



## FUNDAMENTALS OF MUSIC MUS 101-35 (Ten-Week Course)

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Name: Dr. Louise Billaud, Professor of Music  
Email: [lbillaud@nr.edu](mailto:lbillaud@nr.edu)  
Website: [www.nr.edu/billaud](http://www.nr.edu/billaud)  
Office Hours: Zoom office hours as requested

### ***IMPORTANT:***

- The recommended browser to use with the current version of Canvas is Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox. Other browsers are inconsistent in their performance with Canvas. When taking tests or quizzes, use a wired connection.
- Set up notifications using the NRCC Canvas Quick Start Guide under Canvas Modules to ensure receipt of course announcements or inbox messages from your professor.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Description: Provides the ability to read and identify basic fundamentals of music notation. Teaches major and minor scales, chords and basic harmonic progressions. Covers basic ear training and keyboard exercises to lay the foundation for further music studies.

Credits: 3  
Prerequisites: None  
Graded Submissions: 20 Quizzes  
Assessments: 2 Exams  
Online Activities: Required

### **COURSE PURPOSE**

Provide the necessary tools for students to read and understand the written score, become familiar with the keyboard and understand fundamentals of music theory. Serve as a foundation for further music training and involvement.

### **COURSE MATERIALS**

**Bookstore Acquisition:** OnMusic Fundamentals Third Edition Access Code

**Note:** NRCC assumes no liability for virus, loss of data, or damage to software or computer when a student downloads software for classes.

*The Student's Guide to Online Learning* is available at <https://www.nr.edu/online/pdf/studentguide.pdf>

## COURSE INFORMATION

**Prepared By:** Dr. Louise Billaud

**Approved By:** Sarah Tolbert-Hurysz

### I. INTRODUCTION

**All coursework is ONLINE through CANVAS.**

There is no pre-requisite for this class and credits are transferable.

#### **Registering Access Code:**

- Acquire RedShelf's OnMusic Fundamentals, Third Edition 16-digit Access Code from the NRCC Bookstore. Used copies will not work.
- Redeem your 16-digit code on the RedShelf website to obtain the 14-digit Connect for Education access code needed to register for this course.
- Go to RedShelf at <https://redshelf.com> to create an account. Once you have your account, enter your 16-digit code. You will receive a 14-digit access code to register for the course in Canvas.
- Go to the course in Canvas, click on Modules, and then click the Connect 4 Education link. Then just register your course access code.
- From this point forward, you will access the entire course using that Connect 4 Education link. That is all there is to it!

#### **Advice within Canvas:**

- Read carefully the Course Information section and FAQs under Modules before starting the class.
- Click on NRCC Canvas Quick Start Guide for instructions to set up notifications.
- Follow the course schedule to stay on target with deadlines.
- Quick ways to find deadlines:
  1. Click on View Course Calendar on the Home Page
  2. Each "class" in your Connect4Education course has a posted deadline date
- Check regularly your VCCS email, Canvas Inbox and Announcement page to access weekly communications.
- Communication is key! Students are encouraged to address any questions or concerns to the professor via email or through the Canvas Inbox. If you prefer to meet "in person" let me know and we can schedule a Zoom meeting. I am here to help you succeed!

## II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students successfully completing this course will have, at a minimum, a functional knowledge of the following:

### Personal Development

- Understand basic fundamentals of music
- Identify notes on a music score ranging from three ledger lines above or below the bass and treble clefs
- Identify notes on a keyboard
- Augment listening skills through ear training exercises
- Demonstrate basic conducting skills
- Demonstrate sufficient understanding of major and minor scales, chords and basic harmonic progressions as a basis for further music studies and personal involvement

### The Keyboard

- Identify music pitches, whole and half steps, intervals, accidentals, enharmonic notes and octaves on the keyboard

### The Staff

- Identify notes, whole and half steps, intervals, accidentals, enharmonic notes and octaves on the treble, bass and C clefs up to three ledger lines above or below the clefs
- Read fluently notes in treble and bass clefs with a basic understanding of C clefs

### Rhythm and Meter

- Define basic tempo terms
- Identify notes and note values from the whole note through the 64th note
- Identify rests from the whole to 16th note rests
- Identify dotted and double-dotted notes and rests
- Beat or sing dotted rhythms
- Understand the purpose of tied notes and when they are used
- Identify the purpose of bar lines and measures
- Identify the purpose of the top number in a time signature and how that relates to meter
- Identify the purpose of the bottom number in a time signature and how that relates to the beat
- Understand how to beam notes within a measure based on the time signature
- Tap or sing rhythms based on rhythmic notation
- Listen to a rhythm and identify the rhythmic notation that corresponds with the example
- Be able to write rhythmic notation as it relates to note duration (rhythmic dictation)

### Major and Minor Scales and Key Signatures

- Play a chromatic scale on a keyboard/virtual piano

- Write and transpose major scales based on the pattern of whole and half steps particular to the major scale
- Write and transpose minor scales based on the pattern of whole and half steps particular to the natural, melodic and harmonic forms of the minor scale
- Describe the relationship between the major and relative minor keys
- Identify the major or relative minor key of a composition based on the key signature
- Notate any major and relative minor key signature
- Describe the relationship between a major key and its parallel minor key
- Identify each scale degree name and understand the different functions of each scale degree
- Use ear training exercises to identify major or minor scales
- Understand the correlation between solfege note identification and note names
- Demonstrate knowledge of the Circle of Fifths

### Meter Types

- Explain the difference between simple and compound meters
- Identify the meter type (simple, compound or irregular) by the top number of the time signature
- Be able to count and understand how to conduct music in simple duple, triple and quadruple meters
- Recognize simple duple, triple and quadruple meters through listening examples/exercises
- Explain how to read a compound time signature as opposed to a simple time signature
- Be able to count and understand how to conduct music in compound duple, triple and quadruple meters
- Recognize compound duple, triple and quadruple meters through listening examples and exercises

### Intervals and Triads

- Differentiate a harmonic interval from a melodic interval
- Identify harmonic and melodic intervals and interval inversions through visual recognition and listening exercises and assessment
- Identify interval qualities, e.g., major, minor, perfect, diminished, augmented
- Spell intervals on a score
- Identify consonant and dissonant intervals through ear training exercises and assessments
- Construct and identify triads
- Invert triads
- Identify the differences between major, minor, diminished or augmented triads

### Harmony

- Spell and Identify major, minor, augmented and diminished triads that occur in major and minor keys
- Identify inverted triads with the proper symbol

- Spell and Identify dominant seventh chords as well as major, minor half-diminished and fully diminished seventh chords
- Identify inverted seventh chords with the proper symbol
- Identify perfect authentic, imperfect authentic, half, plagal and deceptive cadences on the music scores
- Enhance identification of chords through ear training exercises

### III. **MAJOR TOPICS TO BE INCLUDED**

- Personal Development
- The Keyboard
- The Staff
- Rhythm and Meter
- Major and Minor Scales and Key Signatures
- Meter Types
- Intervals and Triads
- Harmony

### IV. **GRADING/EVALUATION**

The final grade for the course is determined by the grade percentages below.

Quizzes (20)	30%
Midterm Exam	35%
Final Exam	35%
<b>Weighted Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Grading Scale:

A	90 – 100%
B	80 – 89.99%
C	70 - 79.99%
D	60 – 69.99%
F	Below 60%

**Note:** in addition to the weighted grade items, there are 15 unweighted practice worksheets and 30 unweighted practice exercises.

## V. **WITHDRAWAL POLICY**

### **Student Initiated Withdrawal Policy**

A student may drop or withdraw from a class without academic penalty during the first 60 percent of a session. For purposes of enrollment reporting, the following procedures apply:

- If a student withdraws from a class prior to the termination of the add/drop period for the session, the student will be removed from the class roll and no grade will be awarded.
- After the add/drop period, but prior to completion of 60 percent of a session, a student who withdraws from a class will be assigned a grade of “W.” A grade of “W” implies that the student was making satisfactory progress in the class at the time of withdrawal, that the withdrawal was officially made before the deadline published in the college calendar, or that the student was administratively transferred to a different program.
- After that time, if a student withdraws from a class, a grade of “F” or “U” will be assigned. Exceptions to this policy may be made under documented mitigating circumstances if the student was passing the course at the last date of attendance.

A retroactive grade of “W” may be awarded only if the student would have been eligible under the previously stated policy to receive a “W” on the last date of class attendance. The last date of attendance for an online course will be the last date that work was submitted.

Late withdrawal appeals will be reviewed and a decision made by the Coordinator of Admissions and Records.

### **No-Show Policy**

A student must either attend face-to-face courses or demonstrate participation in online courses by the last date to drop for a refund. A student who does not meet this deadline will be reported to the Admissions and Records Office and will be withdrawn as a no-show student. No refund will be applicable, and the student will not be allowed to attend/ participate in the class or submit assignments. Failure to attend or participate in a course will adversely impact a student’s financial aid award.

### **Instructor Initiated Withdrawal**

A student who adds a class or registers after the first day of class is counted absent from all class meetings missed. Each instructor is responsible for keeping a record of student attendance (face-to-face classes) or performance/participation (online classes) in each class throughout the semester.

When a student’s absences equal twice the number of weekly meetings of a class (equivalent amount of time for summer session), the student may be dropped for unsatisfactory attendance in the class by the instructor.

Since attendance is not a valid measurement for online, a student may be withdrawn due to non-performance. A student should refer to his/her online course plan for the instructor’s policy.

When an instructor withdraws a student for unsatisfactory attendance (face-to-face class) or non-performance (online), the last date of attendance/participation will be documented. A grade of "W" will be recorded during the first sixty percent (60%) period of a course. A student withdrawn after the sixty percent (60%) period will receive a grade of "F" or "U" except under documented mitigating circumstances when a letter of appeal has been submitted by the student. A copy of this documentation must be placed in the student's academic file.

The student will be notified of the withdrawal by the Admissions and Records Office. An appeal of reinstatement into the class may be approved only by the instructor and dean.

## **VI. CHEATING/PLAGIARISM POLICY**

A grade of "F" will be awarded for the semester to any student caught cheating. This includes plagiarism, which is defined as "To present another's words or ideas as one's own or without attribution" (American Heritage Dictionary, 2019). Remember that plagiarism includes using words or ideas from Internet sites, as well as copying from print sources.

## **VII. NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

This College promotes and maintains educational opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions including lactation, age (except when age is a bona fide occupational qualification), veteran status, or other non-merit factors. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the college's non-discrimination policies: Dr. Mark C. Rowh, Vice President for Workforce Development and External Relations and Equal Opportunity Officer, 217 Edwards Hall, 540-674-3600, ext. 4241.

## **VIII. DISABILITY STATEMENT**

If you are a student with a disability and in need of accommodations for this course, please contact the Center for Disability Services (CDS) for assistance. CDS is located within the Advising Center in Rooker Hall. For more information about disabilities services, see [Center for Disability Services Policies and Procedures](#).

# New River Community College

## General Health Guidelines and Student Expectations

### Summer 2022 Term

Given the current COVID-19 pandemic and other transmissible illnesses common in our community, it is imperative that we follow specific health-related best practices.

As a condition for attending class or otherwise using NRCC facilities, you will be expected to follow the practices outlined below.

As a student, I agree to the following conditions:

1. I will not come to class or use NRCC facilities if I feel sick or stay on campus once I start feeling ill, regardless of symptoms. I will contact my instructor by text or email so that he/she is aware and can make instructional accommodations if necessary. I will stay in touch regularly with my instructor until I return to class.
2. If I am diagnosed with COVID-19, I will not come to class, and I will advise my instructor immediately of my diagnosis. I will stay in touch with my instructor as I am able and will not return to class until I have fully recovered.
3. If I have experienced an exposure to COVID-19 requiring quarantine, I will notify my instructor immediately of my situation. I will stay in touch with my instructor and will not return to class until quarantine expectations have been met.
4. I will wear a protective face covering (mask) while attending classes or inside NRCC buildings if required.
5. I will practice appropriate handwashing and respiratory etiquette (cover my mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing and use tissues and throw them away).
6. In the event of health threats or changes in guidelines, I understand in-person classes may be moved online, fully or partially, and I will need to be prepared to access technology and the internet with as little as 24 hours' notice.

By continuing my enrollment in class(es), **I agree to meet each of the expectations outlined above.**

New River Community College encourages all students to fully vaccinate against COVID-19 and other transmissible illnesses. Information about vaccinations can be found on the Virginia Department of Health website at [www.vdh.virginia.gov](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov).