

**JEFFERSON COLLEGE**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**MSC101**

**FUNDAMENTALS OF MUSIC**

3 Credit Hours

Prepared by:  
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by  
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## MSC101 Fundamentals of Music

### I. CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

- A. Prerequisite: None
- B. 3 semester hours credit
- C. Fundamentals of Music will involve the notation of melody, rhythm, and basic harmony, including scales, intervals, triads, and harmonization of simple melodies. The course is for both non-music majors and those preparing for Music Theory I and will partially fulfill the general education humanities requirement. (F, S, Su)

### II. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES/ASSESSMENT MEASURES

Identify musical symbols. Write musical symbols properly in notation.	Do homework and take quizzes involving writing notation and applying theoretical musical concepts.
Construct and identify scales, key signatures, and chords.	
Define and properly use musical terminology.	

### III. OUTLINE OF TOPICS

- A. Unit One: Introduction to the symbols of musical notation.
  - 1. Identify the staff and the lines and spaces by number.
  - 2. Identify and draw on the staff the following: whole note, half note, quarter note, eighth note, sixteenth note, whole rest, half rest, quarter rest, eighth rest, sixteenth rest, treble clef, bass clef, common time and numerical time signatures.
- B. Unit One: Rhythm values and pitch names.
  - 1. Rhythm.
    - a. Identify the number of beats each type of note or rest receives when the lower number of the time signature is a 1, 2, 4, 8, or 16.
    - b. Add barlines in 2/4, 3/4, and 4/4 time.
    - c. Beam together sixteenth and eighth notes.
    - d. Rewrite rhythms using ties to fit across barlines in 2/4, 3/4, and 4/4 time.

- e. Correct measures containing the wrong number of beats.
  - f. Clap simple unsyncopated rhythms using whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, and eighth notes, and rests.
2. Identify the names of the pitches on the treble and bass staves.
- C. Unit Three: Dotted rhythms and building major scales.
1. Rhythm
    - a. Use dots to replace tied notes.
    - b. Clap rhythms using dotted half-quarter, dotted quarter-eighth, and dotted eighth-sixteenth note patterns.
  2. Melody
    - a. Identify pitches on a piano keyboard.
    - b. Identify half-steps and whole-steps:
      - (1) On a piano keyboard.
      - (2) By letter name.
      - (3) In notation in bass and treble clefs.
    - c. Write half-steps and whole-steps above a given pitch.
    - d. Identify the location of half-steps and whole steps in a major scale.
    - e. Construct a major scale on any pitch using half-steps and whole steps.
    - f. Write and identify inharmonic pitches.
- D. Unit Four: Major key signatures.
1. Identify the key corresponding to a given key signature.
  2. Write all key signatures on the Grand Staff.
  3. Complete the circle of fifths.
  4. Identify which notes in a scale are affected by a key signature.
- E. Unit Five: Minor scales and key signatures.
1. Write parallel natural minor scales.
  2. Write relative natural minor scales.
  3. Write and identify minor key signatures.
  4. Complete the circle of fifths for minor keys.
  5. Write harmonic and melodic minor scales.
- F. Unit Six: Diatonic intervals.
1. Identify diatonic and non-diatonic tetrachords.
  2. Identify diatonic intervals by size and quality.
  3. Write the names of the seven scale degrees: Tonic, Supertonic, Mediant, Submediant, Subdominant, Dominant, Submediant, Leading tone.
- G. Unit Seven: Intervalic inversion.
1. Write an inversion of any interval.
  2. Use inversion to write descending intervals.

3. Change the interval quality by raising or lowering the upper and/or lower note of the interval.

H. Unit Eight: Building triads.

1. Write and identify major, minor, diminished and augmented triads.
2. Identify diatonic triads using Roman Numerals: I, ii, iii, IV, V, vi, vii<sup>o</sup>.

I. Unit Nine: Building seventh chords.

1. Write and identify the five basic seventh chords: dominant, major, minor, diminished, and half-diminished seventh.
2. Identify diatonic seventh chords using Roman Numerals.
3. Write and identify triads in Root Position, First Inversion, and Second Inversion.
4. Write and identify seventh chords in Root Position, First Inversion, Second Inversion and Third Inversion.

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Instructor lecture
- B. Directed music listening
- C. Class discussion
- D. Concert attendance

V. REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS (with publication information)

Instructor generated text. Published on campus by bookstore.

VI. REQUIRED MATERIALS (Student)

Notepad of music staff paper  
Pencil

VII. SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES

- A. Music references, books, periodicals and recordings available in the library.
- B. Personal reserve references and recordings.

VIII. METHOD OF EVALUATION (Student)

- A. Quizzes
- B. Homework
- C. Extra credit concert attendance

IX. ADA STATEMENT

Any student requiring special accommodations should inform the instructor and the Coordinator of Disability Support Services (Library; 636-797-3000, ext. 169).

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT

All students are responsible for complying with campus policies as stated in the Student Handbook (see College website, <http://vega.jeffco.edu/jkuchar/pdf/sh1011.pdf>)