

SYLLABUS

MUSI 1303 - MUSIC FUNDAMENTALS

Fall 2019

Instructor: Dr. Debbie Gelber

Office: FA117

Phone: (806)716-2269

E-mail: dgelber@southplainscollege.edu

Office hours: As posted on office door

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE:

Introduction to the basic elements of music theory for non-music majors: scales, intervals, keys, triads, elementary ear training, keyboard harmony, notation, meter, and rhythm.

- To provide the student with preparatory skills for freshman level college music theory, specifically MUSI 1311.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Construct all major and minor scales and key signatures.
2. Construct simple and compound intervals, triads and seventh chords of any quality.
3. Identify and perform basic rhythmic and pitch patterns common in tonal music, and properly notate basic rhythms in simple or compound meters.
4. Identify fundamental musical elements aurally and/or on the keyboard.
5. Use appropriate musical vocabulary to describe theoretical concepts.

CORE OBJECTIVE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

This course is included in the Creative Arts foundation component area, as described by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and will reinforce the Core Objective student learning outcomes of Communication Skills, Critical Thinking, Teamwork, and Social Responsibility. Students will demonstrate effective written, oral, and visual communication. Students will be encouraged to thoroughly assess and investigate problems with the goal of full comprehension. Students will be encouraged to function as part of a team. Students will demonstrate intercultural knowledge.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Textbook: *The Musician's Guide to Fundamentals, 3rd edition by Clendinning*. The student will also need a notebook or notebook paper, five-line music staff paper, and a sharp, dark lead pencil every day.

CLASS ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to attend class and to be on time. The Attendance portion (15%) of the final grade average will be determined by the percentage of classes actively attended by the student.

This figure is arrived at by dividing the number of classes actively attended by the number of total class meetings. Each student will be allowed two (2) excused absences for which there will be no penalty. Students will attend the section in which they are registered.

Tardiness: Come to class on time. Late students will be marked tardy. Three tardies will equal one unexcused absence. If the student is more than 15 minutes late to class, the student will be marked absent for the day.

Excused Absences: An excused absence is defined as an absence due to illness, an official trip or activity authorized by the college, or family emergency. The student must notify the instructor of the absence prior to the start of class and must provide documentation in the form of a doctor's note or release form from the college. In the case of illness, if no doctor's note is presented and the instructor is not notified before class, the absence will be unexcused.

If a student stops coming to class, the instructor will report it to the Office of Student Services, but ***the instructor will not drop you from the class.*** It will be the student's responsibility to drop the class.

Students are expected to attend class regularly and to come in **on time**. The student is responsible for obtaining any notes or assignments missed due to absence or tardiness from other classmates or from Blackboard, except in the case of an excused absence. Do not email the instructor asking what was missed in class or what was assigned as homework. The instructor will not answer these emails.

Homework

- Written homework assignments are due at the *beginning* of the next class meeting after they are assigned.
- Assignments must be completed in PENCIL.
- Any assignment turned in with unreadable manuscript will be returned to the student to be completed again and will be counted as a late assignment.
- Late assignments that are incomplete will not be accepted.
- Work not turned in due to unexcused absences will be considered late.
- Students will not attempt to complete due homework during class, nor will they work on assignments for other classes.
- The single lowest homework grade will be dropped when figuring the student's average at the end of the semester.

Homework Deductions

- - 5 for assignments completed in PEN
- - 10 for assignments turned in after the start of class or later in the day on due date
- - 50% for late assignments up to a week late
- Automatic 0 for assignments not turned in within a week

Exams

- There will be **three** exams scheduled during the semester, and a **comprehensive final exam** at the end of the semester.
- Exams *may not* be taken late or early except in the case of a legitimate emergency. The instructor must be notified *in advance* and for which documentation is provided upon the student's return to class.
- The final exam will be taken at the time specified in the college finals schedule. Under no circumstances will any student be allowed to take the final early.

Final Grade Calculation

The final grade will be calculated as follows:

Written and online homework assignments 30%

Three regular exams 30%

Final Exam 10%

Attendance 15% (2 absences allowed)

Class Participation and misc. assignments/quizzes 15%

The Final Grade will be determined as follows:

90-100% = A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

59% and under = F

For Fine Arts Music Majors: Although the grade of a “D” is considered passing, it is highly recommended that the student earns a grade of at least a “C” to show competency in the subject before moving on to Music Theory I. Students who earn a “D” will be encouraged to retake the course.

Gradebook:

The course grade book is maintained at

<https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/webapps/login/>. You are encouraged to log in regularly, to keep track of your personal records. If you have questions about using this website, please do not hesitate to ask the instructor. Tutoring is provided for this course. Please listen to announcements given in class regarding tutoring, and please do not hesitate to ask the instructor for further information.

ETIQUETTE POLICY:

- The instructor will treat all class members with respect and dignity. The instructor will expect reciprocal treatment from all members of the class.
- All students will demonstrate the proper respect and courtesy for classmates.
- Inappropriate behavior or disruption of the class in any way will not be tolerated, including talking or distracting movement, disrespectful actions or speech directed at the instructor or other class members, or sleeping in class.
- Students will not leave the room after class begins except in the case of an emergency. If a student leaves class for any reason other than an emergency, the student will be counted Tardy for that class. Three tardy marks equals one unexcused absence.
- Out of courtesy to the other students and to the instructor, phones and other communication devices are permitted in class for emergency purposes only. *If a student's cell phone should erupt during the class or **if any student is seen texting in class or using any hand-held communication device in any way**, that student will be instructed to leave class immediately, will not be allowed to return to class that day, and will be counted absent for the day. If such an incident occurs during an exam, the student will stop the exam immediately and will not be allowed to finish the exam.*

- Students are expected and encouraged to attend class regularly and to come in on time. The student is responsible for obtaining any notes or assignments missed due to absence or tardiness. As per the college catalog, a student who has missed class for two calendar weeks may be dropped from the course.
- Laptop computers and tablets are permitted in the classroom for note-taking (and not for other activities). However, due to the nature of this class, the traditional pencil and paper style of note-taking is recommended, particularly in regard to demonstrations involving the musical staff.

- **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at: (http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php) Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

- **SPC Standard Disability Statement**

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) & Lubbock Center 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

- **Non-Discrimination Statement**

South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College -1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336, 806-894-9611

- **Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement**

If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact Crystal Gilster, Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu for assistance.