Undergraduate Music Theory and Aural Skills
The University of Georgia
Hugh Hodgson School of Music

MUSIC THEORY PREPARATION

• Skills Requirements:
  - Ability to read both treble and bass clefs readily
  - Knowledge of major key signatures
  - Ability to fluently write and sing major scales
  - Understanding of rhythmic notation and various meters

• Helpful Skills:
  - Knowledge of intervals
  - Knowledge of triad types and inversions
  - Knowledge of minor scales and key signatures

• Resources for Skills Practice Prior to Enrollment
  - *Programmed Rudiments of Music* by Robert Ottman and Frank Mainous (Prentice Hall, publisher)
  - *Scales, Intervals, Keys, Triads, Rhythm and Meter* by John Clough and Joyce Conley (W. W. Norton and Co., publisher)
  - *Basic Materials in Music Theory* by Paul Harder and Greg Steinke (Prentice Hall, publisher)
  - Note: These books are available through online suppliers such as amazon.com.
  - An excellent free website is musictheory.net. The “Lessons” units explain basic information, while the “Trainers” units give practice in music fundamentals.

MUSIC THEORY CORE COURSES

We are currently using the following textbooks in music theory:


The undergraduate freshman/sophomore theory sequence includes four semesters of written theory and aural skills. The aural skills courses closely parallel the materials taught in written theory, and the courses are co-requisites (meaning they must be taken together).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Music Theory</th>
<th>Aural Skills</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall, 1st semester</td>
<td>MUSI 1100</td>
<td>MUSI 1110</td>
<td>Fundamentals, diatonic harmony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring, 2nd semester</td>
<td>MUSI 1120</td>
<td>MUSI 1130</td>
<td>Diatonic harmony continued, small forms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall, 3rd semester</td>
<td>MUSI 2100</td>
<td>MUSI 2110</td>
<td>Chromatic harmony, large forms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring, 4th semester</td>
<td>MUSI 2120</td>
<td>MUSI 2130</td>
<td>Advanced chromatic harmony, 20th &amp; 21st c. techniques</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
COURSE CHALLENGES

If you do not have credit on your transcript for music theory, you will be expected to enroll in and successfully complete our theory curriculum. Any student, however, with an exceptional background in theory (including students with AP credit) has the opportunity to apply for permission to exempt a required course. In order to exempt a music theory or aural skills course, a student must earn an A or B on a comprehensive exam similar to the final exam for the specified course. Aural skills exams do include a sight-singing component.

Any student wishing to exempt a written theory or aural skills course must first complete the course challenge form available from the Registrar’s Office website (see below), which will require the student to coordinate with the instructor of record. This action should be taken as soon as possible, but no later than two days into the semester. The current Registrar’s website is: https://reg.uga.edu/student-forms/course-challenges/

TRANSFER STUDENTS WITH MUSIC THEORY CREDIT

If you have taken college-level music theory at another institution, you will be expected to take our theory/aural skills placement exam. This exam is given a few days before classes begin in the fall and spring semesters.

Your score on the theory/aural skills placement exam will help us advise you on correct enrollment in our music theory course sequence. Expect to be tested on the fundamentals of music, diatonic and chromatic four-part harmony, and twentieth century topics. Aural skills tested will include intervals, chords, rhythm, melodic dictation, and harmonic dictation.