

Fundamentals of Music (MUSI 1300), Summer 2008



**Professor: Andrew
Davis** ([email](mailto:adavis@uh.edu) adavis at uh.edu)

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schedule](#)

Home page and syllabus

COURSE INFORMATION

course: MUSI 1300: Fundamentals of Music
time: M T W Th 8:00–10:30am
location: MSM 116

course web site: <http://www.uh.edu/~adavis5/musi1300>
(this page). You are expected to monitor the web site
regularly for assignments, updates to the course schedule,
and announcements and other news items not communicated
in class or through email. Details of assignments may or may
not be posted in class—you are expected to obtain the
assignment and any related instructions online.

Note that I will use your official email address on file with the
registrar's office to communicate with you by email. If you
don't have the correct address on file, or you don't have that
address set to forward to an account you read regularly, you
won't receive any email communication from me. You're
responsible for ensuring that your email address on file is
correct so that you receive communication about the course.
If you need instructions on how to do this, you may [follow
this link](#) (which will require the same username and password
used to access the "information for current students" page on
the school of music's web site, www.music.uh.edu--email me
if you need this information.

PROFESSOR INFORMATION

professor: Andrew Davis, Director of Graduate Studies and
Assistant Professor of Music Theory
office: MSM 152
office phone: 713 743 3294
email: [adavis](mailto:adavis@uh.edu) at uh.edu. **This is the best way to contact
me.
official web page:
<http://www.music.uh.edu/people/davis.html>
personal web page: <http://www.uh.edu/~adavis5> (with links
to courses and other useful information)

office hours: by appointment unless I specify otherwise.

note also: Dr. Corey Tu ([email](#)) will teach the course in my place on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, July 7–9. See the [schedule](#) for more information.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course is designed to provide a basic understanding of the technical language of music in order that students may gain enjoyment and appreciation of music encountered in everyday surroundings, and may gain the foundation necessary for further study of music and the theory of music at the college level. Students will become fluent in music notation, principles of rhythm and meter (and its associated notation), and principles of pitch organization in music (scale collections, intervals, chords and harmonies, etc.). No musical background is assumed.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Robert Nelson and Carl Christensen, *Foundations of Music*, 7th ed. (Schirmer, 2006). With a CD. This is available at the University Bookstore, 126 University Center, 713 748 0923; additional purchase options are available online ([here](#)). Note that some of the latter options do not include the course CD, which is required (see item A [here](#)).

You should also bring pencils, erasers, and music manuscript paper to class. Manuscript paper is useful for taking notes and is necessary for some of the homework assignments; this is available at any music shop or at the campus bookstore. You may want to consider a spiral-bound manuscript notebook.

EVALUATION

assignments and quizzes: *	50%
midterm exam:	20%
final exam:	20%
drill participation on the course CD: **	5%
class participation (discussion, questions, etc.): ***	5%

notes on grading:

*your lowest assignment grade (only one) will be dropped

when the final grade is computed.

**at the end of the semester I will ask you to turn in your scores earned while using the course CD. I will award points if the scores you submit demonstrate that you spent a good deal of time outside class working on drill exercises not assigned for homework. See [this page](#) for more information.

*** I will award points in your final grade if you exhibited a willingness to contribute to the class discussions by asking and answering questions and generally improving the class environment.

Final grade distribution will be according to the standard scale of percentages, as follows:

	A: 92.5–100	A-: 90–92.5
B+: 87.5–90	B: 82.5–87.5	B-: 80–82.5
C+: 77.5–80	C: 72.5–77.5	C-: 70–72.5
D+: 67.5–70	D: 62.5–67.5	D-: 60–62.5
	F: below 60	

ASSIGNMENTS AND QUIZZES

Expectations for the course include keeping up with the assigned daily work. In that spirit:

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date indicated, and the due dates are not negotiable. Late assignments will be accepted for full credit only with a written, valid excuse. LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR PARTIAL CREDIT ONLY THROUGH THE START OF THE NEXT CLASS MEETING, AND WITH A PENALTY OF ONE LETTER GRADE FOR EACH DAY THE ASSIGNMENT IS LATE. Note that you are responsible for the work assigned in class even if you are absent from class, and that the assignment is still due on the date indicated—you should check the [schedule](#) online to see what material was assigned, and you should obtain notes on the relevant material from a classmate. Remember that your lowest two assignment grades will be dropped.

Exams and quizzes also provide a means for your instructor to test your mastery of the material. Dates for all exams and quizzes are posted on the [course schedule](#). **Make-up exams will only be given if you provide a written, valid excuse for why you missed the exam.** If you cannot do this, your grade for the missed exam will be 0. Makeup quizzes are not

given; if you have a legitimate reason for missing the quiz, I simply won't include it in your final grade computation (it neither helps nor hurts your grade, in other words—it only makes the other quizzes for which you do receive grades count for slightly more weight in your final grade).

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

You are expected to do your own work on all assignments, quizzes, and exams unless instructed differently; any work you hand in at any time should be your own unless you are assigned to do otherwise. Problems with academic dishonesty will be handled according to the [procedures outlined in the undergraduate student handbook](#) and in the undergraduate course catalog. Please note that the mere suspicion of academic dishonesty is enough to initiate official action; please do not put yourself in the position of having to deal with this kind of situation.

DISABILITIES

If you have a disability that affects your capacity to complete assignments, quizzes, or exams in a timely manner, please inform me at the beginning of the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made. You will need to document your disability with the UH [Center for Students with Disabilities \(CSD\)](#): 100 CSD Building ([click here to get a map](#)), 713 743 5400. The CSD will provide information on your disability to the instructor, and the instructor and student will work out a mutually agreeable arrangement (based on recommendations provided by the CSD) for how to accommodate the disability.

OTHER INFORMATION

It should be clear that in order to maintain a productive environment in class students are expected to behave with courtesy and respect toward their instructor and their classmates. Students will be dismissed from class if they are found to be creating excessive disruptions. **This includes disruptions from cell phones: please turn them off.**

Last day to drop without the course counting toward "attempted credits" and last day to drop with no grade: Thursday 07/10.

Last day to drop or withdraw with a W grade: Wednesday July 30.

