

# CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY

MU 108 – Music theory I

Fall '03, R 2:00-4:50 PM

Instructor: Karen Drozd  
M.A (Music), M.Ed

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(E207a)

**RATIONALE:** This course is an introduction to the basic of music for amateur and professional musicians, and music educators. The investigation begins with the fundamentals of music, reading western music notation, and moves into beginning music theory with applications in developing compositional skills, such as setting short texts rhythmically, melodically, and harmonically.

**OBJECTIVES:**

- ♣ To familiarize the student to the notation and performance of Western music
- ♣ To develop understanding of the fundamentals of music and beginning music theory
- ♣ To begin to apply the basic principals of music in reading music, playing music, and for composition
- ♣ To improve listening, analytical and compositional skills

**COURSE SCHEDULE:**

Week 1	Aug. 28	Course Requirements Chapter 1 - Notation of Rhythm Appendix A: The Nature of Sound
Week 2	Sept. 4	Chapter 2 - Notation of Pitch Appendix C: Terms and Symbols
Week 3	Sept. 11	Chapter 3 - The Keyboard, accidentals, octave designations
Week 4	Sept. 18	Chapter 4 - Meter, Simple Meters Review: Chapters 1 through 4
Week 5	Sept. 25	Chapter 5 - Compound Meter <u>Examination #1</u> – Ch. 1-4
Week 6	Oct. 2	Chapter 6 - Major Scales and Keys
Week 7	Oct. 9	Chapters 7 - Intervals Preparation for project #1

Week 8	Oct. 16	Chapters 8 - Minor Scales and Keys, <u>Project #1</u> – Due Review: Chapters 5 through 8
Week 9	Oct. 23	Appendix B - Modal Scales Chapter 9 - Root Position Triads <u>Examination #2</u> – Ch. 5-8
Week 10	Oct. 30	Chapter 9 - Root Position Triads, Chapter 10 - Inverted Triads,
Week 11	Nov. 6	Chapter 10 - Arpeggios, Bass lines, Chapters 11 - Diatonic Relationships
Week 12	Nov. 13	Chapters 11 - Diatonic Relationships
Week 13	Nov. 20	Chapter 12 - Tonal Harmony, Basic Progressions of I-V <sup>7</sup> and I-IV-V <sup>7</sup> Preparation for Project #2
Week 14	Nov. 27	Thanksgiving (no class)
Week 15	Dec. 4	Chapter 12 - Tonal Harmony, <u>Project #2</u> - performances and critiques, Review for Examination #2 (Chap. 9-12)
Week 16	Finals Week Dec. 8-12 (TBA)	<u>Final examination</u> (Ch. 9-12)

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**Course Materials:** Students should purchase a book of manuscript paper, 10 or 12 staves, 8.5 X 11" from Harry's Music (3457 Waiialae Avenue).

**Course Text:** Fundamentals of Music, 4th edition, 2004, by Earl Henry, Prentice-Hall.

**Grading guidelines:** Chapter assignments 30%, Examinations 45%, Projects 25%. Completion of the course assumes earning 50% of the points.

\*\*Homework and assignments turned in late will not be accepted.

\*\*If you receive a grade below 75% on a homework, quiz, or examination, you may re-take the assessment only once. If you wish to exercise this option, the assessment in question should be submitted no later than the following week.



**Assignments:** The end of each chapter has supplementary studies that are to be completed and turned in the next class session after the corresponding lecture. Assignments should be written in pencil and may either be torn out of the text or transferred onto staff paper.

**Examinations:** There will be a total of three exams, each worth 15% of your grade.

**Projects:** There will be two projects that will require performance of a musical composition created within the framework outlined by the instructor. The parameters of each project will be announced and will consist of creating melodies, rhythms, chord progressions, and compositions with harmony lines. Bring two copies of your project on the performance day.

**Evaluation:** The assignments, quizzes, and examinations are graded using an assigned points system (0-100) and then averaged together. Grading breakdown will be as follows: A=91-100, B=80-89, C=70-79, D=60-69, F=0-59.

**Attendance** - Lectures will supplement the text with expanded explanations and definitions, listening examples, and audio-visual presentations, therefore attendance is important to the depth of understanding you will gain and will ultimately be reflected in your grade. Students absent more than three sessions may drop one letter grade.