Nashville State Community College
Business & Applied Arts Division
Music Technology

Master Course Syllabus

This master course syllabus is meant simply as a guide and overview of the course. Each instructor will further clarify their criteria for grading, classroom procedures, attendance, exams and dates, etc. on his/her course syllabus.

Course Title: MST 1110 Fundamentals of Music
Credits: 3
Class Hours: 3
Course description from catalog including prerequisites and co-requisites. An introduction to reading and writing music. Topics include key and time signatures, song form, melody, harmony, chords, and the Nashville number system.

Not part of a Tennessee Transfer Pathway

Instructor Information:
Name:
Email:
Office Phone:
Office Location:
Office Hours:

Textbook and Other Materials:
Reference Materials: None
Supplies: TBD

Course Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:
1. Identify, notate, and explain common musical symbols and Terminology
2. Identify and Construct Common Scales
3. Demonstrate Effective Use of the Nashville Number System
4. Demonstrate Basic Mastery of Aural Skills For Music Technology

In addition, the following general education competencies are intended to reinforce the course outcomes.
1. Given a music theory topic, locate, evaluate, and use multiple sources of information to compare its use in various musical styles.
2. Use mathematical concepts to determine the musical intervals and rhythmic values of a music manuscript.
3. Demonstrate the effective use of multimedia music theory learning materials.
Course Competencies:
The following are detailed course competencies intended to support the course outcomes:

1. **Identify, notate, and explain common musical symbols and Terminology**
   a. Visually identify notes in treble and bass clef
   b. Visually identify note and rest values
   c. Describe a grand staff and its use
   d. Identify notes on a piano keyboard
   e. Recognize descriptive musical terms and symbols and describe their effect.
   f. Identify and articulate symbols used to direct musicians around a piece of music
   g. Demonstrate an understanding of the effects of sharps and flats on pitch.
   h. Identify and construct Key Signatures in all common Major/Minor keys
   i. Notate and analyze common time signatures
   j. Recognize and notate basic rhythm patterns

2. **Identify and Construct Common Scales**
   a. Notate scales, intervals, and melodies
   b. Visually recognize and analyze note relationships
   c. Construct common musical scales
   d. Demonstrate an understanding of relative major/minor

3. **Demonstrate Effective Use of the Nashville Number System**
   a. Identify and construct diatonic triads
   b. Identify and construct diatonic 7th chords
   c. Analyze and notate chord inversions
   d. Describe the circle of 5ths and the circle of 4ths
   e. Describe and notate chord relationships using Roman numerals
   f. Identify diatonic chord progressions
   g. Apply scales, chords, and key signatures to a diatonic chord matrix
   h. Transcribe a standard song chart, using the Nashville Number System form of musical notation,
   i. Recognize Nashville Number System symbols
   j. Communicate verbally using Nashville Number System concepts and terminology

4. **Demonstrate Basic Mastery of Aural Skills For Music Technology**
   a. Analyze written or recorded music and determine its form
   b. Visually and aurally identify different sections of popular songs (verse, chorus, etc)
   c. Aurally identify instrumentation on recordings
   d. Aurally identify common chord progressions in popular music
   e. Aurally identify common time signatures
   f. Aurally identify stylistic differences between various genres of music.

The following are general education competencies intended to support the course outcomes:

1. Given a music theory topic, locate, evaluate, and use multiple sources of information to compare its use in various musical styles.
2. Use mathematical concepts to determine the musical intervals and rhythmic values of a music manuscript.
3. Demonstrate the effective use of multimedia music theory learning materials.
Topics to Be Covered:

Unit 1 – Get to know the class.
   A. Notes, Pitches,
   B. Treble, Bass Clefs
   C. Grand Staff
   D. Ear Training & Review

Unit 2 – Unit 3
   A. Note Values, Measure, Bar Lines
   B. Time Signature, Rest
   C. Ear Training & Review

Unit 4 – Unit 5
   A. Repeat Sign, 
   B. Eight Notes & Rest
   C. Dotted Quarter Note
   D. Dynamic Signs
   E. Tempo Marks
   F. Articulations
   G. Ear Training & Review

Unit 6
   A. Flats
   B. Sharps
   C. Naturals
   D. Whole Steps, Half Steps
   E. Ear Training & Review

Unit 7 – Unit 8
   A. Tetrachords & Major Scales
   B. Sharp Scales
   C. Flat Scales
   D. Key Signatures
   E. Remaining Scales
   F. Chromatic Scale
   G. Circle of Fifths
   H. Nashville Number System Introduction
   I. Ear Training & Review

Unit 9
   A. Perfect and Major Intervals
   B. Minor Intervals
   C. Augmented and Diminished Intervals
   D. Solfege and Transposition
   E. NNS Time
   F. Ear Training & Review For Mid Term

Unit 10
A. Sixteenth Notes
B. Sixteenth Rest
C. Dotted Eighth Notes
D. Common Time, Cut Time

Unit 11 – Unit 12
A. 3/8, 6/8 Time Signatures
B. Eighth Note Triplets
C. Pick-Up Notes
D. Triads
E. Primary and Major Thirds
F. Scale Degree Names
G. Dominant 7th Chord
H. NNS Presentation
I. Ear Training & Review

Unit 13
A. Triads – 1st Inversion
B. Triads – 2nd Inversion
C. Figured Bass
D. Major Chord Progressions
E. NNS Special Instructions
F. Ear Training and Review

Unit 14
A. Minor Scales
B. Natural, Harmonic and Melodic Minor Scales
C. Minor Triads
D. Augmented and Diminished Triads
E. NNS Dynamics
F. Feel and Style
G. Ear Training & Review

Unit 15
A. Primary Triads in Minor Keys
B. Minor Chord Progressions
C. NNS Common Mistakes
D. NNS Study of Charts
E. Ear Training & Review

Unit 16 – Unit 17
A. Broken and Arpeggiated Accompaniments
B. Passing and Neighboring Tones
C. 12 Bar Blues
D. NNS Study and Writing Charts
E. Ear Training & Review

Unit 18
A. Basic Forms
B. Rondo Form
C. NNS Study and Writing Charts
D. Ear Training & Review
**Course Assessments:**
The following performance assessments will be used to demonstrate students’ understanding, knowledge and skills:

Final grades are based on participation, attendance, quizzes, and exams.
Quizzes = 20% (All averaged together),
Exam 1 = 20%
Exam 2 = Midterm=20%
Exam 3 = 20%
Exam 4 = Final Exam =20%

**Grading Policy:**

**Grading Scale:**
A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-69
F = 0-59
FA (see below)
FN (see below)

Per TBR policy, a student who does not officially drop or withdraw from a course, but receives a failing grade, will receive an “FA” if the last day of attendance was earlier than two-thirds into the part-of-term. That date equates to the last day to withdraw from the course.

An FN is awarded to students who never attended class.

**Late Work Policy & Make-up Procedures for Missed Assignments and Work:**
Each instructor will provide policy.

**Attendance Policy**
A student is expected to attend all scheduled classes and laboratories. Absences in a course may affect a student's final grade. The student is responsible for all assigned work in the course regardless of excused or unexcused absences. Tardiness may also affect a student's final grade.

**D2L Brightspace/NSOnline and myNSCC email**
It is the student's responsibility to check D2L and MyNSCC email on a regular basis. These are the official communication channels between the college and students. Students are responsible for the information communicated through those channels. D2L contains specific course information and MyNSCC contains information important for other purposes.

**Technology Statement**
Nashville State's classes are considered to be web-enhanced. Faculty have an expectation that students will use a computer and the Internet to complete assignments, engage in online
discussions, and access various course materials through Desire2Learn (D2L) course shells. Computers are available for student use at each campus during campus open hours.

**ADA Compliance Statement**
Nashville State complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you wish to request any special accommodations for any courses in which you are enrolled, contact the Access Center at 615.353.3741 or 615.353.3721.

**Classroom Misconduct**
Nashville State Community College has a zero tolerance policy for disruptive conduct in the classroom. Students whose behavior disrupts the classroom will be subject to disciplinary sanctions. The Nashville State Student Code of Conduct policy is available at https://s3.amazonaws.com/nscc.edu/PDFs/dean-students/Student_Code_of_Conduct_Policy.pdf

Please be aware that children are not allowed in class or unattended on campus.

**Academic Misconduct**
Any form of academic dishonesty, cheating, plagiarizing, or other academic misconduct is prohibited. Students are responsible for understanding and aiding by the Academic Misconduct Policy in the Nashville State Student Code of Conduct that can be found at https://s3.amazonaws.com/nscc.edu/PDFs/dean-students/Student_Code_of_Conduct_Policy.pdf

In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed through regular college procedures as a result of academic dishonesty the instructor has the authority to assign an “F” or a “Zero” for the exercise, paper, or examination or to assign an “F” for the course. Students may appeal through the appropriate college grade appeal procedures.

**Academic Early Warning System**
Nashville State Community College has implemented an Early Warning System to notify students via e-mail about academic problems such as poor classroom attendance, poor performance on assignments/tests, poor communication skills, late/missing assignments, and/or lack of classroom participation. *Please note that Early Warning Alerts do not affect a student’s academic standing.*

**RAVE Emergency Alert System**
Emergency events can happen at any time and Nashville State Community College wants to be able notify students if and when they occur. For this reason, all students have been enrolled in the free RAVE alert system. If you have not already done so, please log in at https://getrave.com/login/nscc to confirm and update your contact information and notification preferences. It is critical that your information be correct so that you will receive any emergency notifications. Your RAVE Username is your NSCC email address. If you've never received an email from RAVE with your password, or if you need to reset your password, select “Forgot your password?” and a new password will be emailed to you. Should the RAVE system indicate “user not found”, select Register and create your own RAVE account.
Inclement Weather Policy
Nashville State will use the RAVE alert system to send a text message to students, staff, and faculty about adjusted hours of operation and/or closings at individual campuses. All students should check the Nashville State web site home page at www.nscc.edu for announcements on campus closures, which may vary from campus to campus. Campus closures will also be announced on local television stations.

When classes are cancelled, an online assignment will be posted in NS Online. Check NS Online for a message from your instructor regarding your online assignment requirements.

Students should use their own best judgment in determining whether to report to campus during inclement weather when classes are not cancelled.

Class Cancellation Policy
If the class is cancelled, the instructor will notify all students by posting in the NSOnline/D2L course, e-mailing through NSOnline/D2L, and/or by posting a sign on the classroom door. In the event of class cancellation, students must access NSOnline/D2L to complete classwork and the assignment that will be posted in the course D2L site.