San José State University
School of Music and Dance
MUSC 1A, Music Systems 1A, Section 01, Fall 2015

Instructor: Dr. Brian Belet
Office Location: Music Building, Room 104
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Email: Brian.Belet@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Monday / 3:00 – 4:00 pm; Tuesday / 11:00 am – 12:00 n
Class Days/Time: Monday & Wednesday / 9:30 – 10:20 am
Classroom: Music Building, Room 210
Course Website: www.beletmusic.com/SJSU_Courses.html (see ‘MUSC 1A’ course files)

Prerequisites: 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-’ (70%) 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.

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.

Final Exam: Friday, December 11, 2015, 7:15 - 9:30 am.
Course Fees: Music Use Fee: 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.
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

GOALS: 1) Develop primary skills for understanding and analyzing music by its constituent parameters. 2) Complete writing and analysis assignments. 3) Complete comprehensive midterm and final examinations.

Course Content Learning Outcomes

There is a teaching proverb that states: ‘Teachers open the door. You enter by yourself.’ Provided a student applies himself/herself to this course — including attending class, reading the text, studying the music examples, completing assignments on time, asking questions when the material is not yet understood, studying daily outside of class time, working with tutors as needed (tutors are provided by the music program at no charge to the student) — the following outcomes can be expected:

1) Students will understand the concepts and procedures of diatonic tonal voice-leading and harmony.
2) Students will gain a deeper understanding of the music they hear and perform that utilizes these diatonic techniques.
3) Students will be able to competently analyze music that employs these diatonic techniques.
4) Students will be able to compose music examples of phrase length that similarly employ these diatonic techniques.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

*Primary Concepts for First-Semester Music Systems & Theory*, B. Belet (XanEdu, 2015). NOTE: This text will also serve as a reference and review source for MUSC 2A and 3A.
Optional Resources

*Tonal Harmony*, 7th ed, Stefan Kostka & Dorothy Payne, McGraw-Hill
NOTE: This text is used for MUSC 1A, 2A, and 3A.
Primary chapters for this course: Chapters 1-15 (Parts One – Three).


Course Topics

See “Course Topics” document, posted to the course website. (NOTE: The course topics reflect the Table of Contents in the course text.) This addendum is considered a part of this course syllabus.

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.

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 25A or 25B is required.

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.
Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Information on add/drops are available at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-298.html. Information about late drop is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>40%</td>
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</tbody>
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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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>GPA</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>99 - 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>93 - 98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>90 - 92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>88 - 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>84 - 87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>80 - 83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>78 - 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>74 - 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>70 - 73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>69 - 69</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0 - 59</td>
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University Policies

Academic integrity

SJSU’s Academic Integrity Policy is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University, and the University’s integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The website for Student Conduct and Ethical Development is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.
Learning Assistance Resource Center
The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. The LARC website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/.

Peer Mentor Center
The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop–in basis, no reservation required. Website of Peer Mentor Center is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/