



# Music Institute of Chicago

## RCM Music Theory (Ages 7+)

**\$180.20 per semester tuition (includes materials) for students registered for private instruction at MIC**  
**\$420/fall semester (includes materials) and \$375/spring semester for students not taking private lessons at MIC**

### Prep-1: Discovering Music (Prep & Level 1) • 45 minutes • 15 weeks

This course provides a basic introduction to music literacy for younger students and lays the foundation for the later practical use that will help students in their private lessons. Note reading, clefs, time signatures, intervals, scales, and chords are all introduced and explained. (Corresponds to RCM levels Prep + 1)

|           |         |     |             |          |
|-----------|---------|-----|-------------|----------|
| Monday    | 4:00 PM | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 108 |
| Wednesday | 3:30 PM | TBD | Lake Forest | Room G11 |
| Wednesday | 4:00 PM | TBD | Evanston    | Room 2   |
| Saturday  | 9:00 AM | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 101 |
| Saturday  | 1:00 PM | TBD | Evanston    | Room 1   |

### 1-2: Building Blocks (Levels 1 & 2) • 45 minutes • 15 weeks

In this level, students will refine and deepen their use of the concepts introduced in previous levels, using more precise terms and starting to relate these concepts to each other. This will include scale degree names, key signatures, and different types of scales (major and minor) among other subjects. (Corresponds to RCM levels 1 +2)

|           |         |     |             |          |
|-----------|---------|-----|-------------|----------|
| Monday    | 4:45 PM | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 108 |
| Wednesday | 4:15 PM | TBD | Lake Forest | Room G11 |
| Wednesday | 4:45 PM | TBD | Evanston    | Room 2   |
| Saturday  | 9:45 AM | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 101 |
| Saturday  | 1:45 PM | TBD | Evanston    | Room 1   |

### 3: Musical Patterns (Level 3)

Level 3 adds an important new level of thinking, with the introduction of more abstract elements like chord symbols (roman numeral and root/quality), compositional processes like transposition, and more detailed study of intervals, scale degrees, key signatures and rhythm. (Corresponds to RCM level 3)

|           |          |     |             |          |
|-----------|----------|-----|-------------|----------|
| Monday    | 5:30 PM  | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 108 |
| Wednesday | 5:30 PM  | TBD | Evanston    | Room 2   |
| Wednesday | 5:30 PM  | TBD | Lake Forest | Room G11 |
| Saturday  | 10:30 AM | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 101 |
| Saturday  | 2:30 PM  | TBD | Evanston    | Room 1   |

### 4: Confident Musician (Level 4)

In this level, the achievements of the previous levels are deepened, consolidated, and solidified. Students who master this level will be comfortable with the use of exact intervals, most scale degree names, all key signatures up to 3 sharps/flats, basic rhythm values, and other basic elements, and they will be ready to start a more comprehensive study and application of these elements. (Corresponds to RCM level 4)

|           |         |     |          |          |
|-----------|---------|-----|----------|----------|
| Monday    | 6:15 PM | TBD | Winnetka | Room 108 |
| Wednesday | 6:15 PM | TBD | Evanston | Room 2   |

|           |          |     |             |          |
|-----------|----------|-----|-------------|----------|
| Wednesday | 6:15 PM  | TBD | Lake Forest | Room G11 |
| Saturday  | 11:15 AM | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 101 |
| Saturday  | 3:15 PM  | TBD | Evanston    | Room 1   |

## RCM Music Theory (Ages 11+)

### 5: Theory Essentials (Level 5)

This level is a good one for older students with little theory experience to use as a starting point, as well as being a continuation of previous levels. A review of elements from levels 1-4 is provided, at a faster pace and with more sophistication and explanatory detail, and new elements like chord inversions, dominant 7ths, key relationships, and phrasing patterns are introduced. (Corresponds to RCM level 5)

|          |          |     |             |          |
|----------|----------|-----|-------------|----------|
| Monday   | 3:30 PM  | TBD | Lake Forest | Room G11 |
| Thursday | 4:00 PM  | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 108 |
| Thursday | 4:15 PM  | TBD | Evanston    | Room 2   |
| Saturday | 12:00 PM | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 101 |
| Saturday | 9:00 AM  | TBD | Virtual     |          |

### 6: Musical Structure (Level 6)

Students in this level will start to consider beginning elements of larger structure and design in their music, by learning about cadences and phrasing patterns. They will acquire knowledge of all commonly used basic elements for non-20th century music: note values, time signatures, key signatures, exact intervals, and scale degrees names. (Corresponds to RCM level 6)

|          |          |     |             |          |
|----------|----------|-----|-------------|----------|
| Monday   | 4:15 PM  | TBD | Lake Forest | Room G11 |
| Thursday | 4:45 PM  | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 108 |
| Thursday | 5:00 PM  | TBD | Evanston    | Room 2   |
| Saturday | 12:45 PM | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 101 |
| Saturday | 9:45 AM  | TBD | Virtual     |          |

### Multi Levels

|          |          |         |         |         |
|----------|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| Saturday | 11:00 AM | Ke Wang | Chicago | Room 5E |
| Saturday | 2:00 PM  | Ke Wang | Chicago | Room 5E |

### 7: Expanding the Palette (Level 7)

Level 7 starts to introduce the 20th century, with many important scales used in music as well as the subject of melodic decoration (simple nonharmonic tones). Irregular beat divisions (quintuplet, etc.) and new (leading tone) 7th chords are the other primary new subjects, as well as continued review and use of past items. (Corresponds to RCM level 7)

|          |          |     |             |          |
|----------|----------|-----|-------------|----------|
| Monday   | 5:30 PM  | TBD | Lake Forest | Room G11 |
| Thursday | 5:30 PM  | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 108 |
| Thursday | 5:45 PM  | TBD | Evanston    | Room 2   |
| Saturday | 1:30 PM  | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 101 |
| Saturday | 10:30 AM | TBD | Virtual     |          |

### 8: Advanced Musicianship (Level 8)

By finishing this level, students will have a good basis for taking college music theory or starting a professional-level detailed study of the subject. They will be able to look at musical scores in various classical styles with a broad level of understanding of their elements and construction. Some new elements here are: C clefs, different types of scores, “hybrid”/irregular meters, compound intervals, modes, and voice-leading types. (Corresponds to RCM level 8)

|          |          |     |             |          |
|----------|----------|-----|-------------|----------|
| Monday   | 6:15 PM  | TBD | Lake Forest | Room G11 |
| Thursday | 6:15 PM  | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 108 |
| Thursday | 6:30 PM  | TBD | Evanston    | Room 2   |
| Saturday | 2:15 PM  | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 101 |
| Saturday | 11:15 AM | TBD | Virtual     |          |

### 9: Pre-College Musicianship (Level 9)

|          |          |               |         |         |
|----------|----------|---------------|---------|---------|
| Saturday | 11:00 AM | Marie Alatalo | Chicago | Room 5F |
|----------|----------|---------------|---------|---------|

## RCM Music Theory (Adults Ages 19+)

### 3: Adult Music Theory (Level 3)

|        |         |               |         |          |
|--------|---------|---------------|---------|----------|
| Monday | 2:00 PM | Marie Alatalo | Chicago | Studio 5 |
|--------|---------|---------------|---------|----------|

### 5: Adult Music Theory (Level 5)

This level is a good one for adult students with little theory experience to use as a starting point. An overview and introduction of basic elements like grand staff note reading, simple note values, simple time and key signatures, scales, chords, intervals, and some scale degree names, will be provided. To these are added the introduction of new elements like chord inversions, dominant 7ths, key relationships, and phrasing patterns. (Corresponds to RCM level 5)

|          |          |     |             |          |
|----------|----------|-----|-------------|----------|
| Friday   | 3:30 PM  | TBD | Lake Forest | Room G11 |
| Saturday | 12:00 PM | TBD | Virtual     |          |
| Sunday   | 1:00 PM  | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 124 |
| Sunday   | 1:00 PM  | TBD | Evanston    | Room 2   |

### 6: Adult Music Theory (Level 6)

Students in this level will start to consider beginning elements of larger structure and design in their music, by learning about cadences and phrasing patterns. They will end up with knowledge of all commonly used basic elements for non-20th century music: note values, time signatures, key signatures, exact intervals, and scale degrees names. (Corresponds to RCM level 6)

|          |          |     |             |          |
|----------|----------|-----|-------------|----------|
| Friday   | 4:15 PM  | TBD | Lake Forest | Room G11 |
| Saturday | 12:45 PM | TBD | Virtual     |          |
| Sunday   | 1:45 PM  | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 124 |
| Sunday   | 1:45 PM  | TBD | Evanston    | Room 2   |

### **7: Advanced Adult Music (Level 7)**

Level 7 starts to introduce the 20th century, with many important scales used in 20th century music as well as the subject of melodic decoration (simple nonharmonic tones). Irregular beat divisions (quintuplet, etc.) and new (leading tone) 7th chords are the other primary new subjects, as well as continued review and use of past items. (Corresponds to RCM level 7)

|          |         |     |             |          |
|----------|---------|-----|-------------|----------|
| Friday   | 5:30 PM | TBD | Lake Forest | Room G11 |
| Saturday | 1:30 PM | TBD | Virtual     |          |
| Sunday   | 2:30 PM | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 124 |
| Sunday   | 2:30 PM | TBD | Evanston    | Room 2   |

### **8: Advanced Adult Music (Level 8)**

By finishing this level, students will have the equivalent of a good basis for taking college music theory or starting a professional-level detailed study of the subject. They will be able to look at many musical scores with a broad level of understanding of their elements and construction. Some new elements here are: C clefs, different types of scores, “hybrid”/irregular meters, compound intervals, modes, and voice-leading types. (Corresponds to RCM level 8)

|          |         |     |             |          |
|----------|---------|-----|-------------|----------|
| Friday   | 6:15 PM | TBD | Lake Forest | Room G11 |
| Saturday | 2:15 PM | TBD | Virtual     |          |
| Sunday   | 3:15 PM | TBD | Winnetka    | Room 124 |
| Sunday   | 3:15 PM | TBD | Evanston    | Room 2   |

### **9: Advanced Adult Music (Level 9)**

|          |         |               |         |          |
|----------|---------|---------------|---------|----------|
| Thursday | 2:00 PM | Marie Alatalo | Chicago | Studio 5 |
|----------|---------|---------------|---------|----------|