

Syllabus

Course Code: MUSI 101

Title: Fundamentals of Music

Institute: Humanities

Department: Music

Course Description:

This course will provide a foundational understanding of the language of music notation. The basic elements of music -- rhythm, melody, harmony, dynamics, timbre, and form – will be examined through a study of scales, intervals, keys, triads, vocabulary, symbols, conducting skills, and meter. Students will apply those skills to a piano keyboard where they will also build ear training and sight-reading skills. This course assumes that the student has little or no prior knowledge of musical notation.

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

Prerequisites or corequisites: None.

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab/Studio Hours: 0

Required Textbook/Materials: Click or tap here to enter text.

Auralia & Musition (cloud bundle). A 12-month license is \$65.00 and is available at the Brookdale Book Store or [online](#).

NOTE: This bundle is required for all MUSI courses (except for MUSI 115, MUSI 116, and MUSI 129). One license can be used in multiple MUSI classes.

Additional Time Requirements: Students will need to devote 30-45 minutes each week for assigned exercises in Musition and Auralia.

Additional Support/Labs:

See <https://www.brookdalecc.edu/academic-tutoring/>

Additional music department info can be found by contacting the learning assistant, Dr. Michael Conklin at 732-224-2524 or mconklin@brookdalecc.edu.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Students who successfully complete the course will be able to identify, write, and play the following:

- the names of all notes on the common staves;
- all major and minor keys and scales;

- standard musical notation, including intervals, rhythms, ear training, sight reading, and basic harmonization;
- clefs, value of notes and rests, accidentals, meters, key signatures, vocabulary, and performance symbols;
- demonstrate basic conducting skills; and
- play all I, IV, V, and V7 chords.

Students who complete this course will have demonstrated further competence in the following BCC core competencies:

- 1 Personal Development, Information Literacy: Reading music notation and a knowledge of music terminology
- 2 Personal Development, Information Literacy, Creative Expression: Enhanced Musicianship
- 3 Information Literacy, Critical Thinking, Problem Solving: Identify melodic and harmonic relationships
- 4 Technological Literacy: Weekly assignments in interactive software programs.
- 5 Historical/Societal Analysis: Music will be chosen from a diverse repertory.

Course Content:

Like any language, reading music is by its nature a cumulative process. Therefore, each class session will build upon the skills previously studied. New concepts will be introduced in the following order:

Weeks 1-5:

- Notation on the treble and bass clef;
- Locate each note on the piano keyboard;
- Intervals from the minor 2nd through the augmented octave; and
- Rhythm basics and conducting patterns in 2, 3, and 4.
 - Exam One

Weeks 6-10:

- Key signatures and “The Circle of Fifths”;
- Rhythm subdivisions, ties, and dots;
- Major and three minor scales with scale degree names;
- Major, minor, augmented, and diminished triads; and
- Augmented 6th chords and Neapolitan 2nd chords.
 - Exam Two

Weeks 11-15

- Modes;
- Arpeggio;
- 7th chords: major, dominant, minor, half-diminished, and fully-diminished;
- Transpositions;

- Cadences; and
- Ornamentation.
 - Final Exam

Department Policies: Plagiarism: Plagiarism is intellectual theft and a violation of the Brookdale Community College Student Conduct Code. It is the verbatim or near verbatim use of ideas, concepts and oral or written passages for personal gain without giving their true author credit. Any quoted written or oral passages incorporated into your assignments must be clearly noted as such. Plagiarism will result in receiving no credit for an assignment. Repeated plagiarism may result in failing the course or other severe disciplinary action by Brookdale College. Attendance is critical to your success in completing this course. Missing more than 2 classes will jeopardize your receiving a passing grade. You must communicate with the instructor when classes are missed.

Grading Standard:

Grades will be accumulated on a point basis:

Category	Points		Highest Possible
Attendance	10	15 each session	150
Weekly assignments in Musition	25	14 each exercise	350
Weekly assignments in Auralia	25	14 each exercise	350
Exams	100	3 exams	300
			1,150

The total accumulated points will be distributed thus:

Total Points	Resulting Grade
1,000	A
900	A-
800	B+
700	B
600	B-
500	C+
400	C
300	C-*

*Grades below a C- cannot be used to advance through the program and are usually non-transferable.

College Policies:

As an academic institution, Brookdale facilitates the free exchange of ideas, upholds the virtues of civil discourse, and honors diverse perspectives informed by credible sources. Our College values all students and strives for inclusion and safety regardless of a student's disability, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, country of origin, immigration status, religious affiliation, political orientation, socioeconomic standing, and veteran status. For additional information, support services, and engagement opportunities, please visit www.brookdalecc.edu/support.

For information regarding:

- Academic Integrity Code
- Student Conduct Code
- Student Grade Appeal Process

Please refer to the [student handbook](#) and [catalog](#).

Notification for Students with Disabilities:

Brookdale Community College offers reasonable accommodations and/or services to persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who wish to self-identify must contact the Accessibility Services Office at 732-224-2730 (voice) or 732-842-4211 (TTY) to provide appropriate documentation of the disability and request specific accommodations or services. If a student qualifies, reasonable accommodations and/or services, which are appropriate for the college level and are recommended in the documentation, can be approved.

Mental Health:

24/7/365 Resources:

- Monmouth Medical Center Psychiatric Emergency Services at **(732) 923-6999**
- 2nd Floor Youth Helpline – Available to talk with you about any problem, distress, or hardship you are experiencing. Call or text at **888-222-2228** or visit the website at <https://www.2ndfloor.org/>

Faculty Counselors:

- Students who need to make an appointment with a faculty counselor can do so by calling 732-224-1822 (non-emergency line) during business hours. Faculty counselors are licensed mental health professionals who can assist students and refer them to other mental health resources.

Diversity Statement:

Brookdale Community College fosters an environment of inclusion and belonging. We promote a safe and open culture, encourage dialogue respecting diverse perspectives informed by credible sources, and uphold the virtues of civil discourse. We celebrate all identities with the understanding that ultimately, diversity, equity, and inclusion cultivate belonging and make us a stronger Brookdale community.

**The syllabus is intended to give student guidance in what may be covered during the semester and will be followed as closely as possible. However, the faculty member reserves the right to modify, supplement, and make changes as the need arise.*