University of Ghana  
Department of Music  
Sample Spring Courses

MUSC 312  Chromatic Harmony  
Chromatic triads and scales. Chromatic chords of the ninth. False notation.  
Enharmonic modulation. Chromatic chords of the eleventh and thirteenth. The chord of  
the augmented sixth. Pedals and other sustained notes. Harmony in fewer and more than  
four parts. Modern harmonic tendencies. Prerequisite: MUSC 203

MUSC 314  The Orchestra and Orchestral Techniques  
The Orchestra: The Western orchestra: Past and Present. The instruments of the Western  
orchestra: strings, woodwind, brass, keyboard and percussion instruments. Orchestral  
musics: Conducting and conductors. Orchestral Techniques: Listening programmes with  
strategic exercises to test student's grasp of illustrated principles of orchestration. Aspects  
covered will include: texture, inter-sectional blends, balance, influence of  
dynamics, selection of instruments, etc. Selections will cover Baroque, Classical,  
Romantic and 20th Century models. Critical reviews of ensembles of African  
instruments.

MUSC 316  African Pop Music  
General introduction to the popular music of sub-Saharan Africa. Popular Music in terms  
of stylistic areas. Relation of popular music to traditional performance and  
modernisation.

MUSC 318  Music of Southern Africa  
Southern Africa as a geo-cultural area and the concept of musical cultures. Historical  
background of music in Southern Africa. A survey of the musical practices with  
particular reference to musical forms/styles, instruments and aesthetics and the  

MUSC 322  Romantic and Twentieth Century Music  
Social foundations of Western Romanticism. Heritage of Romantic composers and  
performers. Precursors to Romanticism in Western music. Prevailing course of  
development in the period: orchestral, structural and architectonic developments in  
Opera, symphonic music, song form, etc. Selected composers: Berlioz, Schumann,  
Wagner, Brahms. Compositional techniques of the twentieth century with emphasis on  
analytical techniques and style.
MUSC 326     Process of Art II
Continuing exploration of elements, forms, functions, meaning and production of music in its socio-cultural context. Student outreach programs: both inviting experts to the university and sending students on work experience, research and contextual inquiry projects.

MUSC 412     Extended Composition
Harmonic textures in not more than six voices using both diatonic and chromatic harmony. Writing for strings, woodwinds, brass instruments and the piano. Piano accompaniment. Setting words to music. Unaccompanied choral composition including textâ€’tone relationship in African music. Contrapuntal writing in the 16th Century styles of Palestrina, Byrd and Victoria. Motet in not more than six parts. Prerequisite: MUSC 401

MUSC 414     Music of North Africa
North Africa as a geo-cultural area and the concept of musical cultures. Historical background of music in North Africa. A survey of the musical practices with particular reference to musical forms/styles, instruments and aesthetics an the relationship of music to its culture. Western and Arabic influences on North African composers.

MUSC 416     Musical Traditions of the African Diaspora
African-American religious, cult and popular music from historical, cultural and stylistic perspectives and with special emphasis on the Caribbean and Latin America. The African heritage, retentions and re-interpretations. Thorough knowledge of examples of representative traditions.

MUSC 424     Theories in Western Music
Detailed knowledge and understanding of music theories contained in music treatises and other writings by theorists such as Rameau, Hemholtz, Schenker, Hindemith, Stravinsky, Meyer, Hanslick, etc.

MUSC 426     Form and Analysis in African Music
An analytical study of form and structure of musical types in Africa. An examination of rhythmic and melodic structures of specific musical types in selected African cultural and social contexts.

MUSC 428     Music Studio
Music sequencing. General concepts. Tracks/channels. Programming instruments. Data input. Time signatures, tempo change, quantization, loops, editing, etc. Students will realise two midi composition projects.

MUSC 430     African Drum Repertoire and Directing
Performance techniques and directing through the preparation and practice of African (and diasporic) drumming repertoires.