

Theatre 110

Music Theory for Theatre Performers

Instructor: Mark Hanson email: mhanson@uwsp.edu

Office: NFAC 256 By Appointment

Schedule: T & Th 11:00 – 11:50; NFAC 337
F 11:00-11:50pm; NFAC 287

Final exam schedule: Monday, December 19, 2:45 – 4:45

Required Materials:

- *Fundamentals of Sight Singing and Ear Training*, Arnold Fish and Norman Lloyd (purchase)
- *Alfred's Group Piano for Adults, Book 1, second ed.* (text rental)
- Sharp pencils
- Music staff paper (notebook or binder)

Course Objectives:

This course (along with its second-semester continuation, Theatre 111) will provide a grounding in the basic knowledge and skills required to function independently and efficiently as a musician. These include:

- Knowledge of common musical terminology.
- Knowledge of the principles and symbols of standard musical notation.
- Knowledge of basic concepts of music theory, including pulse, rhythm, and meter; major and minor scales and key signatures; simple and compound intervals; triads; seventh chords; harmonic progressions and formal structures.
- Ability to apply theoretical concepts through written analysis, sight singing, aural perception, and at the piano keyboard.

Evaluation and Grading:

Student progress will be evaluated and grades determined through periodic quizzes and a final exam. Individual sight singing and keyboard evaluations will be included in the final exam. Classroom work, including preparation for and participation in class activities and discussions will also be considered. The following formula will be used in grading:

Quizzes = 35%
Final exam = 35%
Class work = 30%

Classroom Policies/Expectations:

As students in the BFA program in Musical Theatre, you are preparing for a career in a highly competitive and demanding field. This is the time for you to build solid habits of organization, discipline, and professionalism.

- ALWAYS be on time, bring required materials to class, and complete assignments before class.
- 100% attendance is expected. If you must miss class, please notify me in advance by e-mail.
- Per Department policy, absolutely NO food or drink, except for water in SEALED containers, is permitted in any classroom or rehearsal spaces.
- All cellphones/handhelds/iPods/etc. MUST be turned OFF and stowed before entering the classroom.
- We all come from different places, with different strengths and weaknesses, but with a shared goal. Our classroom must be a place where we can all learn from each other in an atmosphere of mutual respect and support.

Hints For Success:

The material covered in this course is cumulative in nature. Each new concept builds on an understanding of the previous ones. The best way to insure success is to establish a study/practice routine early on, and stick to it. Don't let yourself fall behind. If you don't understand something, ask! I will always make myself available for help outside of class. And don't be afraid of making mistakes!