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Fall 9-1-2022

### MUSI 105.03: Music Theory I

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Cody, David T., "MUSI 105.03: Music Theory I" (2022). *University of Montana Course Syllabi, 2021-2025*. 443.

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## Music Theory I: Musical Theatre - Syllabus

Fall Semester 2022

### Instructor Information

#### Instructor

Dr. David Cody ("DC")

#### Email

[david.cody@umontana.edu](mailto:david.cody@umontana.edu)  
(406) 544-2297

#### Office Location & Hours

MUSIC #106. Office Hours Tuesday  
& Thursday 10-11am.

### General Information

#### Description

This is the first semester of Music Theory in a sequence of courses in basic musicianship required for students in the BFA Musical Theatre Performance degree. *Aural Perception I* is a corequisite for this course. This course is designed specifically for students in the musical theatre program. Although it covers many of the same topics as the other sections of Music Theory I, this course focuses on those more pertinent to the singing actor and uses examples from musical theatre repertoire and popular song. This course also uses a different textbook than the other sections. A course supplement is on our Moodle course page. It will contain lectures, materials, and homework assignments that are not in your textbook.

#### Expectations and Goals

By the end of the semester, students should understand:

- Music Notation including staff, clefs, noteheads, rests, accidentals, and ledger lines
- Time Signatures and note values
- Major and Minor Scales
- Pitch intervals and inversions
- Basic Rhythm
- Basic music terminology
- The Circle of 5ths, Key Signatures, and Scales
- Triads & Inversions
- Seventh Chords
- Diatonic chord progressions
- Basic song analysis

After completing the Music Theory and Aural Perception sequence, students should be competent reading and interpreting their part in a musical score, as well as having a basic understanding of the interrelationship between text and music. In learning how to analyze a song (melody and accompaniment), students will gain a deeper understanding of music and how it works together with dramatic and visual elements in musical theatre to intensify meaning and emotion. Reading music will give you an additional and important skill on top of the "triple threat" necessary for musical theatre, and give you an advantage in the rehearsal process. Furthermore, reading music will open doors to other things like song-writing, which will enhance creativity and critical thinking.

## Course Materials

### Required Materials

#### TEXTBOOK:

- Riley, Christine. *Music Fundamentals for Musical Theatre*. New York: Methuen Drama, 2020. (\$31.50)
    - Online Resources: <https://www.musicfundamentalsformusicaltheatre.com>
  - Music manuscript Paper & Pencil, small ruler (You must bring manuscript paper to every class).
    - Your textbook also has online resources at: <https://www.musicfundamentalsformusicaltheatre.com> which include pdf files of a piano keyboard and music manuscript paper.
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#### OTHER MATERIALS:

- **KEYBOARD:**
  - I highly recommend getting a small, portable, electronic keyboard (battery powered), with a head-phone jack. There are several options. I recommend the following:
  - Casio SA-76, SA-77, or SA-78 (\$54)
  - Casio SA-46 Mini Keyboard (\$44)

In addition to being a very helpful tool for this class, the keyboard will serve you well for Music Theory II and your Aural Perception class. You'll will also find it useful for learning songs for your lessons and auditions.

#### MOODLE:

- Moodle is an online learning platform that allows instructors to post supplemental information, assignments, and grades, and for students to submit assignments and other activities. It is accessible via UOnline: <https://www.umd.edu/umonline/>. If you're not familiar with using Moodle, take the online tutorial [here](#).

## Course Activities

### UNITS

Topics are arranged into five units that correspond with chapters in our textbook. I have tried to keep them similar in scope, but some units have more information than others.

### COMPETENCY EXAMS

A competency exam is given at the end of each Unit. It is a written exam taken during class.

#### Competency Breakdown

- |                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| • Mastery                 | 90-100% |
| • Superior Competency     | 80-95   |
| • Adequate Competency     | 70-80   |
| • Developing Competency   | 60-70   |
| • Insufficient Competency | 0 -60   |

#### Grading System (final grade)

Homework	30%
Daily Grade	30%
Attendance, participation	
Competency Exams	40%

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## Class Participation & Attendance

Under current UM policies, this class is set up to be taught in person. If a student has a health concern or emergency, and cannot attend a class in person, please notify the instructor as soon as you can. Those attending class in person are expected to arrive on time with their textbooks and other required materials, and to participate in exercises and assignments performed in class.

**Reading Assignments:** These will be assigned mostly from your textbook. For some topics, I will post a reading assignment and/or Homework Assignment on Moodle. These are intended to prepare you for each lecture.

**Homework & Tutoring:** Homework will be assigned at the end of each class. Assignments will be submitted, graded, and given back to you via Moodle. Homework assigned on Mondays is due by 11pm the following Wednesday. Homework assigned on Wednesdays is due by 11pm the following Friday. These assignments are short, and are intended to reinforce what you have learned from each lecture.

**Study Jam Sessions:** These are tutoring sessions held by our student theory tutor, Matthew Knight, to assist students with homework assignments and questions. They are optional but highly recommended. They are held Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30 - 9:00pm in the Office for Student Success - Lommasson 229.

<https://www.umat.edu/study-jam/tutoring/fall.php>

- Additional tutoring as available from Spencer Stern, our MFA Music Directing candidate. His email address is: [spencer.stern@umontana.edu](mailto:spencer.stern@umontana.edu)

## Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Reading
Week 1	8/29: Introduction to the course, UNIT 1 Pitch & pitch class, how to name specific pitches, the staff, treble clef, bar lines, pitches on the staff, ledger lines 8/31: Noteheads, stems, flags and beams, Note values, Time signature and simple meters	-----   Chapters 1-2
Week 2	9/5: LABOR DAY - NO CLASSES 9/7:The Circle of Fifths, Major key signatures, major scales	  Chapters 4-5
Week 3	9/12: Review for UNIT 1 Exam 9/14: UNIT 1 COMPETENCY EXAM	-----   
Week 4	9/19: UNIT 2 Intervals: Introduction, seconds & thirds, major and minor, musical terms 9/21: Intervals: perfect intervals, sixths & sevenths, 16 <sup>th</sup> notes and rhythmic patterns, rests, musical terms	  Chapters 5  Chapters 6-7
Week 5	9/26: Intervals: diminished & augmented, basic conducting patterns, musical terms, syncopation 9/28: Intervals and inversions, UNIT 2 Review	Chapter 8  -----
Week 6	10/3: UNIT 2 COMPETENCY EXAM 10/5: UNIT 3 Major triads, bass clef, the grand staff,	-----  Chapters 9-10

Week	Topic	Reading
Week 7	10/10: Figured Bass, I-IV-V progression, chord tones and non-chord tones 10/12: Transposition, triplets, triads (minor, diminished, augmented)	Chapter 11, Chapter 17 (pp. 188-190) Chapters 12-13 (pp. 143-146)
Week 8	10/17: Cut time, I-vi-ii-V-I progression 10/19: Inversions of triads, Musical Terms	Chapter 13 (pp.147-150) Chapter 15
Week 9	10/24: Chord Progressions with Inversions 10/26: UNIT 3 COMPETENCY EXAM	Chapter 16
Week 10	10/31 UNIT 4 Minor Scales 11/2: Diatonic (Scale Degree) Triads in Minor Mode	Chapters 18-19 Chapter 20
Week 11	11/7: Seventh Chords, Musical Terms 11/9: Seventh Chords in Inversions	Chapter 17 (pp. 179-184), Chapter 21
Week 12	11/14: Compound and Irregular Meter 11/16: UNIT 4 COMPETENCY EXAM	Chapters 22-23
Week 13	11/21: UNIT 5 Intervals and Melodic Motion	<i>We are finished with the textbook for the remainder of this semester.</i>
Week 14	11/28: Non-chord tones and their function 11/30: Diatonic chord progressions	
Week 15	12/5: Review 12/7: UNIT 5 COMPETENCY EXAM	