

Bakersfield College

Musc B2-03 Basic Elements of Music (crn: 31823)

Kyle Burnham, Instructor

MW 2:35pm – 4:00pm in Fine Arts 65

Office Hours: MW 9:30am-11:00am; TTh 4:10pm-5:10pm in FA 73F

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Required Texts:

Gerhold, John. *A Plain English Guide to Music Fundamentals*, 3rd ed.

Kendall Hunt, 2015. ISBN-978-1-5249-0672-6

Course Overview:

Music B2 Basic Elements of Music covers the music notation system—how musicians show the sound of music on paper. This includes learning to read both pitch and rhythm; learning about rhythmic relationships (meter); and learning about pitch relationships (major/minor tonality, scales, triads and other chords, and harmonic function).

Student Learning Outcomes:

A successful student in this class (earning a grade of C or better) will learn enough about written music that he or she will be able to:

- 1) write any triad or seventh chord in root position in any key;
- 2) recognize (analyze) any diatonic chord in context in a given key; and
- 3) reflect upon the cultural significance of music and the music notation system.

Course Requirements:

- 1) Attendance is mandatory. Students absent more than 3 times may be dropped.
- 2) **Students that are absent for any class meeting during the first two weeks of the class without notifying the instructor will be dropped.**
- 3) **All students are expected to check their campus email regularly. Most handouts will be distributed in this manner. Students must print their own copies.**
- 4) There will be unscheduled in-class assignments that will count as much as a homework assignment. Students who miss such assignments may not make them up.
- 5) Homework is assigned almost every night. You are responsible for reading the syllabus and being aware of assignments and due dates. Only complete and on-time assignments will receive credit. **Late homework will not be accepted.**
- 6) There are two **Midterm** tests (see below for dates).
- 7) There is a **Final** exam (see below for date).
- 8) The final grade will be computed as follows (see below):

Final Grade Information

Homework:	x 400pts
Two Mid-term exams—200 points each	x 400pts
Final exam—200 points	x 200pts
	1000 possible

Final grade

880 + = **A** 790-879 = **B** 650-789 = **C** 550-649 = **D** 549 and below = **F**

Habits of Mind:

How will you succeed at BC this semester? What determines success is not circumstance, but habit. **Habits of Mind, It's POSSIBLE at BC** has many free tools intended to help you accomplish your goals in school. Only you can overcome the challenges you face this semester and in life. Start out successfully with these steps.

- Visit the Habits of Mind website: www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/habits-of-mind.
- Download the app for Habits of Mind at Bakersfield College for power in your palm.
- Ask for help, do the work, and refuse to quit.

Success takes energy, planning, and strategies for both the expected challenges in school as well as the unexpected twists life can take. Ask your professor for more information. Now is the time to develop new habits.

Tutoring:

BC students get free peer one-on-one tutoring in the BC Tutoring Center in most subjects, including this class. Students get one 50-minute session per subject per week with a tutor who has successfully completed the class and is trained to be a tutor. We also have drop-in tutoring in math and English all day long. Come up to the Tutoring Center to schedule an appointment. If you have any questions, please call 395-4430 or check us out on-line at <http://bcacademicdevelopmentdepartment.weebly.com/tutoring-center.html>

For Students with disabilities:

Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSPS) located in the Student Services Building, 1st floor, Counseling Center, 395-4334, as soon as possible to better ensure such accommodations are implemented in a timely manner.

Section 1: The Musical Alphabet

Week 1 Chapter 1. Notation of Pitch

W 1/17 Discuss Syllabus (sent to BC email—print, read, bring!)
Reading Pitches

Week 2 Chapter 1 continued.

M 1/22 “Reading “To the Student” p. v due.
“Notation of Pitch” pp. 1-24 due.
Syllabus contract due.

W 1/23 Let’s Try It” pp. 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, and 25 due

*****Sun 1/29--LAST DAY TO DROP A SEMESTER LENGTH CLASS
WITHOUT A “W” GRADE**

Week 3

M 1/29 Chapter 1 Exercises pp. 27-30 due.

Chapter 2. Notation of Duration (Rhythm)

W 1/31 Reading “Notation of Duration” pp. 31-43 due.
“Let’s Try It!” pp. 35, 39, and 45 due.

Week 4 Chapter 3. Notation of Interpretation

M 2/5 Chapter 2 Exercises pp. 47-51 due.

W 2/7 Reading pp. 53-62 due.
“Let’s Try It!” p. 57 due. Ch 3 Exercises pp. 63-66 due.
Review for First Midterm.

Week 5

M 2/12 First Midterm (200pts)

Section 2: Using the Musical Alphabet to “Spell”

W 2/14 Chapter 4. Meter and Time Signatures

Reading pp. 67-81 due.

“Let’s Try It!” pp. 71 and 75 due.

Week 6

M 2/19 Presidents day –No Class

W 2/21 “Let’s Try It!” 79-80 due.

Chapter 4 Exercises pp. 83-86 due.

Week 7

Chapter 5. Major and Minor Seconds

M 2/26 Reading pp. 87-101 due.

“Let’s Try It!” pp. 89-90, 93 and 99 due.

Chapter 5 Exercises pp. 103-105 due.

Chapter 6. Major Scales and Key Signatures

W 2/28 Reading pp. 107-129 due.

“Let’s Try It!” pp. 109, 115, and 121 due.

Chapter 6. Exercises pp. 131-134 due.

Week 8

Chapter 7. Minor Scales and Key Signatures

M 3/5 Reading pp. 135-155 due.

“Let’s Try It!” pp. 137, 138-139 and 147 due.

“Let’s Try It!” p. 151 due.

W 3/7 Chapter 7. Exercises pp. 157-160 due.

Review for Second Midterm.

Week 9

M 3/12 **Second Midterm.**

Section 3: Expressing a Meaningful Musical Idea: Harmony

W 3/14 Reading pp. 163-175 due.
"Let's Try It!" pp. 165 and 169 due.

Week 10

Chapter 8. Intervals

M 3/19 "Let's Try It!" pp. 173 and 177-178 due.

W 3/21 Reading pp. 179-203 due.
"Let's Try It!" pp. 183, 187-188

FRIDAY, March 23

LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITH A "W" GRADE
(If you are struggling, drop the class to avoid a D or F)

******Spring Break 3/26-3/30******

Week 11 Chapter 8 cont.

M 4/2 "Let's Try It!" 191, 195 and 199 due.

W 4/4 Chapter 8. Exercises pp. 203-206 due.

Chapter 9 Triads and Seventh Chords

Week 12

M 4/9 Reading pp. 207-221 due.
"Let's Try It!" pp. 211, 215, 219, and 223 due.

W 4/11 Reading pp. 225-231 due.
"Let's Try It!" p. 229 due.

Week 13

M 4/16 Chapter 9. Exercises pp. 233-236 due.

W 4/18 Chapter 10. Harmonic Analysis.

Reading pp. 237-244 due.
"Let's Try It!" pp. 241 and 245 due.

Week 14 Chapter 10. Harmonic Analysis.

M 4/23 Reading pp. 247-255 due.

“Let’s Try It!” pp. 249 and 253 due.

W 4/25 Chapter 10. Exercises pp. 257-259 due.

Week 15 Preparing for the final.

M 4/30 Analysis worksheet due.

W 5/2 Review for Final

Final Exam: Mon, May 7 2:00– 3:50pm

Late work and missed tests and quizzes

Each student is entitled to **ONE** late assignment **OR** test make-up (not one of each). This work must be completed by the class meeting immediately following the original due date unless otherwise arranged with the instructor. *No other missed or late work will be accepted.*

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and/or cheating are serious offenses with serious consequences. Students caught doing either will at a minimum receive a zero for the assignment or test and be reported to the Dean of Students for a hearing that may lead to further disciplinary actions.

Extra Credit

**No opportunities for extra credit will be made available in this course.
Don’t ask!**

I have read the preceding syllabus for Music B2 Basic Elements of Music.

I understand the grading policy and course requirements and agree to complete those requirements as assigned.

I understand that should I choose to drop this class, it is my responsibility to notify Admissions and Records prior to the drop date and communicate my decision to the instructor.

signature

date

print name (legibly please!)