

COURSE OUTLINE
MUSC-121
Introduction to Music Technology
2 Semester Hours

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course is an introduction to the terminology, concepts, and basic skills needed to work with computer-based music applications and basic MIDI (synthesizer) technology used in core music classes. The order in which these projects are presented is intended to correspond to curricula in the music department, although non-music major students may enroll in this class. The course is also designed to give students a background that will allow them to more easily incorporate additional technology which they will find in the world of music and music education. It is strongly recommended that students take this class during their first semester of matriculation into the music curriculum. (2 hours weekly)

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Work comfortably with specific computer applications that will enhance students' efforts in their core music classes.
2. Create computer generated notation using desktop publishing music software.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic techniques of music file management and editing on the computer.
4. Demonstrate a basic working understanding of the sound synthesis technologies of commonly available commercial synthesizers.
5. Arrange, compose, and play back simple music using available music software.
6. Incorporate other technology they will find in the world of music and music education.

Major Topics

- I. Basic concepts of using the computer in a musical context.
- II. Ear training programs currently being used in Music Theory I - IV
- III. Music publishing software
- IV. Introduction to MIDI techniques
- V. Introduction to computer-generated sound synthesis

Course Requirements

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include class participation and the following:

Final grades will be calculated from written tests based on classroom lectures and assigned readings and projects containing original/arranged music demonstrating the student's command of the technological skills introduced in the classroom.

Other Course Information

This course is an Arts and Sciences elective, a Fine Arts elective, and a Humanities elective.