

Community Music Center
General Music Theory III Course Outline
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http://www.jkornfeld.net/cmc_theory_III.htm
http://www.jkornfeld.net/cmc_theory_III_outline.pdf

This class continues the course of study set out in the General Theory I and II classes and will be taught in a similar manner. One difference is that there will be more of an emphasis on compositional work (and homework) as a means of solidifying fluency within each topic.

The first phase of the class will be to do a quick review of materials from earlier theory classes. Within the review, however, we will add new depth to these familiar topics.

We will then explore concepts that gradually take an ever-expanding view of music into account; think how we started way back with single notes, then scales, then intervals, then multiple intervals (chords), then groups of chords (progressions), then chords and melodies, and so forth. We will discuss elements that relate to larger forms and structures, while trying to keep the smaller and earlier details in mind.

This is the proposed order of topics. There may be some variation in the sequence, but not too much:

Chords (construction and roman numerals) and chord progressions

Melody Construction

- **chord tones**
- **nonchord tones**

Structure: phrases & cadences

- **with chords**
- **in melodies**
- **periodic structures**

Basic compositional elements and practices within phrases

- **the sequence**
- **motive and motive development**

Modulation/Key-Changes

Musical Forms

- **Small forms**
- **Larger forms**

Modes

Counterpoint

Other Musical Textures

We will refer to the *Music...For Intelligent Beginners* book for review and new-topics purposes, but handouts will also be provided to go with new topics and add new perspectives. Please also plan on taking notes in class and do your homework with a PENCIL.

As always, let me know if/when you won't be able to make a class and I'll do my best to keep you caught up.