Description of Music 170 (Basic Musicianship) Test-Out

Music 170 is the prerequisite to the Music Program’s 3-course sequence in Music Theory & Composition. Students who have previously studied music theory may be able to test out of Music 170. Here’s what you will need to know for the test-out.

The test-out starts out with rather basic material and then becomes more difficult.

A. Basic musical definitions.

B. Identifying pitch names – lines and spaces on staves.

C. Naming various note and rest types.

D. Working with Time Signatures

E. Completing intervals above a given note:

F. Identifying intervals

G. Key Signatures

H. Identification of scales/keys

I. Writing out scales

J. Fill-in-the-blank with musical procedures. Relative and Parallel scale relationships.

K. Turning major scales into minor scales (change of mode).

L. Turning minor scales into major scales

M. Writing out Triads.

N. Interval Dictation. If given one note, identify, (by ear) what the other note is (within an octave’s range)