



RANGER COLLEGE

Ranger, TX

COURSE SYLLABUS

Music Theory I

MUSI 1311

3 credit hours

INSTRUCTOR:

Jody N. Blake, Ed.S.

INSTRUCTOR: Jody N. Blake, Ed.S.
EMAIL: jblake@rangercollege.edu
OFFICE: Fine Arts Building, Ranger Campus
PHONE: 254-267-7003
HOURS: By appointment

I. Texas Core Curriculum Statement of Purpose

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

II. Course Description

Analysis and writing of tonal melody and diatonic harmony up to and including the chords. Analysis and writing of small compositional forms. Correlated study at the keyboard. Credit 3 semester hours.

III. Required Background or Prerequisite

Students should have the ability to read music notation.

IV. Required Textbook and Course Materials

Music in Theory and Practice: Volume 1, 9th edition. Bruce Benward and Marilyn Saker.
ISBN: 9780078025150

Additional readings, recordings, and materials will be provided by the instructor via Blackboard.

V. Course Purpose

Courses in this category focus on the appreciation and analysis of creative artifacts and works of the human imagination. Courses involve the synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and enable critical, creative, and innovative communication about works of art.

VI. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate and apply knowledge of basic music terminology
2. Utilize and demonstrate an understanding of notational skills
3. Create music using correct basic compositional skills
4. Demonstrate the ability to analyze musical scores
5. Develop analytical skills as applied to musical analysis

6. Develop and demonstrate appropriate aural skills

VII. Core Objectives

This course meets the following of the six Core Objectives established by Texas:

- Critical Thinking Skills (CT)** – Creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis; evaluation and synthesis of information
- Communication Skills (COM)** – effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)** – The manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- Teamwork (TW)** – The ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- Social Responsibility (SR)** – Intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
- Personal Responsibility (PR)** – The ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

VIII. Methods of Instruction

The instructor will utilize the following instructional methods: lecture, video, audio recordings, in-class group work, small group discussions, and other methods as deemed necessary by the instructor.

IX. Methods of Assessment

Tests (40%):

Students will complete written tests covering information from each unit covered in class and information from the readings. Test questions may include multiple-choice, true/false, short answer, listing, matching, fill-in-the-blank, or essay questions. Tests will include music analysis items as well. Students should take care to study their notes and readings. The instructor may elect for tests to be taken in class or via Blackboard. **Tests will constitute 40% of the final grade. Texas Core Objectives: (CT, EQS, COM)**

Quizzes/Assignments (20%):

Students will complete several chapter and/or unit quizzes covering information discussed in class and readings. Additionally, students will complete several written assignments on topics pertaining to the course. Some assignments may be completed during class; however, this course requires practice outside of class – so many assignments will be homework. Students may have the opportunity to discuss and/or present these assignments in class. The instructor may elect for

quizzes/assignments to be completed in class or via Blackboard. **Quizzes/assignments will constitute 20% of the final grade. Texas Core Objectives: (CT, COM, SR, TW)**

Participation/Attendance (10%):

Participation and attendance are key elements of this course. Students will receive a participation and attendance grade at the end of this course based upon the following rubric:

A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participates fully in class discussions and group activities • Brings textbook to each class meeting • Does not sleep or play on cell phone or other electronic device • No more than two unexcused absences • No more than two tardies
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participates mostly in class discussions and group activities • Brings textbook to most class meetings • Does not regularly sleep or play on cell phone or other electronic device • Three unexcused absences • Three tardies
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participates at an average level in class discussions and group activities • Brings textbook to some class meetings • Rarely sleeps or plays on cell phone or electronic device • Four unexcused absences • Four tardies
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs improvement participating in class discussions and group activities • Does not bring textbook often • Sleeps or plays on cell phone often • Four unexcused absences • Four tardies
F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not participate in class discussion or group activities • Does not bring textbook to class • Sleeps or plays on cell phone regularly • Five unexcused absences • Five tardies

*you are considered absent if you are more than five minutes late.

Texas Core Objectives: (COM, TW)

Composition and Analysis Project (10%):

This project will represent a culmination of skills learned from this course. Students are required to complete this project to pass this course. The instructor will provide an instruction sheet and grading rubric. **The project will constitute 10% of the final grade. Texas Core Objectives: (CT, COM, EQS, SR)**

Mid-Term Exam (10%):

The student will complete a mid-term examination for this course. The mid-term may be comprehensive in nature. **The mid-term exam will constitute 10% of the final grade. Texas Core Objectives: (CT, COM)**

Final Exam (10%):

All students are required to take the final exam. This exam will be comprehensive in nature, covering various topics from the entire course. **The final exam will constitute 10% of the final grade. Texas Core Objectives: (CT, COM)**

Extra Credit:

The instructor may provide extra credit opportunities on occasion. These optional assignments will be provided through Blackboard.

Final Grade Calculation:

Tests	= 40%
Quizzes/Assignments	= 20%
Participation/Attendance	= 10%
Project	= 10%
Mid-Term Exam	= 10%
Final Exam	= 10%
<hr/>	
TOTAL	= 100%

Grading scale: A = 90-100% B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F = Below 60

X. Course/Classroom Policies

Student Conduct:

- A. Students are expected to be respectful at all times. Disrespectful behaviors include, but are not limited to:
 - 1. Talking while the instructor is teaching
 - 2. Using technology at unapproved times (e.g. texting)
 - 3. Sleeping
 - 4. Distracting others / interrupting the learning process
- B. Disrespectful behavior **will not** be tolerated. Students who choose to behave in this manner will be warned one time. After one warning, the student(s) will be asked to leave the classroom for that class meeting – this will constitute an absence for that meeting and a “zero” for any assignments that day.

- C. In extreme cases, the instructor may refer the student to the Vice President for Student Services.

Attendance and Make-Up Work

- A. Students should come to class prepared and ready to learn. The instructor will take attendance as soon as class begins. Students entering after attendance has been taken will be marked tardy.
- B. Students later than five minutes will be counted absent. The classroom door will be locked after five minutes and students will not be allowed to enter.
- C. As per the Ranger College attendance policy, missing six classes will result in failure of the course.
- D. Students missing class due to a school function will be excused; however, the instructor should be informed prior to the absence. It is the responsibility of the student to ask for make-up work and inform the instructor of school functions in which they participate.
- E. The only absences that are officially considered “excused” are school functions and religious observations.
- F. Students missing class due to an illness, family emergency, etc. may be provided make-up work at the discretion of the instructor. The instructor will consider these circumstances on a case-by-case basis.
- G. On the fourth unexcused absence, the student’s final grade will be lowered by 10%.**

Communication:

- A. Students are required to communicate using their Ranger College e-mail.
- B. The instructor will not respond to e-mails from other e-mail addresses. (This is to protect student privacy.)
- C. Please allow 24 to 48 hours for the instructor to respond. For a timely response, please include the following information in your e-mail:
 - 1. First and last name
 - 2. Course title and section (days the course meets)
 - 3. Topic of the e-mail and your name in the subject line
- D. Important course documents, quizzes, and announcements will be posted on Blackboard. Students are **STRONGLY** encouraged to check Blackboard **DAILY**. --- Not knowing about an assignment is not an excuse!

Late Work:

- A. Written assignments, excluding tests/exams, will be accepted up to one day after the initial due date with a 20% grade reduction.
- B. Quizzes posted on Blackboard will not be accepted late or re-opened for ANY reason.
- C. Tests/exams may only be taken late for excused absences.
- D. Assignments may be accepted later at the instructor’s discretion. In any case, communication is key.

Technology-Use:

- A. Due to the nature of this course, students may be allowed to use electronic devices for academic purposes at the discretion of the instructor.

- B. The instructor will announce when students may use electronic devices – otherwise cell phones, laptops, etc. should be out of sight and silenced during class.

Academic Dishonesty:

- A. Academic dishonesty is defined as any form of cheating on academic assignments, including plagiarism.
- B. This will not be tolerated. Any student caught doing this will receive a grade of “zero” on the assignment. Repeat offenders will be reported to the college administration.

XI. Course Outline/Schedule

WEEK	TOPIC(S)
1	What is music theory? What is music? (Benward, intro) Fundamentals/basic notation (Benward, Ch. 1)
2	Scales, tonality (Benward, Ch. 2)
3	Scales, tonality (Benward, Ch. 2)
4	Intervals, transposition (Benward, Ch. 3)
5	Intervals, transposition (Benward, Ch. 3)
6	Chords, triads, inversions (Benward, Ch. 4)
7	Chords, triads, inversions (Benward, Ch. 4)
8	Mid-Term Exam
9	Cadences, nonharmonic tones, melodic organization (Benward, Ch. 5-6)
10	Melodic organization continued... Texture, Counterpoint (Benward, Ch. 7-8)
11	Counterpoint cont'd. Voice leading for four voices (Benward, Ch. 9)
12	Voice leading for four voices (Benward, Ch. 9)
13	Voice leading for four voice (Benward, Ch. 9)
14	Composition and Analysis Projects
15	Final exam review week
16	FINAL EXAM

XII. Non-Discrimination Statement

Admissions, employment, and program policies of Ranger College are nondiscriminatory in regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, disability, and national origin.

XIII. ADA Statement

Ranger College provides a variety of services for students with learning and/or physical disabilities. Students are responsible for making initial contact with the Ranger College Counselor, Gabe Lewis (glewis@rangercollege.edu). It is advisable to make this contact before or immediately after the semester begins.