

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: MUSIC THEORY AND LISTENING SKILLS
Status: Definitive
Code: **4506POP** (108564)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Liverpool School of Art & Design
Teaching School/Faculty: Liverpool Community College

Team	Leader
Stuart Borthwick	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ4 **Credit Value:** 12.00 **Total Delivered Hours:** 44.00
Total Learning Hours: 120 **Private Study:** 76

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	36.000
Tutorial	4.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Exam	AS1	theory tests of 1 hour each (end of semester 1 and end of semester 2)	20.0	1.00
Exam	AS2	listening tests of 1 hour each (end of semester 1 and end of semester 2)	20.0	1.00
Report	AS5	Transcription exercise (diatonic melody, bass line and rhythm pattern)	30.0	
Exam	AS3	theory tests of 1 hour each (end of semester 1 and end of semester 2)	15.0	1.00
Exam	AS4	listening tests of 1 hour each (end of semester 1 and end of semester 2)	15.0	1.00

Aims

To acquire the standard of music theory required to be able to compose and arrange music competently.

To acquire sufficient listening skills to aid the understanding of music theory and be able to notate musical ideas accurately.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Construct chords in all major and minor keys, the cycle of fifths, and display basic harmonic concepts in both treble and bass clefs.
- 2 Write out major, minor, pentatonic and blues scales and the modes of the major scale.
- 3 Use basic melodic devices such as chord notes and passing notes, diatonic and chromatic notes.
- 4 Recognise basic rhythms and time signatures.
- 5 Recognise simple intervals and basic chord types.
- 6 Transcribe simple rhythms, melodies and bass lines.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

EXAM	1	2	3
EXAM	1	2	3
Transcription Exercise	6		
EXAM	4	5	
EXAM	4	5	

Outline Syllabus

Basic background theory to ensure a good grounding in concepts such as primary and secondary chords, key signatures, the Roman Numeral system, and basic chord symbols.

Chord construction and chord functions.

The cycle of fifths and common basic harmonic progressions.

Different scale types and interval recognition by ear.

The modes of the major scale and their recognition by ear.

Recognising and transcribing basic intervals and rhythms by ear.

Recognising time signatures and basic chord types by ear.

Transcribing simple rhythms, melody lines and bass lines by ear.

Learning Activities

A series of lectures, with occasional progress tutorials for individual formative feedback. There will be a summative assessment test at the end of each semester with a coursework component as well.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Zeitlin, P. and Goldberger, D.
Publishing Year	2001
Title	Understanding Music Theory
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Omnibus Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Harnum, J.
Publishing Year	2001
Title	Basic Music Theory
Subtitle	How to Read, Write, and Understand Written Music
Edition	
Publisher	Sol-Ut Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Wyatt, K. and Schroeder, C.
Publishing Year	1998
Title	Harmony & Theory
Subtitle	A Comprehensive Guide for All Musicians
Edition	
Publisher	Hal Leonard
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Schachnik, G. and Feist, J.
Publishing Year	2007
Title	Beginning Ear Training
Subtitle	Ear Training: Exercises
Edition	
Publisher	Berklee Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Wyatt, K., Schroeder, C. and Elliott, J.
Publishing Year	2003
Title	Ear Training
Subtitle	The Complete Guide for All Musicians
Edition	
Publisher	Hal Leonard
ISBN	

Course Material	CD/DVD
Author	
Publishing Year	
Title	Auralia ear training software.
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	
ISBN	

Notes

The aim of this module is to build students' music theory knowledge so that they have a solid understanding of chord symbols and construction, harmonic progressions, key centres and other essential aspects of harmony. They will also develop their music listening skills to enable them to sight sing and recognise intervals and basic chord types by ear. They will be expected to continue developing your skills using ear training software etc.

This module should preferably be delivered in the keyboard/composition room where students have access to keyboards and ear training software. This will facilitate theoretical understanding, classroom listening exercises and allow students to use and develop their keyboard skills.