# RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

# **MUSC 111 Music Theory I**

## **I. Basic Course Information**

A. Course Number and Title: MUSC 111: Music Theory I

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall Year: 2019

D. Effective Term: Fall 2020

E. Sponsoring Department: Arts & Design

F. Semester Credit Hours: 3

G. Weekly Contact Hours: 3 Lecture: 3

Laboratory: 0

Out of class student work per week: 6

H. Prerequisite: None. However, interview with Music Faculty member for purpose of

placement.

Corequisite: Musicianship I (MUSC 113).

I. Laboratory Fees: none

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## **II. Catalog Description**

Prerequisite: Interview with Music Faculty member for purpose of placement. Theory I is designed primarily for music majors and requires concurrent enrollment in Musicianship I (MUSC 113). Music Theory I, II, III, and IV must be taken in sequence. Music Theory I contains the fundamentals of music notation, scales, modes, intervals, keys and tonality and the study of basic harmony.

#### III. Statement of Course Need

- **A.** Music Theory I-IV and Musicianship I-IV are core requirements in the AFA music degree programs. Each level of Music Theory is co-requisite with the corresponding level of Musicianship and the levels must be taken in sequence. They form the foundation course is the first of four semesters of music theory study required in music major curriculums. Music of a musician's skills and literacy, and are, in addition to a student's performance audition, the placement testing focus for transferring music students to a four-year program.
- **B.** Course transferability: Based on evaluations at the njtransfer.org website, Music Theory and Musicianship courses transfer as the equivalent theory program for Associate and Bachelor degrees in the Arts and Fine Arts.

## IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

- A. Free elective
- B. This course serves as a studio arts elective for AA Liberal Arts Majors
- C. This course serves as a program requirement for the AFA Music degree.
- D. To see course transferability for New Jersey colleges and universities, go to the NJ Transfer website, <a href="www.njtransfer.org">www.njtransfer.org</a>; for other colleges and universities, go to the individual college website.

#### V. Outline of Course Content

- A. properties of sound
- B. fundamentals of music notation pitch, rhythm, meter
- C. scales, tonality, key, mode
- D. intervals and transposition
- E. triads and inversions
- F. functional harmonic analysis, figured bass, 7<sup>th</sup> chords

## **VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes**

#### A. General Education Outcomes

The student will:

Demonstrate orally and in writing, the identification, analysis and integration of the elements of music and the characteristics of musical styles. (GE-NJ 1, 6, \*)

## **B.** Course Learning Outcomes

The student will be able to:

1. analyze the aspects of melody, harmony, rhythm, form and other musical elements as applied to a wide variety of musical compositions.

2. apply techniques of analysis and perception of composition by writing musical exercises and compositional projects to show fluency in theoretical and notational aspects.

(\* embedded critical thinking)

## **C.** Assessment Instruments

- 1. written homework and composition assignments
- 2. quizzes and examinations

#### **VII. Grade Determinants**

- A. Excellent attendance and timely and thorough completion of all assigned homework.
- B. Participation in class discussions and group work, question/answer sessions, and homework shared on the board.
- C. Mid-term and final examinations, possible quizzes and creative, compositional projects.

Formats, modes and methods that may be used for teaching and learning:

- A. lecture/discussion
- B. individual work with the instructor
- C. small-group work

#### **VIII. Texts and Materials**

A. **Text**: (such as) Musician's Guide to Theory & Analysis (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition), Clendinning & Marvin, W.W. Norton & Co., Inc., 2016

(Please note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

B. Materials: manuscript paper, pencil

#### IX. Resources

- A. Soundproof classroom equipped with piano
- B. Stereo and media systems
- C. Electronic keyboard studio utilized for homework and related keyboard assignments