

HUMA2104
MUSIC THEORY I
Spring 2019

INSTRUCTOR

Prof. Matthew Tommasini
DMA, MA Music Composition (University of Michigan)
BA Music Composition (UCLA)

CONTACT AND OFFICE LOCATION

mtommasini@ust.hk
Room 2360 (in Office in Rm2359, near lift 3)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday 10:30 – 11:50
Wednesday 10:30 – 11:50

MUSIC INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT

Galison Lau (galisonlau@ust.hk) CYT G/F Classroom 005

LECTURE AND TUTORIAL MEETING TIMES/LOCATIONS

L1	Monday	12:00 – 12:50	CYT LTL
	Wednesday	12:00 – 12:50	CYT LTL
T1	Tuesday	17:30 – 18:20	CYT G005
T2	Tuesday	16:30 – 17:20	CYT G005
T3	Tuesday	13:30 – 14:20	CYT G005
T4	Wednesday	15:30 – 16:20	CYT G005

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce students to written basic music theory concepts, beginning with basic music notation and ending with fundamentals of harmony. During the tutorial sessions, students will also develop their aural (listening) and sight-singing skills. This is an elementary level course which students without any music background can take. This course is not recommended for students with ABRSM Grade 8 in Music Theory or other musical instruments or equivalent qualifications.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of the course, students will learn to:

1. Listen to music analytically, with an awareness of parameters such as meter, texture, modulation, instrumentation, and form
2. Learn the rudiments of reading and writing music, as well as basic musicianship skills
3. Develop a deeper appreciation and understanding of music, regardless of style, and of Western classical music in particular
4. Prepare to pursue more advanced studies in music.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

The required textbook for this course is

Goldstein, Perry. *Rudiments of Music: A Concise Guide to Music Theory*. Third edition. 2018

The textbook includes both reading assignments and homework assignments. The e-version can be purchased via the following link:

<https://he.kendallhunt.com/product/rudiments-music-concise-guide-music-theory>

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Students will need music staff paper which can be printed for free. Some online sources include:

<https://www.blanksheetmusic.net>
<http://people.virginia.edu/~pdr4h/musicpaper/>

During tutorials, exercises will come from the following textbook with copies to be provided to students at each session:

Ottman and Rogers. *Music for Sight Singing*. Ninth Edition. 2014

INTIMACY OF CREATIVITY 2019

HKUST's annual, internationally-acclaimed composers and performers festival, the Intimacy of Creativity: The Bright Sheng Partnership: Composers Meet Performers in Hong Kong (www.ic.shss.ust.hk), will take place **from 22 April to 5 May, 2019** and serve as centerpiece of the course.

Examples from featured compositions from the 2019 season will provide the foundation of this course. During the festival, students are asked to attend events in lieu of regular lecture and tutorial meetings and engage in dialogue with Prof. Bright Sheng and featured composers and performers. The complete schedule and registration for events will be provided later in the term.

Students are asked to write a paper about their experience attending events demonstrating use of course concepts to discuss works, composers, and/or performers presented. Further guidelines, thesis-writing and other writing skills will be discussed in class. A grading rubric for the assignment can be found below.

Reports are to be handed in by 5pm on 10 May, 2019 to CYT G005. Hard copies with name and student ID clearly marked will only be accepted.

Concert Report Writing Assignment Grading Rubric

Score	Criteria
15.0	Well-articulated thesis statement demonstrating insight into the works featured; supporting paragraphs successfully and correctly apply course concepts/vocabulary to support the thesis statement
13.5 – 14.99	Focused thesis statement; supporting paragraphs mostly successfully and correctly apply course concepts/vocabulary to support the thesis statement
12.0 – 13.49	Thesis statement is somewhat focused; supporting paragraphs somewhat apply course concepts/vocabulary to support the thesis statement
10.5 – 11.99	Thesis statement is vague or too broad; supporting paragraphs don't always apply course concepts/vocabulary to support the thesis statement or don't support the thesis at all
9.0 – 10.49	Unfocused overall with no distinguishable thesis statement and concepts/terms consistently used incorrectly

ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments can be found in the assigned textbook, with each assignment outlined in the course schedule below. Assignments include a short melody-writing assignment drawing on course concepts covered. Details of the assignment will be covered extensively in class.

Each homework assignment is due at the beginning of the class session listed in the course schedule. Late homework will only be accepted in the event of excused absence or justifiable excuse.

MID-TERM EXAM

There will be a mid-term exam held during regularly scheduled class time as outlined in the course schedule below and cover material up to that point in the term.

Regular attendance guidelines will be in effect for this exam.

FINAL EXAM

There will be a final exam held at a time and venue determined by ARR later in the term. The exam will be cumulative, covering all materials from the term.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance will be taken **twenty times** (7 times randomly for lecture, 7 times randomly for tutorial, and at each IC2019 event attended) and at all IC2019 events.

Exemptions to the attendance policy will be handled as follows:

1. Excused absences: students must submit the appropriate form (found on CANVAS) with a copy of documented proof directly to IA Galison Lau
2. Sick leave: students should hand the appropriate form (found on CANVAS) with a copy of any medical documentation (i.e. doctor's note) directly to IA Galison Lau

GRADING

Final Exam	35%
Midterm	20%
Exercises	20%
IC2019 Concert report	15%
Attendance/participation	10%

Final letter grades are determined by absolute grading scale.

A+	97 – 100%
A	93 – 96.99%
A-	90 – 92.99%
B+	87 – 89.99%
B	83 – 86.99%
B-	80 – 82.99%
C+	77 – 79.99%
C	73 – 76.99%
C-	70 – 72.99%
D	60 – 69.99%
F	0 – 59.99%

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Week	Session	Class meeting	Topic	Textbook Chapter	Exercises Due date (in-class, unless otherwise noted)
Week 1	L1	30-Jan-19	Introduction; Pitch	Chapter 1	
		4-Feb-19	Introduction; Pitch, cont.	Chapter 1	
		6-Feb-19	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - Second Day of Lunar New Year		
Week 2	L1	11-Feb-19	Rhythm, Time, and Meter	Chapter 2	1A, 1B, 1C
		13-Feb-19			
Week 3	L1	18-Feb-19	Exercises in Rhythm	Chapter 3	2A, 2B

		20-Feb-19			
Week 4	L1	25-Feb-19	Scales and Keys	Chapter 4	3B
		27-Feb-19			4A, 4B
Week 5	L1	4-Mar-19	Intervals	Chapter 5	4D, 4E
		6-Mar-19			5A
Week 6	L1	11-Mar-19	Motives and Themes: Writing Major Key Melodies	Chapter 6	5B, 5C
		13-Mar-19			
Week 7	L1	18-Mar-19	Triads and Chords	Chapter 7	6A
		20-Mar-19			
Week 8	L1	25-Mar-19	Chords in Major Keys Harmonic Analysis: Root Position Chords in Major Keys	Chapter 8	7A
		27-Mar-19	Mid-Term Examination (during regularly scheduled class)		
Week 9	L1	1-Apr-19	Chords in Minor Keys Harmonic Analysis: Root Position Chords in Major Keys	Chapter 9	8A, 8B
		3-Apr-19			8C
Week 10	L1	8-Apr-19	Chords in Minor Keys Harmonic Analysis: Root Position Chords in Minor Keys	Chapter 10	9A, 9B
		10-Apr-19			9C
Week 11	L1	15-Apr-19	Inversions, Cadences, and Harmonic Analysis	Chapter 11	10A, 10B
		17-Apr-19			10C
Week 11	IC2019	22 – 26 April, 2019	IC2019 Open Discussions; Lunchtime Lecture (CYT LTL)		REGULAR CLASS SESSIONS DO NOT MEET: Select Open Discussion or Lunchtime Lecture Sessions to attend
	IC2019	27-Apr-19	IC2019 Preview Concert 1 (CYT LTL)		Select 1 concert to attend
Week 12	IC2019	28-Apr-19	IC2019 World Premiere Concert 1 (HKAPA)		
	IC2019	29 April – 3 May, 2019	IC2019 Open Discussions; Lunchtime Lecture (CYT LTL)		REGULAR CLASS SESSIONS DO NOT MEET: Select Open Discussion or Lunchtime Lecture Sessions to attend
	IC2019	4-May-19	IC2019 Preview Concert 2 (CYT LTL)		Select 1 concert to attend
Week 13	IC2019	5-May-19	IC2019 World Premiere Concert 2 (HKAPA)		
	L1	6-May-19	Final Composition	Chapter 12	11A, 11B, 11C
		8-May-19			
10-May-19		12A (submit to G005 by 5pm)			

Final Exam date TBC later in the semester