MUSIC HISTORY, LITERATURE AND THEORY (MHIS)

MHIS 105. Introduction to Writing Music. 3 Hours.
Continuous courses; 3 lecture hours. 3-3 credits. Prerequisite: completion of MHIS 105 to enroll in MHIS 106. For non-music majors only. Creating and harmonizing melodies, principles of notation and elementary music theory. Second semester emphasis is on creative aspects.

MHIS 106. Introduction to Writing Music. 3 Hours.
Continuous courses; 3 lecture hours. 3-3 credits. Prerequisite: completion of MHIS 105 to enroll in MHIS 106. For non-music majors only. Creating and harmonizing melodies, principles of notation and elementary music theory. Second semester emphasis is on creative aspects.

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 143. Music Appreciation. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. An introductory survey of theSchedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered.

MHIS 144. 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 145. Theory and Aural Skills I. 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 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 rudiments and progresses to diatonic harmony. 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 201. Acoustics. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 3 credits. Recommended prerequisite: MATH 101. Physical properties of sound and wave mechanics applied to the study and analysis of music and musical instruments. Topics will include instrumental and vocal sound production and perception, timbral characteristics and pitch theory.

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. 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 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 250. Introduction to African-American Music. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. An introductory survey of black involvement with the development of music in America from 1607 to the present. African-American musical styles will be studied from many aspects, including their African roots and contemporary popular expression. Performance practices will be analyzed and active cognitive listening skills developed through guided listening to selected recordings. Crosslisted as: AFAM 250.

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 246. 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 246. 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 246 and APPM 272, or permission of instructor. A study of the basic harmonic, melodic, notational and orchestrational 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 orchestrational 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 406. Jazz Form and Analysis II. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 405 or 411. Continuing study of arranging and performance-practice techniques across selected jazz styles.

MHIS 411. Jazz Arranging III. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Availability contingent upon student demand and faculty resources. Techniques of arranging for the contemporary pop medium.

MHIS 412. Jazz Arranging IV. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 411. A study of the techniques used in modal, blues and other forms of contemporary jazz composition.

MHIS 420. Chamber Music Literature Through 1800. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 321 or 322. Historical and analytical study of selected chamber music works from the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries.

MHIS 421. Chamber Music Literature Since 1800. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 321 or 322. Historical and analytical study of selected chamber music works from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries.

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 423. Tone Poems and Concert Overtures. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 321 or 322. Historical and analytical study of selected tone poems and concert overtures from the 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st 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 425. Opera History. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 321 or 322. Historical and analytical study of selected operas from the 17th, 18th, 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 474. Bach: Goldberg Variations. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 246 or permission of instructor. A study in performance aspects and theoretical analysis of the Goldberg Variations by Johann Sebastian Bach. Writings on the topic, a printed score of the work and selected recordings will serve as the content for this study.

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 513. Arranging. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Practical, technical, and conceptual considerations of arranging and transcribing for vocal and instrumental groups will be explored. Students will demonstrate competence in these creative areas to the optimum level of school and/or church music organizations.

MHIS 551. Orchestral Repertoire. 1,2 Hour.
Semester courses; 1 lecture or 1 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 1 or 2 credits. Performance and study of selected major symphonic works from historical, analytical, and stylistic perspectives. Research reports will include comparisons of interpretations. Repertoire will consist of basic audition pieces selected by orchestras. Laboratory sessions will utilize available instrumentation for performance.

MHIS 552. Orchestral Repertoire. 1-2 Hours.
Semester courses; 1 lecture or 1 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 1 or 2 credits. Performance and study of selected major symphonic works from historical, analytical, and stylistic perspectives. Research reports will include comparisons of interpretations. Repertoire will consist of basic audition pieces selected by orchestras. Laboratory sessions will utilize available instrumentation for performance.

MHIS 566. Jazz History and Analysis. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. An examination of the evolution of jazz from its beginnings through the Swing Era. Students will transcribe and analyze improvised solos and compositions by the tradition’s principal innovators.

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.

MHIS 615. Seminar in Music Theory. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. May be repeated up to four times with different topics. Topical discussions and relevant research appropriate to the principal eras of music development.

MHIS 650. Seminar in Music History. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. May be repeated up to four times with different topics. Prerequisite: MHIS 690. An intensive study of a limited phase or segment of music history through examination of relevant materials and extended class discussion.

MHIS 666. 20th-century Music. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 690 (may be taken concurrently). Impressionist, expressionist, neoclassic, and neoromantic influences and styles of music. Development of new sound-generating techniques and methods for ordering the new tonal materials.

MHIS 667. Music of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 690 (may be taken concurrently). Principal musical developments from the first through the 16th centuries. Sacred and secular monophonic, homophonic, and polyphonic forms and styles; the development of instrumental idioms and forms.

MHIS 668. Music of the Baroque. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 690 (may be taken concurrently). Principal developments, c. 1590-1750; accompanied monody and the beginning of opera; forms and styles of sacred and secular compositions.

MHIS 669. Music of Rococo and Classical Eras. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 690 (may be taken concurrently). Major development in sacred and secular forms and styles, c. 1730-1828; social and artistic influences on music; dominance of instrumental music; Mozart, Beethoven, and the German Symphony.

MHIS 670. Music of the Romantic Era. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: MHIS 690 (may be taken concurrently). Influence of the Romantic Era on concepts of musical forms and styles; the development of the art song, the growth of opera, the exploitation of instruments and tonality.

MHIS 690. Bibliography and Methods of Research. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. A course to introduce graduate students to the chief bibliographic materials in music and music education to help develop skills of research and writing necessary to produce a thesis or other formal research paper.

MHIS 692. 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.

MHIS 798. Research Project. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 credits. Corequisite: APPM 799 Final research or expository document for performance and composition majors. Content to be approved by graduate committee.