

MUSIC HISTORY, LITERATURE AND THEORY (MHIS)

MHIS 110. Elements of Music. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. No degree credit for music majors. A study of music notation, scale and triad forms. Aural skill development will parallel the theoretical studies. Intended to prepare music majors for core curriculum study.

MHIS 115. Fundamental Musicianship. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Enrollment restricted to music majors. Study of fundamental written music notation and structure. Aural skill development parallels theoretical studies for integrated learning of notation and sound. Designed for preparation of music theory sequence for majors.

MHIS 120. Introduction to World Musical Styles. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Enrollment restricted to music majors. A study of non-European musical cultures and practices. Attention will be given to various aspects of music within those cultures. An emphasis will be placed on the development of active cognitive listening skills through guided listening to selected recorded music from non-European societies.

MHIS 145. Theory and Aural Skills I. 4 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 3 laboratory hours. 4 credits. Open to music majors and minors only. The application of music theory, aural skills and keyboard knowledge are combined in the study of harmonic and melodic structure. Activity begins with rudiments and progresses to diatonic harmony. Emphasis is placed upon the development of aural skills as applied to the presented material.

MHIS 146. Theory and Aural Skills II. 4 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 3 laboratory hours. 4 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 145. Open to music majors and minors only. The application of music theory, aural skills and keyboard knowledge are combined in the study of harmonic and melodic structure. Activity begins with harmonic voicing and progresses to secondary harmony as applied to phrase structure in music. Emphasis is placed upon the development of aural skills as applied to the presented material.

MHIS 147. Jazz Theory and Aural Skills. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 145. Theoretical and aural recognition of established melodic, harmonic and rhythmic traditions within jazz so as to apply successfully to creative performance-practice and composition-arranging pursuits.

MHIS 243. Music Appreciation. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Not open to music majors. Designed to encourage understanding of music from selected periods. Development of active cognitive listening skills through guided listening to selected recorded music.

MHIS 244. Experiencing Music. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 3 credits. Designed for the purpose of developing familiarity with the elements of music that are part of a successful performance and listening experience. Weekly attendance at both VCU and external events is part of the criteria to develop students' awareness of the creative process in shaping a musical performance.

MHIS 245. Theory and Aural Skills III. 4 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 3 laboratory hours. 4 credits. Prerequisites: MHIS 146. Open to music majors. The application of music theory, aural skills and keyboard knowledge are combined in the study of harmonic and melodic structure. Second year studies continue with chromatic harmony and modulations. Emphasis is placed upon the development of aural skills as applied to the presented material.

MHIS 246. Theory and Aural Skills IV. 4 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 3 laboratory hours. 4 credits. Prerequisites: MHIS 245. Open to music majors. The application of music theory, aural skills and keyboard knowledge are combined in the study of harmonic and melodic structure. Final semester of study continues with chromatic harmony and concludes with modern techniques as applied to form in music. Elements of popular styles and jazz are incorporated as appropriate. Emphasis is placed upon the development of aural skills as applied to the presented material.

MHIS 256. Musicianship Practicum. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 1 laboratory hour. 2 credits. Prerequisites: APPM 174 or APPM 374; and MHIS 245. Application of musical analysis, composition, keyboard and ear training in holistic and integrated assignments and projects. Group assignments will lead to development of self-directed project.

MHIS 291. Topics in Music. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; variable hours. 1-3 credits per semester. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Flexible semester courses in selected aspects of music performance, theory, literature or history. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered.

MHIS 303. Piano Literature. 2 Hours.

Semester courses; 2 lecture hours. 2, 2 credits. Prerequisite: open to music majors; all others must obtain permission of instructor. A survey of stringed keyboard literature. Historical, formal and stylistic considerations of the various periods and composers of keyboard music. Listening and reading assignments included. Fall semester: Baroque and Classical periods (1600-1828); spring semester: Romantic, Modern and Contemporary periods (1828-present).

MHIS 304. Piano Literature. 2 Hours.

Semester courses; 2 lecture hours. 2, 2 credits. Prerequisite: open to music majors; all others must obtain permission of instructor. A survey of stringed keyboard literature. Historical, formal and stylistic considerations of the various periods and composers of keyboard music. Listening and reading assignments included. Fall semester: Baroque and Classical periods (1600-1828); spring semester: Romantic, Modern and Contemporary periods (1828-present).

MHIS 305. Form and Analysis I. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 245. An analytical study of musical forms and salient features of melody, harmony, rhythm and timbre of late Baroque, Classical, early and late Romantic compositions.

MHIS 306. Form and Analysis II. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 245. Study of traditional and new approaches to form in the music of the 20th century. Examination of post-tonal harmony as a determinant of form, formal aspects of motivicism, contour, rhythm, register, timbre and texture.

MHIS 307. The Physics of Sound and Music. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: A 100- or 200-level physics course or equivalent and the ability to read music or sing or play a musical instrument, or permission of instructor. Basics of the physics of waves and sound. Fourier synthesis, tone quality, human ear and voice, musical temperament and pitch, physics of musical instruments, electronic synthesizers, sound recording and reproduction, room and auditorium acoustics. Not applicable toward the physics major. Crosslisted as: PHYS 307.

MHIS 311. Jazz Arranging I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: MHIS 245 and APPM 272, or permission of instructor. A study of the basic harmonic, melodic, notational and orchestration techniques needed to draft a successful jazz arrangement. The final project will be to write an arrangement for a 12-piece jazz ensemble.

MHIS 312. Jazz Arranging II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 311. Advanced harmonic, melodic and orchestration techniques applied to writing for the small jazz ensemble, vocal group and large jazz orchestra.

MHIS 321. Music History I. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Enrollment restricted to music majors. Prerequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200. Study of Western music in a historical context from antiquity through the Classical era.

MHIS 322. Music History II. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Enrollment restricted to music majors. Prerequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200. Study of Western music in a historical context from the Romantic era to the 21st century.

MHIS 324. Jazz History. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 120. Study of jazz in a historical context from pre-jazz roots to contemporary styles.

MHIS 350. Studies in the Music of the African Continent and Diaspora. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 243 or MHIS/AFAM 250. An in-depth examination of selected topics and issues in African-derived musical and cultural traditions. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester. Crosslisted as: AFAM 350/INTL 370.

MHIS 373. Beethoven and Brahms Symphonies. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 305. An overview of all symphonies will be the basis for an in-depth analysis of selected movements.

MHIS 380. Survey of the Music Industry. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Topics include copyright, business organization, music production, management, recording, freelancing, grants, taxation and careers allied with music.

MHIS 392. Independent Study. 1-6 Hours.

Semester courses; variable hours. 1-6 credits per semester. Maximum total of 6 credits. Determination of the amount of credit and permission of the instructor and department chair must be obtained prior to registration for the course. Open generally only to students of junior and senior standing who have individual interests in areas not otherwise available to the student.

MHIS 405. Jazz Form and Analysis I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 312. Arranging and performance-practice techniques across selected jazz styles.

MHIS 422. The History of the Symphony. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 321 or 322. Historical and analytical study of selected symphonies from the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th centuries.

MHIS 424. History of American Musical Theatre. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 321 or 322. Historical and analytical study of selected musical theatre productions from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries.

MHIS 465. Song Literature. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. A survey of the vocal literature of Germany, France, England and other countries.

MHIS 476. Duke Ellington. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. An overview of the music of Duke Ellington. Lectures and presentations on Ellington recordings, writings and sources of his influences will serve as content for overview.

MHIS 491. Topics in Music. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; variable hours. 1-3 credits per semester. May be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits. Flexible semester courses in selected aspects of music performance, theory, literature or history. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.

MHIS 492. Independent Study. 1-6 Hours.

Semester courses; variable hours. 1-6 credits per semester. Maximum total of 6 credits. Determination of the amount of credit and permission of the instructor and department chair must be obtained prior to registration for the course. Open generally only to students of junior and senior standing who have individual interests in areas not otherwise available to the student.

MHIS 591. Topics in Music. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; variable hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits. Flexible term courses in selected aspects of music performance, theory, literature, or history. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.

MHIS 592. Individual Project. 1-6 Hours.

Semester courses; 1-6 credits. Prerequisites: permission of supervising faculty member, adviser and department chair. Open only to degree-seeking graduate students in music. Individual work in an area not otherwise available to the student.