# Music Theory for Dancers

**Description:** A music fundamentals course designed especially for dancers dealing with the basic elements of music, with special emphasis on rhythm.

**Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students will develop an understanding of basic music terminology.
2. Students will develop skills in rhythm and meter in order to enhance dance performance and choreography.
3. Students will develop skill in basic eurhythmics and be able to translate rhythm into dance movement.
4. Students will develop skills in music notation.
5. Students will develop skills in basic rhythmic ear training and be able to write out and analyze rhythm from dictation.

**Assessments:** Students will be assessed on movement projects, homework, written quizzes, a midterm and final.

**Course Requirements:** Attendance is mandatory according to the UNLV Code. Each student is allowed one unexcused absence unless there are extenuating circumstances. Six or more unexcused absences will result in the failure of the classwork and participation grade. All assignments must be turned in on time. Late homework will not be accepted. There will not be any make-up tests or quizzes. **All homework and tests must be done in pencil or points will be deducted.**

All Dance Majors & Minors are required to work production for the Department concerts. Please schedule your hours around this class because you are not excused from this class.

**Required Readings:**


Text worksheets are given out in class.
PLEASE DO NOT SCHEDULE PLANE TICKETS HOME FOR HOLIDAYS BEFORE THE MIDTERM AND FINAL ARE GIVEN. THESE TESTS WILL NOT BE MADE UP UNLESS THERE IS AN EMERGENCY.

WEEK | TOPIC
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1-3 | Intro, Placement Test. Musical Terms and Symbols, Sensing the beat with movement exercises, rhythmic ear training and rhythmic dictation. One, two, three and four parts to the beat. Sensing the "up" beat or half beat and basic meters.
4-6 | Rhythmic Notation, the learning of note values and rests. Simple meter. Dotted Notes, Sixteenth-note Combinations with movement exercises. Rhythmic Dictation with note values.
7 | Mixed Meter: Constant and changing beats.
9-10 | With Exercises with Drum Sticks. Mixed Meter continued with Counterpoint.
11-12 | Body Percussion and Rhythmic Poetry.
13 | THANKSGIVING RECESS - NOVEMBER 24-27.
14-15 | Score Analysis with Movement Exercise. Review
16 | FINAL - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 8 a.m.

**Grading Procedures:** Movement projects ----------------------------------------------- 20%
Classwork, Homework & Participation----------------------------------------------- 20%
Midterm-------------------------------------------------------------------------------- 25%

95 - 100 = A 84 - 86 = B 74 - 76 = C 64 - 66 = D 90 - 94 = A- 80 - 83 = B- 70 - 73 = C- 60 - 63 = D- 87 - 89 = B+ 77 - 79 = C+ 67 - 69 = D+
00 - 59 = F
Final----------------------------------------------------------------------------------- 35%

**Grading Scale:**

0 – 1 = A 2 = B 3 = C 4 = D 5+ = F

**Absences:**

**The instructor reserves the right to change the content of this syllabus (except for the grading scale) depending upon the availability of class materials, equipment, time and class progress. Students with disabilities should inform the instructor as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made to accommodate them. Please see policy below. Students who wish to be excused from class due to religious holidays should inform the instructor as soon as possible.**

**Final Exam**

FINAL - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 8 a.m.
Academic Misconduct—Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV’s function as an educational institution.

An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the Student Academic Misconduct Policy (approved December 9, 2005) located at: https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct.

Copyright—The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at: http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)—The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, http://drc.unlv.edu/, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

Religious Holidays Policy—Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for fall and spring courses (excepting modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for summer and modular courses,
of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit: http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531.

Transparency in Learning and Teaching—The University encourages application of the transparency method of constructing assignments for student success. Please see these two links for further information:

Incomplete Grades—The grade of I—Incomplete—can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student’s control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. The incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester for undergraduate courses. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

UNLV Writing Center—One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 702-895-3908. The student’s Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/.

Rebelmail—By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students’ Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV’s official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students’ e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @unlv.nevada.edu. Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.

Final Examinations—The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at: http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars. Any other class specific information—(e.g., absences, make-up exams, status reporting, extra credit policies, plagiarism/cheating consequences, policy on electronic devices, specialized department or college tutoring programs, bringing children to class, policy on recording classroom lectures, etc.)
Have a great semester!