

NVCC COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY

MUS 111-112 - MUSIC THEORY I-II (4 CR.) (4 CR.)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Discusses elements of musical construction of scales, intervals, triads, and chord progressions. Develops ability to sing at sight and write from dictation. Introduces the analysis of the Bach chorale style. Expands facility with harmonic dictation and enables the student to use these techniques at the keyboard. Lecture 3 hours. Laboratory 2 hours. Total 5 hours per week.

GENERAL COURSE PURPOSE

The course provides the student with an elementary knowledge of common practice music theory as well as developing the student's ability to sing and convert musical sounds, melodic and harmonic, into a written format by means of dictation.

ENTRY LEVEL COMPETENCIES

The student must be able to read music in treble and bass clefs as well as have a working knowledge of major and minor scales, basic intervals, and basic triad structures.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The student will gain a working knowledge of basic common practice music theory. This knowledge will be demonstrated by the student's ability to:

- A. write simple melodies in proper phrase structure
- B. harmonize melodies in choral style using diatonic harmonies in all inversions, secondary dominant chords, supertonic seventh and dominant seventh chords, various types of cadences, and elementary modulation to closely related keys
- C. analyze music found in the 16th - 18th centuries
- D. sing melodies at sight without the aid of an instrument and notate melodies played for him/her

MAJOR TOPICS TO BE INCLUDED

- A. Major and minor scales
- B. Basic interval and triad structures
- C. Diatonic chords and inversions
- D. Melodic and cadence structures
- E. Secondary dominant chords
- F. Elementary modulation to closely related keys
- G. Basic chord connection
- H. Harmonic and melodic analysis employing the above concepts
- I. Aural procedures and concepts

EXTRA TOPICS (optional)

- A. Reading in little used clefs
- B. More detailed work in instrumentation
- C. Composition of short pieces employing major concepts