

San José State University
School of Music and Dance
Music 1A, Music Systems 1A, Fall 2017

Instructor:	Mauricio Rodriguez, D.M.A.
Office Location:	Music 158
Email:	marod@ccrma.stanford.edu
Office Hours:	TuTh, 8:15 – 9:15, and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	MoWe, 9:30 – 10:20
Classroom:	Music 210
Prerequisites:	<p>Music Major or Music Minor. Placement via the “MUSC 1A Entrance Examination” (administered on the first scheduled class day). Students who have successfully passed MUSC 9, Music Fundamentals, with a grade of ‘C’ (73%) or better within the past two years at SJSU are exempt from this Exam. Those students who do not pass the Entrance Examination must enroll in MUSC 9 (Music Fundamentals) before attempting to enroll in MUSC 1A in a subsequent semester.</p> <p>Rudimentary piano skills (successful completion of the Piano Proficiency Examination or concurrent enrollment in Music 25A/B, Class Piano) is required. Knowledge of basic music fundamentals: major and minor scales and key signatures, intervals, triads, and basic rhythm patterns in simple and compound meters.</p>
Course Fees:	<p>Music majors and minors must pay a music equipment use fee of \$30 each semester. The fee must be paid directly to the Cashier’s Office, and you must bring the receipt to the Music Office before completing registration. Applied music instruction will not be authorized until this fee is paid. Music 10B students, or students enrolled in any sound recording course, must pay a fee of \$22 each semester that they are enrolled in one or more of these classes. The fees are included in the student’s bill, with other registration fees.</p>
Final Exam:	Wednesday, December 13, 2017, 7:15 - 9:30 am.

Course Description

Music Systems is a multi-semester course sequence containing two areas of study: written analytical skills and aural skills. **MUSC 1A** is the first course in this sequence, which focuses on written analytical skills. Topics include acoustics, rhythm, melody, harmony, timbre, scales & modes, structure, texture, style, and contexts for performance and composition. Examples for study are drawn primarily from the Renaissance through early Twenty-first-Century compositions of the Western European and American traditions, with supplementary examples drawn from other musical practices when appropriate.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

The purpose of this course is to develop (1) skills for analyzing music by its constituent parameters, (2) concepts for aural and visual style analysis, and (3) four-part writing skills.

Students will be encouraged to perform, analyze aurally and visually, compose, conduct, and describe music.

Course Content Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, and with better than 70% accuracy, students will be able to:

1. Understand the foundational principles of tonal harmony.
2. Analyze, aurally and visually, selected musical examples, and describe stylistic characteristics.
3. Complete four-part writing and analysis assignments.
4. Complete a comprehensive midterm and final examination.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Tonal Harmony, 7th ed, Stefan Kostka & Dorothy Payne, McGraw-Hill

NOTE: students are responsible for the textbook sections on all subjects covered in class.

Other music theory textbooks may be used instead. Consult with instructor.

Other Readings

Additional material will be distributed in class or online.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Primary course activities include learning the harmonic and melodic principles of diatonic tonal music. There will also be comprehensive written Midterm and Final Exams. These activities directly relate to and support the course learning objectives listed above.

All assigned work will have clear due dates, and due dates mean the beginning of the class period. No late homework will be accepted (students arriving even a few minutes late are considered late and any homework due will not be accepted for grading), and no make-up exams will be permitted unless cleared with the instructor. Possible reasons for late work include verifiable emergency illness and hospitalization, and family emergencies. Late / missed work will receive a grade of 'F' unless otherwise determined by the instructor.

Course documents, including some assignments, will be posted to the course website. Students are responsible to regularly check the site for document updates, and all items posted on the site are considered regular course materials.

Active class discussion is expected on all topics presented in class.

Co-registration in Music 013, Music Technology, or equivalent skills mastery, is expected. If Piano Proficiency has not yet been passed, co-registration in MUSC 25B (or 25C) is required.

Assignments and Grading Policy

Assigned homework, quizzes, exams, and class participation will be graded. Assignments not submitted on time, unless excused in advance by the Instructor, will receive a grade of "F". Absence does not grant special dispensations regarding written assignments and material covered in class. Students are responsible for all material discussed in class, whether present or not.

Course work weightings:

Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	35%
Homework	40%

Letter grades are assigned on a 10-point scale, with "+" and "-" used as appropriate. All assignments, quizzes, and exams are graded on a normalized 100-point basis, so that letter grades correspond to the following GPA and percentage points:

Letter Grade	GPA	%
A+	4.0	99 - 100
A	4.0	93 - 98
A-	3.7	90 - 92
B+	3.3	88 - 89
B	3.0	84 - 87
B-	2.7	80 - 83
C+	2.3	78 - 79

C	2.0	74 - 77
C-	1.7	70 - 73
D+	1.3	69 - 69
D	1.0	64 - 67
D-	0.7	60 - 63
F	0.0	0 - 59

NOTE: Effective Fall 2017, all MUSC courses carry a final course grade requirement of C or better (not C-) to be considered a passing grade within the School of Music and Dance.

Classroom Protocol

Complete assigned readings and homework on time. NOTE: No late homework will be accepted, and no make-up exams will be permitted unless cleared with the instructor. Possible reasons for late work include verifiable emergency illness and hospitalization, and family emergencies. Late / missed work will receive a grade of 'F' unless otherwise determined by the instructor.

All cell phones must be turned off while in class; plan personal communications for before or after class. Since most cell phones have photo, video, and text messaging capabilities, any student seen with a cell phone during class will be considered to be cheating and will automatically fail the course. Course lectures may not be recorded (audio or video) without Instructor's permission. Larger tablet and laptop computers may be used when specific music score and/or audio examples are being referenced.

University Policies

“University Policies: The Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs maintains university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc.” You may find all syllabus related University Policies and resources information listed on GUP's Syllabus Information web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

Week	Date	Course Contents
1	08/23	Fundamentals: Harmonic Series, Intervals, Scales, and Scale Degree Names.
2	08/28	Perfect, Major, Minor, Augmented and Diminished Intervals; Interval Inversion; Consonant and Dissonant Harmonic Intervals.
3	09/05	Triads and Seventh Chords; Chord Inversion; Roman Numeral Notation, Figured Bass Notation and Lead-Sheet Symbols.
4	09/11	Diatonic Harmony: Triads and Seventh Chords in Major and Minor Keys.
5	09/18	Principles of Voice Leading: Spacing, Doubling, Parallel Motion, Tendency Tones, Outer/External Voices.
6	09/25	Root Position Part Writing
7	10/02	Harmonic progression, Sequences and the Circle of fifths.
8	10/09	Melodic Harmonization.
9	10/16	Triads in First Inversion.
10	10/23	Triads in Second Inversion and the Cadential Six-Four
11	10/30	Tonal Harmony and Music Form: Cadences, Phrases, and Periods.
12	11/06	Non-Chord Tones I
13	11/13	Non-Chord Tones II
14	11/20	Dominant Seventh Chord
15	11/27	Substitution Chords, II ₇ and VII ₇ Chords
16	12/04	IV ₇ , VI ₇ , I ₇ , and III ₇ Diatonic Seventh Chords
17	12/11	General Review
Final	12/13	