: Seventh Inversions

Cadences I: Authentic Cadence

Cadences II: Half Cadences

Cadences III: Other Cadences

Quiz: Harmony, Dominant Sevenths, and Cadences

**Week 16 Final Exam**

Thursday, December 8, 1 pm – 3 pm