

# E THEORY

## *Music Fundamentals Course Syllabus* Table of Contents

### Module 1: Pitch

#### **Lesson 1.1: Pitch notation**

Staff and clef  
Pitch and pitch class  
Division of musical space: the interval  
Accidentals

#### **Lesson 1.2: Scales**

Scale-degree numbers and names  
Specific scale types: major  
Key signatures and circle of fifths

#### **Lesson 1.3: The minor mode**

Building scales in the minor mode: Natural, harmonic, and melodic  
Relative and parallel relations

### Module 2: Intervals

#### **Lesson 2.1: Generic intervals**

Contour, melodic and harmonic, simple and compound

#### **Lesson 2.2: Specific intervals**

Quality, perfect, major and minor, diatonic

#### **Lesson 2.3: Transforming intervals**

Augmented and diminished intervals  
Interval inversion  
Consonant and dissonant intervals

### Module 3: Rhythm and Meter

#### **Lesson 3.1: Pulse, beat, and rhythm**

Durational symbols; standard notation

#### **Lesson 3.2: Meter**

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Beat division



Simple and compound meters  
The meter signature

**Lesson 3.3: More rhythmic procedures**

Clarifying meter  
Borrowed divisions  
Conducting patterns

**Module 4: Melody: Characteristics, Writing, and Listening**

**Lesson 4.1: Characteristics**

Phrase, cadence, contour and climax  
Guidelines for writing melodies  
Melodic dictation

**Lesson 4.2: The role of rhythm and meter**

Consonant leap, passing tone, neighbor note  
Structural importance of pitches

**Module 5: Introduction to Two-Voice Counterpoint**

**Lesson 5.1: First species counterpoint**

Contrapuntal motions Voice leading  
Hearing two voices

**Lesson 5.2: Second species counterpoint**

Oblique motion, neighbor tone, and passing tone  
Voice leading

**Module 6: Triads, Inversions, Figured Bass, and Harmonic Analysis**

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Types, components  
Voicing triads: spacing and doubling  
Triad inversion

**Lesson 6.2: Figured bass**

Analysis and realization  
Chromatic alterations  
Abbreviations

**Lesson 6.3: Triads and the scale: harmonic analysis**

Roman numerals and analytical procedure  
Keyboard and chorale style



## **Module 7: Seventh Chords and Musical Texture**

### **Lesson 7.1: Seventh chords**

Types, inversion, and labeling

### **Lesson 7.2: Musical texture**

Monophonic, polyphonic, homophonic

## **Module 8: Phrase & Cadence, Tonic & Dominant, and Connecting Chords**

### **Lesson 8.1: Phrase and cadence**

Types (authentic, half)

Tendency tones

Phrase model and period

### **Lesson 8.2: Introduction to connecting harmonies**

Harmonic progression and voice leading

Texture and register, range and tessitura

Spacing

Voice-leading rules and guidelines for triads

### **Lesson 8.3: Chordal dissonance: V7**

Voice leading and dissonance treatment

