

 <b>FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>NEW COURSE PROPOSAL</b> <b>Undergraduate Programs</b>		UUPC Approval _____ UFS Approval _____ SCNS Submittal _____ Confirmed _____ Banner Posted _____ Catalog _____	
	<b>Department</b>  <b>College</b> <i>(To obtain a course number, contact <a href="mailto:erudolph@fau.edu">erudolph@fau.edu</a>)</i>			
<b>Prefix</b>  <b>Number</b>	<i>(L = Lab Course; C = Combined Lecture/Lab; add if appropriate)</i>  <b>Lab Code</b>	<b>Type of Course</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	
<b>Credits</b> <i>(See <a href="#">Definition of a Credit Hour</a>)</i>	<b>Grading</b> <i>(Select One Option)</i>  <b>Regular</b>  <b>Sat/UnSat</b>	<b>Course Description</b> <i>(Syllabus must be attached; see <a href="#">Template</a> and <a href="#">Guidelines</a>)</i>		
<b>Effective Date</b> <i>(TERM &amp; YEAR)</i>				
<b>Prerequisites, with minimum grade*</b>		<b>Corequisites</b>	<b>Registration Controls</b> <i>(Major, College, Level)</i>	
<b>*Default minimum passing grade is D-. Prereqs., Coreqs. &amp; Reg. Controls are enforced for all sections of course</b>				
<b>WAC/Gordon Rule Course</b>  Yes                      No  WAC/Gordon Rule criteria must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to proposal. See <a href="#">WAC Guidelines</a> .		<b>Intellectual Foundations Program (General Education) Requirement</b> <i>(Select One Option)</i>  General Education criteria must be indicated in the syllabus and approval attached to the proposal. See <a href="#">Intellectual Foundations Guidelines</a> .		
<b>Minimum qualifications to teach course</b>				
<b>Faculty Contact/Email/Phone</b>		<b>List/Attach comments from departments affected by new course</b>		
<b>Approved by</b> Department Chair _____ College Curriculum Chair _____ College Dean _____ UUPC Chair _____ Undergraduate Studies Dean _____ UFS President _____ Provost _____			<b>Date</b> 1-9-26 01/16/2026 1/16/2026 _____ _____ _____ _____	

Email this form and syllabus to [mjenning@fau.edu](mailto:mjenning@fau.edu) seven business days before the UUPC meeting.

# TPP 1250

## Music Fundamentals for Theatre Performance

3 credits

Fall 2025

Prof. Ryan Townsend

Office: Arts and Letter 185

Office hours: Monday @2:30, Tuesday @10am, Wednesday @1:30

Classroom: XXXX

Telephone: 484-574-4983

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### Course Description

Introduction to fundamental musical concepts for musical theatre performers, choreographers, and stage managers in preparation for music rehearsals for musical theatre productions.

### Instructional Method

This course is offered In-Person with no remote option for this course.

### Prerequisites/Corequisites

Permission of the instructor based on proficiency entrance tests.

### Course Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to identify, define, and explain essential music concepts, elements, and terminology by successfully completing written exams. Students will be able to identify and produce accurate pitches at sight and identify intervals and simple melodies by ear. Students will be able to analyze the written score for musical theatre at a basic functional level

### Course Evaluation Method

#### Grading Rubric:

<b>A</b> 90-100	<b>Quality of work:</b> always turns in outstanding work that goes beyond the requirements. Sets a standard which can be used as a mark for other students to aspire to. <b>Deadlines:</b> all work in on time. <b>Attendance:</b> meets all classes as outlined in the Attendance Policy <b>Attitude:</b> does not necessarily work for grade alone but for what is to be gained from each learning experience. Shows distinct awareness of the interrelationship between this class and other studies.
<b>B</b> 80-89	<b>Quality of work:</b> turns in consistently good work, but knowledge and skills are not fully developed <b>Deadlines:</b> all work in on time. <b>Attendance:</b> meets all classes or accounts for absences as outlined in the Attendance Policy. <b>Attitude:</b> inquisitive and attentive to learning process.
<b>C</b> 70-79	<b>Quality of work:</b> average level of competence; describes the ability and performance of the majority of students who are neither above nor below the average. <b>Deadlines:</b> usually turns work in on time. <b>Attendance:</b> maintains minimum requirements for class attendance.

	<b>Attitude:</b> tendency to be phlegmatic in terms of interest and level of performance.
<b>D</b> 65-69	<b>Quality of work:</b> consistently below average <b>Deadlines:</b> seldom meets deadlines. <b>Attendance:</b> consistently poor attendance and unexplained absences. <b>Attitude:</b> unconcerned.
<b>F</b>	<b>Quality of work:</b> very poor work <b>Deadlines:</b> does not meet deadlines. <b>Attendance:</b> habitually poor attendance; unexplained absences. <b>Attitude:</b> Hostile or impervious to the learning process; apathetic.

## Evaluations:

### Class Participation (20%)

Students are expected to arrive on time to class and participate accordingly. See “**Attendance Policy**” for more details.

### Exams – (25%)

At the end of each unit there will be a written exam that will cover all the materials learned in the course up to that point. This is a cumulative class. Understanding the information that is offered early in the semester will be vital for success in the course as the material builds upon itself. In addition to the written aspects of an exam, there is the opportunity to include practical elements into these evaluations per the instructor’s desire.

### Practical Quizzes – (10%)

Sight-singing, dictation, and all other physical aspects of this course may be evaluated by giving a practical quiz at any point during the semester.

### Homework Assignments – (25%)

Written homework may be assigned on any given class period to further explore the concepts lectured in class.

### The Final – (20%)

## Notes

**\*PLEASE READ\*:** Since Theatre requires the use of mind, voice, and body, there might be situations that require a certain amount of physical contact between you and the Instructor and other students. If this presents a problem for you, please see the Instructor immediately to assess your chances for success in this course.

## Course Grading Scale

- A (100-94) 4.00- excellent work, consistently dynamic A- 3.75
- A- (93-90) 3.75
- B+ (89-87) 3.25
- B (86-84) 3.00- good work, but not consistently dynamic
- B- (83-80) 2.75
- C+ (79-77) 2.25
- C (76-74) 2.00- average work, meeting minimum requirements
- \*C- (73-70) 1.75- results in departmental probation
- \*D (69-60) 1.00- results in departmental probation
- \*F (<60) 0.00- results in departmental probation

\* (& Below)

## Attendance Policy

*Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is the student's responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student's final course grade as a direct result of such absences. Each unexcused absence will lower your participation grade by 10 points. Each tardy or lack of positive contribution may lower your participation grade by 5 points.*

## **Policy on Makeup Tests, Late Work, and Incompletes (if applicable)**

Two unexcused absences will result in an automatic "F" in any course meeting once per week. Each subsequent absence will lower your final grade by one letter grade. Five absences will result in automatic failure. Three tardies equals one absence. If you arrive to class after roll is taken, it is your responsibility to check in at the end of class to make sure your attendance is recorded. See University policies in the FAU Student Handbook <http://www.fau.edu/handbook/>

Students will not be penalized for absences due to participation in University-approved activities, but proof of involvement must be provided. Reasonable accommodation will be made for student absences due to religious observance(s). Also, note that grades of Incomplete ("I") are reserved only for students who are passing the course but have not completed all the required work because of exceptional circumstances. Incompletes should be pre-arranged with the instructor before the end of the term.

## **Special Course Requirements**

**Be Prepared:** Failure to present your songs on the days they are due will result in a grade of zero. Written work will be penalized at the rate of 10% for every day it is late and can be turned in no later than a week after its assigned due date. Any alterations to this policy will only be considered in an extreme emergency, on a case-by-case basis, and may require further written documentation.

**Social Media-** Students are not allowed to post images/video/audio of class/lesson activities without permission from those featured in the media (student or instructor). Any discovery of this material without the subjects' permission will result in automatic failure of this course and probation from the Musical Theatre program.

## **Classroom Etiquette Policy**

Cell phones are to be away and turned on silent during class. A large portion of this class is performance based. It is rude and disrespectful to be on your cell phone while another student is performing. Video and audio recording of classes is **NOT PERMITTED**. However, a student may request to have their individual performance audio or video recorded. This is at the discretion of the student and may only be used for their own practice. The video should not be shared with others or placed on social media.

Laptops will not be used to take notes in this class. If you should decide to take notes in the class, please use a notebook and pencil. If you are using a tablet to read sheet music, then you should only have that out during the coaching, not before or after.

## **Policy on the Recording of Lectures**

Students enrolled in this course may record video or audio of class lectures for their own personal educational use. A class lecture is defined as a formal or methodical oral presentation as part of a university course intended to present information or teach students about a particular subject.

Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to student presentations (whether individually or as part of a group), class discussion (except when incidental to and incorporated within a class lecture), labs, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving student participation, test or examination administrations, field trips, and private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the lecturer, is prohibited. Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation or class attendance and may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of the University's Student Code of Conduct and/or the Code of Academic Integrity.

## **Artificial Intelligence Preamble**

FAU recognizes the value of generative AI in facilitating learning. However, output generated by artificial intelligence (AI), such as written words, computations, code, artwork, images, music, etc., for example, is drawn from previously published materials and is not your own original work.

FAU students are not permitted to use AI for any course work unless explicitly allowed to do so by the instructor of the class for a specific assignment. [\[Policy 12.16 Artificial Intelligence\]](#)

Class policies related to AI use are decided by the individual faculty. Some faculty may permit the use of AI in some assignments but not others, and some faculty may prohibit the use of AI in their course entirely. In the case that an instructor permits the use of AI for some assignments, the assignment instructions will indicate when and how the use of AI is permitted in that specific assignment. It is the student's responsibility to comply with the instructor's expectations for each assignment in each course. When AI is authorized, the student is also responsible and accountable for the content of the work. AI may generate inaccurate, false, or exaggerated information. Users should approach any generated content with skepticism and review any information generated by AI before using generated content as-is.

If you are unclear about whether or not the use of AI is permitted, ask your instructor before starting the assignment.

Failure to comply with the requirements related to the use of AI may constitute a violation of the [Florida Atlantic Code of Academic Integrity, Regulation 4.001](#).

**Proper Citation:** If the use of AI is permitted for a specific assignment, then use of the AI tool must be properly documented and cited. For more information on how to properly cite the use of AI tools, visit <https://fau.edu/ai/citation>

**AI Prohibited:** The use of AI to assist in any work assigned in this specific course is prohibited.

## Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center

*Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services - individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few - offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>*

## Disability Policy

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU's campuses - Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter - however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at [www.fau.edu/sas/](http://www.fau.edu/sas/).*

## Code of Academic Integrity

*Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see [University Regulation 4.001](#).*

## Required Texts/Readings

- Scores and Music as Assigned
- 3 Ring Binder (with copies of assigned music), Duplicate copies for accompanist and instructor due week following assignment of piece
- Voice Recorder (Can be a digital voice recorder, computer, cell phone, etc.)

## Course Topical Outline



	Scheduled Activity	Assignments Due
<b>Week 1: Aug 18<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	Tuesday: Intro to Staff and Notes; Basic Terminology	
	Thursday: Review notes and terms. Intro to Solfege and Conducting	<b>Homework #2a Due</b>
<b>Week 2: Aug 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup></b>	Tuesday: Half Steps, Enharmonics, Frequency	<b>16 Bars of Audition Song Due</b>
	Thursday: Introduction to Rhythm	<b>Homework #4 Due</b>
<b>Week 3: Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Tuesday: Major Scales	<b>Homework #10 Due</b>
	Thursday: Test Review/Rhythmic Dictation <b>Practical Quiz - Conducting</b>	<b>Homework #6 Due</b>
<b>Week 4: Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup></b>	Tuesday: <b>TEST 1: Tetrachords, Major Scale</b>	
	Thursday: Circle of Fifths and Key Signatures	
<b>Week 5: Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Tuesday: Identifying Key Signatures	<b>Homework #8: Key Signatures Due</b>
	Thursday: Review Key Signatures	<b>Homework #9: Major Key Signatures Due</b>
<b>Week 6: Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup></b>	Tuesday: Test Review <b>Practical Quiz - Sight Singing 1</b>	<b>Homework #11: Major Key Signatures Due</b>
	Thursday: <b>TEST 2: Key Signatures and Rhythmic Dictation</b>	
<b>Week 7: Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> - Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Tuesday: Natural Minor Scales Parallel vs Relative	
	Thursday: Major/Minor Key Signatures	<b>Homework #12: Major and Natural Minor Scales</b>
<b>Week 8: Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Tuesday: Dotted Rhythms and Compound Meter	<b>Homework #15: Major and Minor Key Signatures Due</b>
	Thursday: Harmonic and Melodic Minor Scales	
<b>Week 9: Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup></b>	Tuesday: Review Minor Scales/Key Signatures <b>Practical Quiz - Sight Singing 2</b>	<b>Homework #16 Due</b>

Thursday:  
**TEST 3: Minor Scales and Key  
Signatures, Rhythmic Dictation**

**Week 10: Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>**

Tuesday: Perfect/Major Intervals  
and Minor

Thursday: Diminished/Augmented  
Intervals

**Homework #17: Major and  
Perfect Intervals Due  
Classwork #6: Major and  
minor intervals Due**

**Week 11: Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>**

Tuesday: Interval Inversions

**Homework #21: Due**

Thursday: Review Intervals  
**Practical Quiz - Sight Singing 3**

**Homework #22: Intervals Due**

**Week 12: Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>**

Tuesday:  
**TEST 4: INTERVALS**

Thursday: Major Triads

**Week 13: Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Tuesday: NO CLASSES  
(Labor Day)**

Thursday: Major/Minor Triads

**Classwork #8: Major Triads  
Due**

**Week 14: Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>**

Tuesday: Augmented/Diminished  
Triads

**Classwork #9: Major and  
Minor Triads Due**

Thursday: Triad Inversions

**Homework #23 Due**

**Week 15: Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>**

Tuesday: Final Review  
**Practical Quiz - Sight Singing 4**

**Homework #23 Due**

Thursday: **NO CLASSES  
(Thanksgiving Day)**

Final exam: Juries - Time and Date TBA