DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC **AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

MUSIC THEORY 1 SYLLABUS

Semester & Year: Fall 2024

Course number – Section – Title: MUSI 1311-004, 91734

Meets (day, time, room): MW 10:00 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.
Course Credits & Contact Hours: 3 credit hours and 3 contact hours per week

Instructor:
Phone: **Email:** **Office:**

Office hours:

Catalog Description & Prerequisites

Reading and writing musical notation, both pitch and rhythm. Includes the topics of clefs, time signatures, key signatures and scales, intervals, triads, seventh chords, Roman numerals, figured bass, and two-voice counterpoint. Must be taken concurrently with MUSI 1116: Sight Singing-Ear Training 1.

Course Purposes & Instructional Methodology

Upon completion of the course, the student will demonstrate an understanding of basic music notation and theory concepts regarding pitch notation, rhythm notation, interval and chord structure, Roman numerals and figured bass, and two-voice counterpoint.

Required Textbooks & Other Useful Materials

- Clendinning/Marvin: The Musician's Guide to Theory and Analysis, 4th ed.
- Clendinning/Marvin: Workbook, The Musician's Guide to Theory and Analysis, 4th ed.
- Staff paper
- Pencils and erasers

Program Learning Outcomes

The Student Learning Outcomes are associated with the following Program Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the structural, formal, and procedural workings of diatonic Western European tonal music from its rudimentary elements (pitch, intervals, scales, keys, and chords) to the processes that govern and activate the interplay of these elements in a musical composition.
- Develop an understanding of tonal music as a formal, non-semantic language whose elements are bound together by principles analogous both to linguistic syntax and mathematical forms of organization.
- Learn and execute the principles of counterpoint that formally organize these elements into coherent musical statements, especially as they apply to the primary triads in root position and first inversion, as well as the dominant seventh chord in root position.
- Analyze excerpts from the standard classical repertoire, correctly identifying chordal structures through the use of Roman numerals, figured bass symbols, and commercial chords symbols.

General Education Competencies
The General Education Competencies utilized in this course are as follows:

- *Communication Skills*. Students will develop, interpret, and express ideas through written, oral, visual, and sung communication that is adapted to purpose, structure, audience, and medium. They will do this through in-class exercises and performances, and reading and written assignments.
- *Critical Thinking*. Students will gather, analyze, synthesize, evaluate and apply information for the purposes of innovation, inquiry, and creative thinking and performance. They will do this through in-class exercises, performances, and reading and written assignments.
- *Personal Responsibility*. Students will identify and apply ethical principles and practices to decision-making by connecting choices, actions and consequences. They will do this through in-class exercises, performances, and reading and written assignments.
- *Teamwork*. Students will consider different points of view to work collaboratively and effectively in pursuit of a shared purposed or goal. They will do this through in-class exercises, performances, and reading and written assignments.

Grading.
Daily Grades: 27% Homework will be assigned in nearly every class meeting. Incomplete assignments will not be accepted. Quizzes may be included as part of the daily grade. Late homework will be accepted *only* up to *one week* after the due date, and will be penalized -5 pts. for each class day late.

2 Semester Tests: 48% (24% each) There are two written tests scheduled. These tests will cover the material presented in class, the text and homework assignments. These tests may not be rescheduled.

Final Exam: 25% The final written exam will be comprehensive. The final exam may not be rescheduled.

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

***Note:* A course grade of C must be earned for *both* Theory 1 and Sight Singing-Ear Training 1 before *either* Theory 2 or Sight Singing-Ear Training 2 may be undertaken.**

Attendance. *Attendance is mandatory*. Attendance will be taken daily. For every absence (excused or unexcused) after the *third*, 2 points will be deducted from the final course grade.

Dropping/Withdrawing. It is the student's responsibility to initiate all withdrawals in this course. The instructor may withdraw students for excessive absences (4) but makes no commitment to do this for the student. You may withdraw or drop a 16-week course with a grade of W any time on or before the end of the 12th week in the fall or spring 16-week session. Shorter semesters have prorated drop dates. If you drop a course before its census date, or official reporting date, the course is deleted from your enrollment, does not earn any grade, and does not appear on your transcript. If you drop a course after the census date, a grade will be included on

your transcript. Reporting dates vary, so you are strongly encouraged to consult your instructor, the course syllabus, or the Austin Community College website for the drop and withdrawal dates for your course. *If your first college enrollment occurred in the fall of 2001 or later, you may not drop more than 6 courses during your cumulative enrollment at any Texas public college or university.*
For more information on the withdrawal process you can check this page: https://catalog.austincc.edu/support-services-and-student-progress/student-progress/droppingwithdrawing-from-courses/

Missed Exams & Late Work. Deadlines are firm, with a one-week grace period for class assignments. I give you a course calendar at the beginning of the term that includes all deadlines for the course. Should a deadline change, I will inform you in writing and in person. Here are some rules of thumb to go by:

- *I forgot to complete an assignment. Can I make it up?* Written assignments are accepted up to 1 week late. Projects, Group Projects and Presentations will not be accepted late. Please be very aware of your partners in group projects.
- *I missed an activity that we completed during class. Can I make it up?* No, there is no way to make up an in-class activity.
- *I missed a quiz, can I make it up?* No, quizzes and tests are not accepted late.

Incomplete Grade. If a student is unable to complete the course at the end of the semester due to an emergency or other unanticipated circumstance, I will consider awarding an incomplete grade for the semester. A new completion date will be given to the student, but it may not be later than the final withdrawal date in the subsequent semester. When the student completes the required work by the deadline, I will submit a form to change the student's grade from an incomplete to the earned grade. If an incomplete is not resolved by the deadline, the grade will automatically convert to an F.

Course outline:

Week	Dates	Topic	HW assigned M (*homework due following class day)*	HW assigned W
1	Aug 26, 28	Ch 1	1.1, 1.2	1.3, 1.4
2	Sep 2, 4	Ch 2	*Labor Day*	2.1
3	Sep 9, 11	Ch 2/3	2.2	3.1, 3.2
4	Sep 16, 18	Ch 3/4	3.3, 3.4	4.1
5	Sep 23, 25	Ch 4	4.2	*Test Review*
6	Sep 30, Oct 2	Test Week 1	*Individual Help*	Test 1
7	Oct 7, 9	Ch 5	5.1, 5.2	5.3
8	Oct 14, 16	Ch 6	6.1, 6.2	6.3, 6.4
9	Oct 21, 23	Ch 6/7	6.5, 6.6	7.1, 7.2
10	Oct 28, 30	Ch 17	7.3, 7.4	*Test Review*
11	Nov 4, 6	Test Week 2	*Individual Help*	Test 2
12	Nov 11, 13	Ch 8	*Veteran's Day*	8.1, 8.2
13	Nov 18, 20	Ch 8/9	8.3	9.2, 9.3
14	Nov 25, 27	Ch 9	----	----
15	Dec 2, 4	Ch 9	9.5	*Final Review*
16	Dec 9, 11	Finals Week	*Individual Help*	Final Exam