

MUSIC (MU)

MU-101 Music Experiences 1 (2 credits)

This course offers the student an integrated approach to understanding music through singing, listening, playing instruments, reading notes, and creating music. Emphasis is on making and enjoying music by understanding the basic concepts of melody, rhythm, harmony, form, and expressive elements. She learns the basics of autoharp, soprano recorder, resonator bells, piano, small percussion instruments, and vocal production.

Prerequisite(s): HUM-150 completed. FA-110 or LA-230 completed.

MU-102 Understanding Music Fundamentals (2 credits)

The student explores the basic concepts of music by listening and by analysis, creation, and simple performances of musical examples.

MU-125 Music & Wellness Workshops (1 credit)

A range of topics related to music and wellness are the subject of this 1-credit workshop. Open to non-music majors.

Prerequisite(s): Open to all students.

MU-129 Acappella Vocal Group (1 credit)

A Cappella involves creating modern commercial music only with voices, including vocal percussion/beatboxing instead of traditional drums. This course requires students to have strong intonation and rhythm skills, a willingness to experiment vocally across genres, and an ability to work well in a team.

Prerequisite(s): Music Major or audition for non-music majors
Other information: Auditions will be held the first week of class to remain registered in the class

MU-130 Alverno College Choir (1 credit)

The Women's Choir offers students from all areas of study an opportunity to learn and perform choral music for women's voices. The chorus performs one concert each semester as well as performing at various local and college functions. (Non-music majors welcome)

Prerequisite(s): Open to all students; basic ability to match pitch required. Success of the choir as a whole require that you make a commitment to be in this course for the entire semester and attend all class sessions.

MU-131 Alverno Chamber Music Ensemble (1 credit)

An elite chamber music ensemble dedicated to learning and performing early music, in addition to chamber music that is appropriate for our ensemble. A primarily vocal ensemble, although not necessarily exclusive to singers. Prerequisite: Audition or consent of instructor, Molly Pufall (molly.pufall@alverno.edu)

Prerequisite(s): Prerequisite: Audition or consent of instructor. A full year commitment is strongly encouraged.

MU-133 Instrumental Ensemble: Strings (1 credit)

This course provides small ensemble experience for all string players. The student learns, practices and performs a wide variety of repertoire at both on- and off-campus events.

Prerequisite(s): Ability to read & play written music for violin, viola or cello. Students should be comfortable playing in the first three positions on all four strings and be able to play two octave scales in those positions.

MU-134 Guitar Ensemble (1 credit)

Students will play duos, trios and jazz pieces from written notation and lead sheets, learning to coordinate guitar techniques with other players and how to arrange ensemble pieces.

Prerequisite(s): Other information: Music major, declared minor or permission of Instructor. Meeting time scheduled by Instructor emailing students. Experience reading music notation for guitar & playing a variety of chords. Permission of Instructor required for non-majors.

MU-135 Instrumental Chamber Ensembles (1 credit)

Music meant to be played by a small ensemble of like instruments, directed by a Music faculty member specializing in that instrument.

MU-136 Jazz/Pop Ensemble (1 credit)

An elite chamber music ensemble dedicated to learning and performing Early music, in addition to chamber music that is appropriate for our ensemble. A primarily vocal ensemble, although not necessarily exclusive to singers. Prerequisite: Audition or consent of instructor, Molly Pufall (molly.pufall@alverno.edu)

Prerequisite(s): Music major or permission of instructor. Arrange and perform music for small combo (winds, guitar, bass, drums and singers).

MU-137 Flute Choir (1 credit)

Flute Choir

Prerequisite(s): Music Major or permission from department. Instructor schedules meeting times with students. Experience reading music for flute. Permission of instructor for non-music majors or supports.

MU-138 Instrumental Ensemble: Winds (1 credit)

This course provides small-ensemble experience for all wind players. The student learns, practices, and performs a wide variety of repertoire at both on- and off-campus events. (Nonmajors welcome)

Prerequisite(s): Ability to play wind instrument. Contact Music Dept Chair for further information.

MU-139 Collaborative Piano (1 credit)

This class focuses on the technique and art of collaborative piano-playing, which will take form through accompanying a major project or ensemble or playing with other pianists in an ensemble setting. Student must be a piano major to be eligible for the class or receive approval from LaRita Craft to enroll.

Prerequisite(s): Must be a Piano major with approval from instructor to enroll.

MU-157 Theory 1 (3 credits)

MU-157L Theory 1 Lab (1 credit)

MU-158 Theory II (3 credits)

Offered Fall Term only. The student solidifies her understanding and skills learned in MU 151 and expands her ability to identify basic elements by seeing them in various contexts, such as tonal function, stylistic traits, or formal patterns. She continues using the multiactivity approach initiated in MU 151. Melodic and rhythmic content include one-and two-part exercises in major, minor, and church modes. The harmonic content includes choral style, using primary and secondary triads, dominant seventh chords, and simple modulatory processes. The student reinforces and demonstrates her understanding of musical elements and procedures through practical application of the keyboard. The Kodaly concept of solfege is continued.

Prerequisite(s): MU 151 or MU-157 completed. Take MU-158L concurrently.

MU-158L Theory II Lab (1 credit)

Take concurrent with MU-158

Prerequisite(s): Take concurrent with MU-158.

MU-210 Improvisational Music (2 credits)

Music and Culture Series

Prerequisite(s): FA-110 Series or LA-230 completed; HUM-150 Series completed; CM-125 completed. Preference given to students req to take this course if enrollment exceeds limit.

MU-216 Music Culture: Latin America (2 credits)

Music in Caribbean and Latin American countries features a blending of Spanish, West African, Indian, and European traditions. The student listens to music examples and analyzes them for cultural influences. She reads about music styles in Mexico, Trinidad, Jamaica, Cuba, Puerto Rico, and Brazil and examines Hispanic music in the United States.

Prerequisite(s): FA-110 & HUM-150 completed. CM-125 completed.

Preference given to students required to take this course if enrollment exceeds limit.

MU-250 Musical Theatre: on Stage & Screen (4 credits)

In this studio-and-discussion class, students will study the most popular theatrical genre of the 20th and 21st Centuries—the musical. By analyzing scripts, libretti, scores and production practices, the students will explore the musical's evolution in terms of form and content. Using performance-based analytic frameworks, the students will investigate the relationship among spoken text, music, movement and visual production practices.

Through cultural and historical analysis, students will explore how the musical reflects or envisions political, economic, and social realities. The students will also analyze how the medium of film has influenced the musical's development. These multi-dimensional analyses will assist students in making creative physical, vocal and music choices to present scenes from musicals in class.

Prerequisite(s): FA-110 & HUM-150 completed; CM-125 completed.

Preference given to students required to take this course if enrollment exceeds limit.

MU-257 Theory III (3 credits)

Prerequisite(s): MU 152 or MU-158 completed

MU-257L Theory III Lab (1 credit)

Prerequisite(s): Concurrent registration with MU-257

MU-258 Theory IV (3 credits)

The student refines her skills of analysis in the study of increasingly complex forms. She sharpens her analytical skills by identifying the organizing principle(s) of an entire composition, showing how all parts interrelate to create the whole. She begins to study more closely the relation of structure and style, examining works from several frameworks. The Kodaly concept of solfege is continued.

Prerequisite(s): MU 241 or MU-257 completed.

MU-261 Origins of Music/Many Cultures (3 credits)

Course Offered Fall Term only. In this first of two period courses, the student is introduced to music within a historical perspective. She learns how to explore the interrelationships of music events, musical styles, forms and genres, and contemporaneous social conditions. Representative works of early Western music through Baroque are studied along with selected world music. The 3-credit course includes a lab.

Prerequisite(s): FA-110 Series or LA-230 completed; HUM-150 Series completed; CM-125 completed. Other information Music background helpful, involves analysis of classical music. Non-music majors take section 01 (2cr); Music majors take section 02 (3 cr) plus 1 hr.

MU-262 Favorite Classical Music (2 credits)

Offered Spring Term only. The student continues to examine music within its historical setting. The music studied is from the Classical and Romantic periods; music from the 20th century is introduced. The 3-credit course includes a lab.

Prerequisite(s): FA-110 series courses, HUM-150 series course & CM-125 completed. Preference given to students req to take this course if enrollment exceeds limit. For Music Majors: MU-261 completed. Sect 2 is for Music Majors only. Additional information: Experience with classical music required to enter class. Non-music majors must get permission of instructor. Offered Spring Term only.

MU-276 Music Technology (2 credits)

The student is introduced to the MIDI-based (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) electronic music studio. She has hands-on experience with music software and hardware, analyzing operating principles through course readings and discussion. Hardware used includes synthesizers, samplers, computers, mixers, and digital audio recorders. Software applications include music notation, sequencing, digital audio processing, and music education. The 3-credit course includes a lab.

Prerequisite(s): FA-110 Series or LA-230 completed; HUM-150 Series completed; CM-125 completed. Preference given to students req to take this course if enrollment exceeds limit.

MU-297 Independent Study (1 credit)

Under the approval and direction of a faculty member, independent study is available to students.

MU-310 Rock & Roll History (2 credits)

Rock & roll has been the mainstream popular music of America since the 1950's. In this course, the student examines parallels between popular music styles and American society from the 1950s through the present. She analyzes the music of major performers for its artistic quality and discusses values issues related to Western popular music.

Prerequisite(s): One Communication Level 3 ICM completed; one course in HFA-210 elective completed. Preference given to students required to take this course if enrollment exceeds limit.

MU-372 Contemporary Music (2-3 credits)

Offered Spring Term only. This course begins with composers active in the early part of the 20th century, such as Debussy, Schoenberg, and Stravinsky, and progresses in a chronological fashion to survey contemporary composers, such as Berio, Crumb, Reich, and Glass. Major stylistic trends - their origins and compositional techniques as well as structural and harmonic analysis - enable the student to gain greater insights into the music of the last century. The 3-credit course includes a lab.

Prerequisite(s): One Communication Level 3 ICM completed; one course in HFA-210 elective completed. MU-261 or MU-262-completed. Preference given to students required to take this course if enrollment exceeds limit. Non-Music majors must get permission of instructor to enter class. Sect 2 is for Music Majors only. Lab time is Tuesday 11:10-12 noon. Offered Spring Term only.

MU-382 Music Across Cultures: Milwaukee (2 credits)

Offered Spring term only. The diversity of cultural groups in a city like Milwaukee is reflected by the many distinct music styles that coexist in it. The student examines ethnic, popular, and classical genres of music and their meaning for different groups in the city, and she completes an in-depth field study of one thriving music tradition.

Prerequisite(s): One Communication Level 3 ICM completed; one course in HFA-210 elective completed. Preference given to students required to take this course if enrollment exceeds limit. Section 02: meets for 1 credit lab tba.

MU-397 Independent Study (1 credit)

Independent Study

MU-399 Formal Introduction to Advanced Work (0 credits)

The Advanced-Level Event marks a significant accomplishment for each student as she proceeds into the work of her major department. When a department determines that a student is ready for advanced work within a discipline, the student is invited to participate in a ceremony that is both a celebration and an explanation of future requirements of the major and support areas. She registers for this experience at a point determined by her major department: for most majors the registration is connected to the taking of a particular course. Students and faculty gather for an afternoon during Mid-semester Assessment Days. Following a general program, students meet in departmental sessions with their faculty to discuss advanced outcomes, department courses, advising procedures, and so on.

Prerequisite(s): MU 241 or MU-257 completed.

MU-483 Advanced Internship Seminar (2 credits)

Based on her personal, academic, and professional goals and interests, the student does individual fieldwork at a job setting related to her major. An on-campus interdisciplinary seminar accompanies the internship, and helps her develop her professional abilities and effectively transfer classroom skills to the working world.

Prerequisite(s): Departmental consent, confer with advisor. Contact Internship Office for details and placement assistance.

MU-490 Seminar: Collaboration in Performance (2 credits)

Offered Spring Term only. This course is an examination of major dance/theater/music works and performance art that have employed the collaborative process. The student considers the historical and cultural contexts of such works and explores the unique vision presented by each. This course also provides a format for the development of original collaborations by class members.

Prerequisite(s): Offered Spring Term only

MU-493 Form & Analysis (2 credits)

Prerequisite(s): MU-257 completed

MU-494 Songwriting & Arranging (1 credit)

Prerequisite(s): MU-257 completed.

MU-495 Applied Music Culmination Project (0 credits)

This culmination program is required of all bachelor of music majors. The student is given the opportunity to demonstrate her music performance at an advanced level.

Prerequisite(s): Consent of applied instructor. Six prior semesters of MUA lessons required.

MU-497 Independent Study (2 credits)

Under the approval and direction of a faculty member, independent study is available to students.

Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor.