

**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, wood wind, 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 relationship of music to its culture. Contemporary trends in Southern African music.

**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 text-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 and 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.

