

**Music 120 – Beginning Harmony I**  
**Course Syllabus**

3 Units, Room #314; MW 8:35 – 10:00am

**Dr. Hope A. Davis, Instructor** (E-Mail: [hope.davis@imperial.edu](mailto:hope.davis@imperial.edu))

Office Hours:- MW – 8:00 – 8:30am AND TR – 12:00 noon – 1:30pm

**Prerequisite:** None.....However, those who cannot read music, or have limited musical experience, should take MUS 100 (Music Foundations Course) prior to this course. It will make your life much easier.

**Note:** Students enrolled in Beginning or Intermediate Harmony should take the corresponding Musicianship course sequence (Music 110, 112, 210, and 212) when possible.

**Textbook:** (with CD's) Required – Kostka, Stefan & Payne, Dorothy. Tonal Harmony  
**Workbook:** (with CD's) Suggested – Kostka, Stefan, and Payne, Dorothy.  
Workbook for Tonal Harmony, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition

**Class Routine:** The student should read the appropriate text for the day's assignment PRIOR to coming to class, be able to discuss and/or ask questions about the day's assignment. Classes will start with an explanation of the text for the current assignment by the instructor, and appropriate examples modeled. This will be followed by a "Self-Test" in which the student answers questions in the textbook (also done at home before the next class). The next class will begin with a discussion of the "Self-Test" and after queries are answered, the assignment of the next section will be given. Thus, students are EXPECTED to work continuously on their own, as well as supervised.

**Homework:** The student will always have homework assignments, each class. The student will always have the "Self-Test" for the new assignment. Students with extensive musical training may find that they do approximately 1 – 2 hours of homework for each hour of class time; while students with little or no musical preparation, may find that the same homework takes between 2 to 3 hours. This will ameliorate when musical concepts are mastered. **See some HELPFUL Harmony practice websites below, and Do them.**

**Schedule of Assignments and Record of Grades:** Students should continuously do the Self-Tests after each section of reading/discussion. These will be discussed in class. It is strongly suggested that the student does the appropriate learning reinforcement exercises from the Workbook, **and Websites below.** These will be examined by the instructor.

Weeks 1-4: Chapter 1: Elements of Pitch, The Octave Registers, Notation, Major Scale, Key Signatures, Minor Scales, Scale Degree Names, Intervals, Perfect, Major, Augmented and Diminished Intervals; Inversion of Intervals

Weeks 5-9: Chapters 2&3: Rhythm, Durational Symbols, Beat and Tempo, Meter, Division of the Beat, Simple and Compound Time Signatures, Triads and Seventh Chords, Inversions of Chords, Inversion Symbols, Figured Bass, Chord Recognition in varied textures.

Weeks 10-13: Chapters 4&5: Diatonic Chords in Major and Minor Keys, Seventh Chords in Major and Minor Keys, Principles of Voice Leading The Melodic Line, Notating Chords, Voicing Triads, Parallel Motion.

Weeks 13-16: Chapter 6: Root Position Part Writing; Transposing Instruments Review and FINAL EXAM

**\*\*Please Note that Make-up Exams will only be given for Documented Extenuating Circumstances. Furthermore, Make-up Exams must be taken No Later than 1 week after the original date. No Exceptions.**

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|---------------------------------|------|
| <b>GRADING:</b> Class Work..... | 15%  |
| 2 Exams.....                    | 50%  |
| Final Exam.....                 | 35%  |
| TOTAL.....                      | 100% |

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodation should notify the Instructor and/or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) Office as soon as possible.

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**Some Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) Objectives:-** Demonstrate Knowledge of diatonic Triads in Major and Minor keys; and seventh chords in major and minor keys.

**Assessment Tool:-** Exam and Class work assignments

**Institutional Outcome:-** ISL02, ISL04, ISL01, ISL03

**Helpful Music Theory/Harmony Practice Websites for HOMEWORK**  
**www.lesstutor.com/musicgenhome.html** (Great Practice Tutorial Site)

**http://www.musictheory.net** (Great Practice Tutorial Site in English)

**http://www.teoria.com** (Great Practice Tutorial Site in Spanish)