

**South Plains College**  
**Course Syllabus: MUSI 1303.151**  
**Spring 2021**

**Department:** Fine Arts

**Discipline:** Music

**Course Title:** Music Fundamentals

**Class Format:** Online

**Instructor:** Dr. Sesha Wallace

**Office:** FA 114C

**Office Phone:** (806) 716-2265

**Email:** swallace@southplainscollege.edu

**Virtual Office Hours:** TBD

**Purpose of the Course**

Introduction to the basic elements of music theory for non-music majors: scales, intervals, keys, triads, elementary ear training, keyboard harmony, notation, meter, and rhythm.

- To provide the student with preparatory skills for freshman level college music theory, specifically MUSI 1311 and 1116.

**Course Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Construct all major and minor scales and key signatures.
2. Construct simple and compound intervals, triads and seventh chords of any quality.
3. Identify and perform basic rhythmic and pitch patterns common in tonal music, and properly notate basic rhythms in simple or compound meters.
4. Identify fundamental musical elements aurally and/or on the keyboard.
5. Use appropriate musical vocabulary to describe theoretical concepts.

**Core Objective Student Learning Outcomes**

This course is included in the Creative Arts foundation component area, as described by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and will reinforce the Core Objective student learning outcomes of Communication Skills, Critical Thinking, Teamwork, and Social Responsibility. Students will demonstrate effective written, oral, and visual communication. Students will be encouraged to thoroughly assess and investigate problems with the goal of full comprehension. Students will be encouraged to function as part of a team. Students will demonstrate intercultural knowledge.

**Required Materials**

Textbook: *The Musician's Guide to Fundamentals*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition by Clendinning. (3<sup>rd</sup> edition is okay but page numbers and some assignment numbers will be different.)

Pencil

Access to a printer (required) and scanner (preferred)

**Helpful Websites**

<http://www.musictheory.net>

<http://www.teoria.com>

## Online Course Format

This course is an online asynchronous course, meaning you work at your own pace within the given deadlines.

- Students are expected to attend classes online by logging into Blackboard and completing class assignments, quizzes, and exams before the given deadlines.
- If the student does not communicate with the professor or login to Blackboard for 3 consecutive weeks, the student risks being dropped from the course.

## Grading Standards

### **Assignments**

- Written assignments should be submitted via Blackboard. Students will need access to a printer and scanner.
- Uploaded scans or pictures of written assignments will be accepted ONLY if the scan/picture is high quality and all notation is legible.
- Assignments must be completed in PENCIL.
- Any assignment submitted with unreadable manuscript will be returned to the student to be completed again.
- Late assignments will not be accepted.
- The single lowest assignment grade will be dropped when figuring the student's average at the end of the semester.

### **Assignment Deductions**

- 5 for assignments completed in PEN

### **Quizzes**

- Quizzes will be administered online via Blackboard.
- Quizzes must be completed before the given deadline.

### **Exams**

- Exams will be administered online via Blackboard and will contain written and online portions. Students will need access to a printer and scanner.
- There will be **three** exams scheduled during the semester, and a **comprehensive final exam** at the end of the semester.
- Exams *may not* be taken late or early except in the case of a legitimate emergency. The instructor must be notified *in advance* and for which documentation is provided upon the student's return to class.
- Both written and online portions of the exam must be submitted before the exam deadline via Blackboard.
- Uploaded scans or pictures of written exam portions will be accepted ONLY if the scan/picture is high quality and all notation is legible.
- Written exam portions must be completed in PENCIL.
- Any written exam portion submitted with unreadable manuscript will not be accepted.
- The final exam will follow the same format of the three previous exams and will be taken at the time specified in the college finals schedule. Under no circumstances will any student be allowed to take the final exam early.

## Grade Book

The course grade book is maintained at <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/webapps/login/>. Class assignments will also be posted to Blackboard. You are encouraged to log in regularly, to keep track of your personal records. If you have questions about using this website, please do not hesitate to ask the

instructor. Tutoring is provided for this course. Please listen to announcements given in class regarding tutoring, and please do not hesitate to ask the instructor for further information.

### **Final Grade Calculation**

The Final grade will be calculated as follows:

Written assignments 30%

Three regular exams 40%

Final Exam 20%

Quizzes 10%

The Final Grade will be determined as follows:

90-100% = A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

59% and under = F

### **For Fine Arts Music Majors**

Although the grade of a “D” is considered passing, it is highly recommended that the student earns a grade of at least a “C” to show competency in the subject before moving on to the next level of Music Theory. Students who earn a “D” will be encouraged to retake the course.

### **Covid-19 Statement**

It is the policy of South Plains College for the Fall 2020 semester that as a condition of on-campus enrollment, all students are required to engage in safe behaviors to avoid the spread of COVID-19 in the SPC community. Such behaviors specifically include the requirement that all students properly wear CDC-compliant face coverings while in SPC buildings including in classrooms, labs, hallways, and restrooms. Failure to comply with this policy may result in dismissal from the current class session. If the student refuses to leave the classroom or lab after being dismissed, the student may be referred to the Dean of Students on the Levelland campus or the Dean/Director of external centers for Student Code of Conduct Violation.

### **SPC Mask Policy**

It is the policy of South Plains College for the Spring 2021 semester that as a condition of on-campus enrollment, all students are required to engage in safe behaviors to avoid the spread of COVID-19 in the SPC community. Such behaviors specifically include the requirement that all students properly wear CDC-compliant face coverings while in SPC buildings including in classrooms, labs, hallways, and restrooms. Failure to comply with this policy may result in dismissal from the current class session. If the student refuses to leave the classroom or lab after being dismissed, the student may be referred to the Dean of Students on the Levelland campus or the Dean/Director of external centers for Student Code of Conduct Violation. Students who believe they have been exposed or may be COVID-19 positive, must contact Health Services, DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN at (806) 716-2376 or dedens@southplainscollege.edu.

### **Plagiarism and Cheating**

Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;

- Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
- Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
- Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
- Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
- Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
- Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
- Taking an examination for another;
- Altering grade records;
- Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
- Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
- Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

### **Student Code of Conduct Policy**

Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

### **Diversity Statement**

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

### **Disability Statement**

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

### **Nondiscrimination Policy**

South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

### **Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement**

If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To [activate](#) accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or [email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

### **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at: ([http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human\\_resources/policy\\_procedure/hhc.php](http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php)) Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.