

MUT 1001 Introduction to Music Theory Rudiments

SYLLABUS – Fall 2025 – University of Florida

M/W/F 8:30-9:20am – MUB 144

Instructor Information

Instructor

Anna Higgins

Email

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Office Location & Hours

YON 437 by appointment
MUB Atrium TBD

Course Information

Description

Introduction to Music Theory Rudiments acts as a preliminary course to the foundational concepts of music theory. This course will introduce the study of notation, scales, intervals, triads, aural skills, and keyboard skills.

Expectations and Goals

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

- Notate clefs, key signatures, time signatures, notes, and rests by hand on both a single and a grand staff
- Sing simple melodies using movable do solfege in major and minor keys
- Read, write, and aurally recognize basic simple and compound meters
- Recognize, sing, and notate intervals in both melodic and harmonic contexts
- Identify and notate different qualities of triads independently and within a simple harmonic context

Required Materials

Staff paper and a pencil are required for in-class assignments and notetaking. No electronic devices are permitted. All homework, exams, or other assignments will be completed with pencil and paper. Bring the textbook to all classes to complete in-class assignments from the book.

Required Text

White, Gary. *Music First!* 6th ed. New York, NY: McGraw Hill, 2011.

ISBN-13: 978-0078110658

Grading

A = 93-100%

A- = 90-92%

B+ = 87-89%

B = 83-86%

B- = 80-82%

C+ = 77-79%

C = 73-76%

C- = 70-72%

D+ = 67-69%

D = 63-66%

D- = 60-62%

F = 59% and below

Evaluation Weight

Attendance	20%
Written Homework	30%
Aural Skills	25%
Midterm Exam	10%
Comprehensive Final	15%

Attendance (20%)

The attendance category accounts for the following: class attendance, active participation, and keyboard or written in-class exercises. Students are responsible for missed notes and work. I will not reach out to you regarding any notes you may have missed. I will give you two discretionary unexcused absences, no questions asked, that will not count against your attendance. University functions and sports, religious holidays, doctor excuses, illness, quarantine, etc. do not count against you in attendance and are considered excused. Each unexcused absence beyond the discretionary two will lower your final grade in this category.

Exams (25%)

The exam category accounts for the midterm and final. Both the midterm and final exams will include an aural and written portion. The midterm exam, worth 10% of the final grade, will test only the materials from the first half of the semester. Only material gone over in class will be eligible for the exam, and the sight-singing portion will be scheduled via sign-up as a one-on-one appointment during class. Only documented excused absences or extenuating/emergency circumstances allow a make-up midterm exam.

The final exam will be comprehensive, worth 15% of the final grade, and will be administered during the date and time declared by the University. The final exam must be completed during the assigned period.

Written Homework (30%)

Each chapter will have at least one homework assignment to be due at the end of the chapter. All homework will be assigned with its due date. Written homework must be completed on the provided worksheet or staff paper and turned in on its due date for full credit. If you have an excused absence the day that an assignment is due, it is to be turned in the following class period. These assignments will not be accepted or graded electronically.

Homework Mastery Policy: I allow for written homework to be resubmitted the following class period with corrections made to earn half credit back. I will circle incorrect responses, and you may erase and change your answer on the sheet. Please return the original assignment and score back to me so I can adjust your grade.

Aural Skills (25%)

The aural skills category includes all sight singing and dictation assignments, whether inside or outside of class. At least three (3) mini dictation quizzes will occur at the beginning of class throughout the semester. These dates will be scheduled as the semester progresses. More quizzes may be scheduled if deemed necessary.

At least three (3) sight-singing assignments will be recorded and submitted on Canvas. Instructions for these assignments will be provided the class period before the due date. More assignments may be given if deemed necessary.

University Resources

Academic Integrity and Artificial Intelligence

All students of the University of Florida are bound by The Honor Pledge. Any use of Artificial Intelligence in this course is considered cheating and will result in an Honor violation.

Accommodations

If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to fully participate in this class, please advise me and make appropriate arrangements with the Disability Resource Center. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs as early as possible in the semester. The University provides resources here: disability.ufl.edu

Plagiarism

Plagiarism policies can be found within the University's statement on academic integrity and honesty, but as it is such a serious offense, it deems another warning. Plagiarism is neither tolerated by the University nor myself, and any such infraction will be reported to Academic Affairs. My plagiarism policy is simple: DON'T DO IT. I will catch you immediately, and you will fail the class.

Online Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online. Students can complete evaluations in three ways: 1. the email they receive from GatorEvals, 2. their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or 3. the central portal at my-ufl.bluer.com

Guidance on how to provide constructive feedback is available at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/

Other Academic and Health Resources

All additional academic policies and health resources can be found here:

syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/

Course Schedule

subject to change (and will change) at instructor's discretion

Week	Topic	Reading	Additional Assignments
Week 1			
Fri. 08/22	<i>Syllabus and Course Introduction</i>	Syllabus	
Week 2			
Mon. 08/25	<i>Elements of Music: Pitch</i>	Chapter 1	
Wed. 08/27	<i>Elements of Music: Pitch/Rhythm</i>		Chapter 1 Homework Due
Fri. 08/29	<i>Elements of Music: Rhythm</i>	Chapter 2	
Week 3			
Mon. 09/01	Labor Day – No Classes		
Wed. 09/03	<i>Elements of Music: Rhythm</i>		
Fri. 09/05	<i>Simple Meter</i>	Chapter 3	Chapter 2 Homework Due
Week 4			
Mon. 09/08	<i>Simple Meter</i>		
Wed. 09/10	<i>Compound Meter</i>	Chapter 4	Chapter 3 Homework Due
Fri. 09/12	<i>Compound Meter</i>		
Week 5			
Mon. 09/15	<i>Aural Skills: Differentiating Meters</i>		Chapter 4 Homework Due
Wed. 09/17	<i>Sharps, Flats, and Naturals</i>	Chapter 5	
Fri. 09/19	<i>Sharps, Flats, and Naturals</i>		
Week 6			
Mon. 09/22	<i>Major Scales and Solfege</i>	Chapter 6	Chapter 5 Homework Due
Wed. 09/24	<i>Major Keys and Scales</i>		
Fri. 09/26	<i>Major Keys and Scales</i>		Singing 1 Due
Week 7			
Mon. 09/29	<i>Major Keys and Scales</i>		
Wed. 10/01	<i>Aural Skills: Major</i>		Chapter 6 Homework Due
Fri. 10/03	<i>Midterm Review</i>		
Week 8			
Mon. 10/06	<i>Sight-Singing Appointments</i>		
Wed. 10/08	<i>Sight-Singing Appointments</i>		
Fri. 10/10	MIDTERM		Midterm Exam
Week 9			
Mon. 10/13	<i>Minor Scales and Keys</i>	Chapter 7	
Wed. 10/15	<i>Minor Scales and Keys</i>		

Week	Topic	Reading	Additional Assignments
Fri. 10/17	Homecoming – No Classes		
Week 10			
Mon. 10/20	Minor Scales and Keys		
Wed. 10/22	Aural Skills: Minor		Chapter 7 Homework Due
Fri. 10/24	Intervals	Chapter 8	
Week 11			
Mon. 10/27	Intervals		Singing 2 Due
Wed. 10/29	Intervals		
Fri. 10/31	Chords	Chapter 9	Chapter 8 Homework Due
Week 12			
Mon. 11/03	Chords		
Wed. 11/05	Chords		
Fri. 11/07	Chords		Singing 3 Due
Week 13			
Mon. 11/10	Chords Review and Aural Skills		Chapter 9 Homework Due
Wed. 11/12	The Harmonic System	Chapter 10	
Fri. 11/14	The Harmonic System		
Week 14			
Mon. 11/17	The Harmonic System		
Wed. 11/19	The Harmonic System		Chapter 10 Homework Due
Fri. 11/21	Singing in Parts		
Week 15	THANKSGIVING BREAK	NO CLASSES	
Week 16			
Mon. 12/01	Review		
Wed. 12/03	Review		

Final Exam
Thursday, December 11
7:30 AM – 9:30 AM