

MU 009: MUSIC THEORY FUNDAMENTALS (3 CR)

WEBSITE: dfeurzei.w3.uvm.edu/009

David Feurzeig
dfeurzei@uvm.edu

Office hours in A314: MW 10:45-11:45
and by appointment

Fall 2022
section A: MWF 9:40-10:30
section B: MWF 1:10-2:00
Southwick 301

Do not feel limited to listed office hours. Email me to schedule other times, in person or remote.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the fundamentals of music. Prerequisite for MU 103 and MU 109. May be counted towards the theory requirement for Music Technology and Business majors and for music minors. (For major concentrations other than MTB, MU 009 does not count towards the theory requirement.)

GOALS

In this course you will learn:

- to speak, sing, clap, and play notated rhythms in simple and compound meters
- to notate rhythms in simple and compound meters
- to conduct standard metric patterns while speaking or singing in rhythm
- to speak basic rhythms using both takadimi and traditional Western rhythm syllables
- to identify pitches on the piano keyboard and in staff notation, in both treble and bass clefs
- to write and read staff notation, including realization on voice, recorder, and keyboard
- to sing simple melodies at sight, using solfège
- to play simple melodies from notation on keyboard and on recorder
- to write and identify major and minor scales and key signatures
- to write and identify precisely all intervals
- to write and identify triads and seventh chords, in both staff notation and via chord symbols
- to identify and describe simple musical forms using letters to label phrases or sections
- to read and write standard Italian terms and abbreviations for dynamics and tempo
- to hear, write, and perform standard chord progressions for 12-bar blues and rhythm changes

ACTIVE MUSIC MAKING is integral to this course. We will sing, clap, move, recite, and play keyboard and recorder, both as group activities and for individual graded assessment. For keyboard practice, you may use the Southwick practice rooms or the electronic keyboards in the Music Tech Lab.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Houlahan and Tacka, *From Sound to Symbol*, 2nd ed. Oxford Univ. Press, ISBN 0199751919
Be wary of used copies! The tear-out worksheet pages are thin; it's hard to tell if any are missing.
- Soprano recorder with Baroque fingering, such as the Yamaha YRS-24B or YRS-20 models.
(available at the music kiosk in the UVM bookstore)
- Music manuscript paper, 8½ x 11 (or individual pages may be printed from the course website)
- Sharp pencils with working erasers. Don't try to do music theory in pen.
- Recommended: earplugs for recorder practice and class playing

EVALUATION

Written assignments	20 %
Quizzes (in class) and online drills	30 %
Tests 1 & 2 (15% each)	30 %
Final Exam	20 %
Attendance: see below	

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

There is written work assigned almost every class meeting. Some will be collected and graded, some corrected in class and checked off as complete/incomplete (pass/fail). Grades will be reduced by one full letter for each class day late. Once a given assignment has been returned, late submissions may not be accepted.

QUIZZES include both written and performance assessments in class or individual meetings, and online at teoria.com. Performance will include rhythmic recitation, singing (usually while also conducting) and playing keyboard and recorder. Quizzes and tests may be made up only for excused absences. If you know you will miss class, or you have a true emergency, notify me as soon as possible by email.

TEST DATES Sep. 23 and Oct. 28 in class; final exam Dec. 15 (section B) or Dec. 16 (section A)

ATTENDANCE is required. This class is participatory. Each unexcused absence beyond two lowers your attendance grade by a percentage point. If you need to miss a class let me know.

HELP

Do not wait until you are behind to get help. Music is a progressive discipline and hard to cram for.

- I am available to help you via email, phone, and in person. If my regular office hours (listed above) do not work for you, **contact me to schedule other meeting times.**
- The [Center for Academic Success](#) offers **free tutoring** by advanced music students: **656-4075.**

ELECTRONIC DEVICES: Off, unless needed for an official learning accommodation. Be here now!

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: All work must be your own except on specified group assignments. Inappropriate collaboration will result in loss of all credit for all parties involved. Further consequences may result according to the UVM Code of Academic Integrity: www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/UVM-Policies/policies/acadintegrity.pdf

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS: Students have the right to practice the religion of their choice. Submit a documented religious holiday schedule to me by the end of the second full week of classes.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS: If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible, but no later than the third week of classes.

SCHEDULE

Subject to change. A current, detailed schedule with assignment due dates is on the website.

Week 1 (Aug. 29)	Introduction to the Course and to Meter
Week 2 (Sep. 5)	(no class Monday) Rhythm and Simple Meters; Introduction to Pitch
Week 3 (Sep. 12)	Pitch and the Keyboard; Introduction to Recorder
Week 4 (Sep. 19)	More Advanced Rhythms
Week 5 (Sep. 26)	Melody and Major Scales Test #1 on Friday Sep. 23
Week 6 (Oct. 3)	Intervals I
Week 7 (Oct. 10)	Triads (no class Friday)
Week 8 (Oct. 17)	Minor Scales
Week 9 (Oct. 24)	Minor Scale Forms and Other Modes
Week 10 (Oct. 31)	Compound Meters. Test #2 on Friday Oct. 28
Week 11 (Nov. 7)	Intervals II
Week 12 (Nov. 14)	Harmonic Progression
...week of Nov. 21	<i>Thanksgiving Break</i>
Week 13 (Nov. 28)	Seventh Chords
Week 14 (Dec. 5)	More on Chords
Final Exam	Section A: Friday Dec. 16 10:30-1:15 Section B: Thursday Dec. 15 10:30-1:15