

Practical Theory and Keyboard Harmony - Level 1

Course Syllabus

Fall 2017

Sam Houston State University
Department of Theatre and Musical Theatre
THEA 1100
Wednesday 2-3:20 p.m. / Piano Lab
Text Book: The Ultimate Broadway Fake Book

Instructor – Dr. Eric Gundersen
Office – PAC 284A
Office hours – by appt.
E-mail – jeg016@shsu.edu
Phone –

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will equip the student with the tools of interpreting simple notated music and basic harmony. The course is developed for musical theatre majors and will mainly focus on music applicable to this genre.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

1. Applying basic music theory to the keyboard such as scales, chords, and meter.
2. Experiment with different styles of accompanying—jazz, pop, rock, and so on.
3. Learn how to play the melody of your new music theatre repertoire.
4. Enjoy playing the piano. We do not need to know every rule of music theory to make good music.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Class participation is an important part of class, so it is imperative that you attend all classes. If you are absent from more than **three (3)** classes, your final grade will be reduced by **two (2)** points for **each** absence. Tardiness is unacceptable. If you are tardy **three (3)** times, that equals **one absence**. Excessive tardiness will result in a reduction of your final grade.

PREPARATION

Come to class prepared to play. In other words, you must practice a little every day. If you do not practice every day you will know it. If you miss two days your teacher will know it. The beginning of each class period will be reserved as practice time.

RULES OF CONDUCT:

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus impedes the mission of the University. Please turn off or mute your cell phone before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, talking among each other at inappropriate times, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result, minimally, in a directive to leave class or being reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with University policy.

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy University policy states that if any student must be absent from class for the observance of a religious holy day, they must notify their instructor by the 12th calendar day after the first day of the semester.

Americans with Disabilities Act SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may adversely affect your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) and to talk to me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential.

NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with:

SSD Office Location: Lee Drain Annex (next to the Farrington Building)

Telephone: 936-294-3512 / TDD: 936-294-3786

E-mail: disability@shsu.edu

Web Address: www.shsu.edu/disability

REQUIREMENTS:

Build a Folder: Throughout the course of the semester, you will receive various handouts which should be kept in a three-ring binder so that by the end of the semester you have built a reference book of materials for your private library.

Week 1-2

- C Major Scale
- C-F-G Chords
- Blues Styling
- Kansas City/ Black Coffee/All That Jazz

Week 3-5

- G and D Major Scale
- G-C-D and D-G-A chords
- Blues/Jazz and Broadway Standard (Golden Era) Styling
- A Wonderful Guy/New York/Singing in the Rain

Week 6-8

- A and E Major Scale
- A-D-E and E-A-B chords
- Rock'n'Roll
- Grow for Me/We Go Together/Grease Lightning

Week 8-11

- B \flat and E \flat Scales
- B \flat -E \flat -F and E \flat -A \flat -B \flat Chords
- Bossanova Styling
- Aquarius/I Could Have Danced All Night/Sorry—Grateful

Week 12-13

- A \flat and D \flat Scales
- A \flat - D \flat - E \flat and D \flat - G \flat - A \flat
- Contemporary Styling
- Joanna/Make Them Hear You/Can You Feel the Love Tonight