

MUSIC FUNDAMENTALS: MUSI 1011-001
Spring 2014
DRM 122, 12:30-2 PM T/TH
Instructor: Melinda Fields, turtleledge@charter.net

TEXT: Elements of Music: 3rd Edition by Joseph N. Straus, published by Pearson. On-line materials are included in the price of a new text.

Also required:

- 1.) purchase staff paper and bring to each class, along with a pencil and a good eraser.
- 2.) Download **Musescore**: a free music software download. (If you already own and can use a music software program you do not need to download this one.)

Other Free downloads which also may help you:

<http://www.musictheory.net/>

<http://www.trainear.com/>

<http://www.bwoodchoir.org/SRPractice.html>

GRADING: Midterm (15%) and Final Exams (20%) =total of 35% of grade

Final Composition Project (Theme and Variations) = 5% of grade

Quizzes & Assignments = 40% of grade

Classroom Participation= 20% of grade

Periodic short quizzes (typically once a week or once every 2 weeks) will be graded and returned to you in a timely manner. (No make-up quizzes will be given.) There will also be assignments to be completed outside of class. (*No late assignments will be accepted.*) Two of your lowest grades (either quizzes or assignments) will be dropped and will not affect your final semester's average. Class participation (20% of your grade) involves coming to class regularly and on time and doing the in-class activities. Because participation is essential to your learning process it is crucial that you come to class regularly: you will not succeed in this type of class by simply reading the text and showing up for the tests. Please refrain from using your cell phone or any other electronic communication device during class time so that you can be a

full participant. Make-ups for the final exam follow the University's policy.

Course Description: This class requires the previous semester, MUSI 1011, as the prerequisite, and continues in the Straus text beginning in the middle of Chapter 3. Although some students may join the class in the spring semester (with consent of instructor), all are responsible for the material covered in the first semester's course. The course is required of music minors and open to all undergraduate students interested in gaining additional musical skills and learning how our (Western) music notational system works, providing those students have the prerequisite musical background. Focus is on basic skills: musical literacy, ear training (aural skills) rudimentary keyboard skills, major and minor keys, intervals and basic diatonic harmony. We will also be learning to use **Musescore**: the final original composition should be notated using this software. The pace of the class will be based on the background of the class members and on the group's ability to progress. On average, we will cover one -three "lessons" in the text within a 2-week period, which include the material in your text as well as the on-line drills, hand-out exercises and in-class activities. *It is necessary to purchase a textbook if you do not already have one.*

OFFICE HOUR and Instructor Availability: Feel free to email me at the above address if you have questions. My office hour is every Thursday 12:15-1:15 PM, Room 148 in the Drama-Music Building. Other student/teacher appointments can be made outside of the office hour by emailing me in advance (email me at least one day in advance please).