Eastern Washington University Theory Program

Undergraduate Curriculum

The EWU Music Theory core curriculum comprises six quarters of theory and five quarters of musicianship.

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**Placement Exams:** All freshman and transfer students must take placement tests before taking theory, piano and sight singing. These tests are offered at the beginning of each fall quarter.

Students majoring in music must maintain a final grade of 2.8 or more to pass a music course. All grades are based on a scale of 4.

**Piano Proficiency**

Students are **required** to pass a piano proficiency exam by the fall quarter of their second year in the program. Transfer students **must** pass the exam by the second quarter of enrollment. For more information please go to the piano information page on our website or call Dr. Graves at 359-6119
Theory Core
Undergraduate level two year sequence

Four one hour seminars per week with primary instructor

Theory 101  This course is an introductory music theory course devoted to notation, scales, intervals, keys, and elementary harmony. Text: Benward and White: *Music in Theory and Practice*.

Theory 102  This course introduces the study of harmonic practice, part writing, two voice counterpoint, and melodic construction. Text: Benward and White: *Music in Theory and Practice*.

Theory 103  This course places emphasis on Roman numeral analyses, modulation, non-dominant and secondary dominant seventh chords. Text: Benward and White: *Music in Theory and Practice*.

Theory 201  This course reviews contrapuntal techniques, presents Roman numeral and voice leading analyses of Baroque and classical works, and investigates classical forms. Text: Aldwell and Schachter: *Harmony and Voice Leading*.

Theory 202  This course presents a study of chromatic harmonies, voice leading, and advanced harmonic practice. Text: Aldwell and Schachter: *Harmony and Voice Leading*.

Theory 203  This course presents a study of analytical techniques for late 19th and 20th century music. Text: Joel Lester: *Analytic Approaches to Twentieth Century Music*.

(Required course for Composition majors)

Theory 401  This advanced theory course offers an opportunity for students to compare a variety of analytical perspectives of classical and contemporary works. Text: Nicholas Cook: *A Guide to Musical Analysis*. 
Graduate level Theory Curriculum

Historical Analysis of Musical Structure 560
This course presents an overview of classical forms, and analytical techniques for creating structural analyses.

Topics in Theory 596
This seminar focuses on the analysis of music from a specific period chosen among the following: Medieval/Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Twentieth Century. This class is taught by different instructors. The course content will vary from year to year.
Musicianship Skills Core Curriculum
Undergraduate level two year sequence

Sight Singing and Aural Skills 104
In this class, students are introduced to the skills necessary for successful sight singing including: vocal production, intervals, major and minor scales and triads. The ear training portion of class focuses on melodic and rhythmic dictation and error detection. Students are required to practice skills outside of class using MacGamut—a computer program.

Sight Singing and Aural Skills 105
This class is a continuation of 104, but introduces students to C clefs, compound meter and more complex rhythms (syncopation). Sight singing emphasizes four-part chorales and "Sing and Plays."

Sight Singing and Aural Skills 106
This course is similar to the previous two quarters with an introduction of modulation and some chromaticism. New skills include increasingly complex melodic, rhythmic and harmonic sight singing and dictation exercises. Continued practice on MacGamut.

Sight Singing and Aural Skills 204
Second year sight singing / aural skills emphasizes the application and extension of skills learned in the first year. These skills include: singing and identifying intervals, scales, triads; identifying chords and their inversions; harmonic progressions and melodic dictation (transcription). Continued practice on MacGamut.

Sight Singing and Aural Skills 205
This class is the same as 204 with more complex harmonic progressions, dictations with chromaticism and modulations. Continued practice on MacGamut.