

Juilliard | Extension

FOR REFERENCE ONLY

Disclaimer: This syllabus is not an official document and is only provided for informational purposes. Faculty may modify the course content at their discretion, and thus, the syllabus may not accurately reflect the actual course content. Students should never purchase materials or textbooks based solely on the information provided in the syllabus, as the course content may differ from what is outlined in the syllabus.

Sample Course Syllabus: Elements of Music Theory

This beginning course in music theory will focus on understanding and applying fundamental concepts to further the student's enjoyment and engagement with music. Pitch and rhythm notation, scales and key signatures, intervals and triads will all be covered as the basic, building-block knowledge needed to understand music. The application of these core elements in melody writing and analysis is the course's broader goal, and an introduction to harmony and part-writing will be its culmination. The primary style studied will be the Western classical tradition, although other areas of jazz, pop and world music may be included as examples of the wider world of music.

Week 1

Treble and Bass Clef Reading, Rhythmic Relationships, Music Terms and The Score
The Chromatic Scale
Major Scales

Week 2

Clef Reading Continued and Rhythm within the context of Meter
Major Scales Continued
Minor Scales and Order of Sharps and Flats

Week 3

The Circle of Fifths: Major Key Signatures
Minor Key Signatures
Intervals 1: Size, Consonance and Dissonance

Week 4

Note-Reading Quiz
Intervals 2: Quality
Solfege Syllables, Scale Degree Names
Beginning Melody Analysis

Week 5

Key Signature Quiz
Intervals Continued
Melodic Composition

Week 6 – Midterm Exam

Midterm Exam
Triad Qualities
Roman Numerals in Major Keys

Week 7

Triad Inversions
Roman Numerals in Minor Keys
Harmonic Analysis

Week 8

Melody Harmonization with Tonic and Dominant Chords
Part-Writing Basics: Chorale and Keyboard Styles
Beginning Voice-Leading Principles

Week 9

Triad Quiz
Voice-Leading Principles Continued
Melody Composition using Tonic and Dominant Chords
Non-Chord Tones: Passing, Neighbor, Suspension

Week 10

The Predominant: TPDT Progressions
Harmonic Analysis
Melody Composition Continued

Week 11

Part-Writing and The Stepwise Rule
First Inversion
Bass Accompaniment Patterns

Week 12

Second Inversion: The Cadential 6/4 Progression
7th Chord Qualities and Inversions
Harmonic Analysis

Week 13

Final Exam—All Students must attend synchronously
Introduction to Modes
Introduction to Species Counterpoint