

COURSE SYLLABUS  
MUS 161.01  
INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF MUSIC  
3 Credit Hours  
Spring 2008

Location: Music Building, Room 202

Time: 8:00 am – 8:50 am

Instructor: Ellary Draper

Office: Music Building, Studio 39 (Basement)

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Office Hours: to be determined upon the scheduling of practicum, also by appointment

### **Course Description**

This course is a study of the fundamentals of music including: major and minor scales, key signatures, rhythms, chords, and composition. Emphasis is on music reading and elementary music theory for the non-music major. Material will be learned through lectures, hands-on performance on recorder, and other classroom activities. Tests will include written and performing portions.

### **Course Objectives**

Through completing this course, you will learn:

- Music notation
- Basic music terms
- How to read music and play the recorder
- The basics of the piano keyboard
- How to recognize basic compositional elements of melody, harmony, rhythm, color, texture, and form

### **Required Texts and Materials**

- Feldstein, Sandy. "Practical Theory Complete." Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.
- Feldstein, Sandy. "My Recorder Book" with soprano recorder. PlayinTime Productions, Inc.
- Music staff paper
- Pencil and eraser (do NOT use ink for assignments or exams)
- Notebook

### **Attendance Policy**

Attendance will be taken at each class. In accordance with university policy, regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students. Class attendance is a criterion for final determination of your grade. After three class meetings of unexcused absences, grade will be lowered. Absence excuses are at the sole discretion of the teacher. They may include such things as a severe illness requiring doctor's attention (for yourself or close family member), official university functions for which are required to miss class, or other things. These instances must be documented to receive an excused absence. If you have more than three unexcused absences, you may attend on-campus concerts and write concert reports to replace the classes lost due to being absent. Classes may be earned back at one class per concert paper to a maximum of two classes for two concert reports.

### **Classwork**

Students are expected to keep a binder or notebook in which to collect class notes and handouts. This binder is to be brought to class. All course work must be done in pencil. There will be homework assignments and in-class quizzes throughout the semester. Some of these will be written and some will involve performance of music. There will be no make up quizzes. One quiz missed due to absence will not count against your average; it will be ignored.

Homework is due on the day listed on the calendar, and discussed in class. Homework will be accepted up until the point of the test covering that material. After the test, homework from those sections will not be accepted. It is important to note that the instructor will take attendance from the received homework. Even if you were in class, if homework is not received, it will count as an absence.

### **Exams**

There will be five mandatory exams throughout the semester. (There is no 'final' exam. There are simply five equal exams.) There will be no make-up exams once an exam is returned to the class. If an exam is missed, it is the responsibility of the student to discuss the situation with the instructor as soon as possible. In order to make up an exam, the instructor MUST be able to excuse the absence.

### **Concert Paper**

The purpose of this assignment is to help you in your listening skills and to have you think about music in a new way. You must go see a concert, either on-campus or off-campus. There are many guest artists, faculty, and student recitals to attend. If you are unsure what is an appropriate concert for this assignment, please ask. The paper is expected to be between 2-3 pages in length, and will need to include the program from the concert you attended. Further information on the specific form of the paper will be provided. Please refer to those handouts once given.

### **Grading Policy**

	Possible Points
Exams	50
Quizzes	10
Homework	10
Concert Paper	5
Attendance	20
Class Participation	5
Total	100

### **Attendance**

Number of unexcused absences	Attendance Grade
0-3	20
4	18
5	14
6	8
7	4

A = 90 – 100

B = 80 – 89

C = 70 – 79

D = 60 – 69

F = 59 or lower

### **University Policies**

#### **Students with Disabilities**

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. In order to receive such accommodations, students with disabilities must register with the SHSU Counseling Center and request help from the instructor. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential.

#### **Writing Assistance**

The Sam Houston Writing Center, located in Farrington 111, is open Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m., Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sunday from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Writing tutors will work with you one-on-one to help you generate, organize, or revise a draft of any assignment in any subject. You can drop by to work with a tutor or call (936) 294-3680 to schedule an appointment.

#### **Student Absences on Religious Holy Days**

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examinations or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to the instructor a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester. The instructor will notify the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

#### **Academic Honesty**

The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Furthermore, the University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

#### **Classroom Rules of Conduct**

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Cellular telephones and pagers must be turned off before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

**Visitors in the Classroom**

Unannounced visitors to class must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.