

Northwest Arkansas Community College
(Communication and Arts Division)

Discipline Code

MUSI

Course Number

1653

Course Title

Basic Musicianship

Catalog Description

Basic study of the principles of notation, rhythm, melody, and harmony in order to experience practical application. Includes study of sight singing, ear training and keyboard skills. Attendance at selected live and/or recorded concerts is required.

Prerequisites

No prerequisites required. This class begins with the assumption the student has no previous musical knowledge or skills on the presented topics.

Credit hours

3 credit hours

Contact hours

3 contact hours

Load hours

3 load hours

Semesters Offered

Summer, Fall

ACTS Equivalent

N/A

Grade mode

A-F

Learning Outcomes

Students completing this course will

- Through piano performance, demonstrate music theory applications such as note recognition, octave identification, chords, and scales.

- Through ear training, identify chord quality, chord structure, and specific intervals
- Through aural dictation and score analysis, demonstrate knowledge of basic elements of music such as pulse, meter, enharmonics, notation, scales, key, pitch, intervals, triads, modes, and single line melodies.
- Analyze basic harmony within a musical passage by identifying chord structure, figured bass, and general notation.

General Education Outcomes Supported

N/A

Standard Practices

Topics List

- Basic notation best practices
- Scale production
- Rhythmic organization
- Intervals, simple melodies
- Chords and simple chord progressions
- Piano, correct basic keyboard hand positions and the various scale fingering patterns
- The aesthetic merits of both live and recorded performances
- Practices in ethical/professional behavior through class and concert attendance, class & concert conduct, assignment completion, teamwork, and constructive peer feedback

Learning Activities

- Ear Training exercises with identification of correct intervals, rhythms, and harmony
- Composition of simple melodies with basic harmony
- Music analysis identifying melodic and chord analysis
- Piano performance of simple melodies, chords, scales, and intervals
- Listening/attendance to targeted live or recorded performances

Assessments

- Score analysis
- Aural dictation
- Piano performance
- Composition with correct notation, voice leading, and harmonization

Grading guidelines

- Weekly completion of aural and written exercises

- Class discussions of targeted live or recorded concerts
- Midterm exam
- Final exam

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