DIPLOMA IN MUSIC

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

MDT 020 Musicianship I (New)
Aural and writing principles of musical knowledge, major, minor scales up to three sharps and flats recognition of cadences; melodic and harmonic intervals; sight reading / singing in ensemble; melodic and rhythm dictation involving single- line melodies; up to syncopated rhythms. Simple accompaniment of melodies using primary chords in major and minor keys on keyboard and guitar.

MDT 021 History of Kenyan Music (New)
Historical development and Socio-Cultural background of song and dance in Kenya; concentrated listening to and analysis of song text and melody for cultural significance and musical style and structure; study of dance patterns and formations in relation to social function.

MDT 022 Practicals Tuition I (Revised)
Tuition in Western and Kenyan musical instruments and dance in one of the following patterns: one Western and one Kenyan instrument and two Kenyan dances. Western instrument: performing skills, building repertoire, development of technique, range extension, developing performing skills, study of contrasting pieces from different periods; preparation of solo and ensemble pieces. Kenyan instrument: developing technique, flexibility, building repertoire, range extension, mastery of instrument, extemporization, study of contrasting pieces from the instrument’s repertoire, preparation of solo and ensemble pieces; Kenyan Dance: Dance steps, movement, patterns and songs for one mixed and one male or female dance per semester from selected communities of Kenya.

MDT 023 Elements of Composition I (New)
Basic information on music composition, study of primary and secondary triads melodies to harmonize 8-bar modulation to related keys; use of primary chords and their inversions; setting of poems to music for solo voice and solo instrument investigation of how chords are used in existing music, keyboard harmonization using primary chords.

MDT 024 African Dance Practice I (Revised)
Instruction in Kenyan dance, steps and patterns that define the particular dance, movements that are culturally unique, a variety of accompanying instruments, dominant costumes and songs within relevant cultural contexts. Practical component involves selection of dance types for mixed, male or female combinations from selected communities of Kenya.

**MDT 025 Computer Music Systems (Revised)**

Development of practical knowledge and understanding of the functions a computer and peripheral music equipment serve in creating music; the setting up and configuring of workstations. Computer notation systems of printed scores suitable for publication; learn about copyright laws that govern the publication of written material; develop skills that will enable them submit work in a published format in the course of their study. This unit should expose learners towards proficiency in up-to-date music software including Noteworthy, Finale; Sibelius and among music systems.

**MDT 026 Musicianship II (New)**

Continuation of melodic and rhythmic dictation of single-line melodies, Knowledge of intervals, chord recognition and progressions, root position and their inversions; construction of cadences in all keys, Aural recognition and writing in major and minor keys of all cadences melodic and rhythmic dictation of two-part melodies, improvisation of an upper lower part to a given melody. Sight-singing in an ensemble; simple accompaniment of melodies using primary chords in major and minor keys of up to four sharps and flats on keyboard and guitar.

**MDT 027 History of Western Music (Existing)**

The study of music trends in the development of western music during the Renaissance and Baroque periods; main composers and their works, features that distinguish various genres of music from the said periods, social-cultural trends, contributions of main composers to musical styles and their works, listening and aural recognition of selected music from the periods.

**MDT 028 Practicals Tuition II (Revised)**

Continuation of tuition in Western and Kenyan musical instruments and dance in one of the following patterns: one Western and one Kenyan instrument and two Kenyan dances. Western instrument: performing skills, building repertoire, development of technique, range extension, developing performing skills, study of contrasting pieces from different periods; preparation of solo and ensemble pieces. Kenyan instrument: developing technique, flexibility, building
repertoire, range extension, mastery of instrument, extemporization, study of contrasting pieces from the instrument’s repertoire, preparation of solo and ensemble pieces; Kenyan Dance: Dance steps, movement, patterns and songs for one mixed and one male or female dance per semester from selected communities of Kenya.

MDT 029 Elements of Composition II (New)

Learning of basic harmonic principles, exploration of various compositional ideas, use of given music material and text for the creation of short instrumental and vocal works. Creation of appropriate pieces to depict specified moods and ideas such as happiness, grandeur, memory. Merger of African and Western idioms in creating simple arrangements of songs.

MDT 030 African Dance Practice II (Revised)

Follow-up of instruction in Kenyan dance: Learning of steps, movement, patterns and songs for one mixed and one male or female dance per semester from selected communities of Kenya. Knowledge of related cultural contexts, meaning, background, and significance. Elements of dynamism in the selected dances, use of instruments for accompaniment, group participation, costume, décor and adaptive issues.

MDT 031 Introduction to Music Sequencing (New)

Introduction to ‘recording chain,” producing stereo master recording, building of basic sequencing project; working with instruments and sound effects; computer recording for audio; using MIDI facility; working with loops and creating arrangements from existing sound resources. Use of software and hardware to generate musically creative and original ideas, as well as manipulating pre-existing musical ideas.

MDT 032 Musicianship III (New)

Chord recognition in first and second inversions, introduction of dominant seventh chord and its inversions, elements of transposition, Simple keyboard and guitar accompaniments, improvisation of an upper or lower part to a given melody. Explore other clefs such as Tenor and Alto.

MDT 033 Analysis of Traditional Kenyan Music (Revised)

Analysis of various types of songs and dances for cultural significance and purpose, scales, harmony hocked technique comparative analysis of Dance steps, movements formations from
different Kenyan communities. Aural analysis of the music for better understanding, listening and viewing of selected dances.

**MDT 034 Practicals Tuition III (Revised)**

Tuition continuation in one Western and one Kenyan instrument. Western instrument: performing skills, building repertoire, development of technique, range extension, developing performing skills, study of contrasting pieces from different periods; preparation of solo and ensemble pieces. Kenyan instrument: developing technique, flexibility, building repertoire, range extension, mastery of instrument, extemporization, study of contrasting pieces from the instrument’s repertoire, preparation of solo and ensemble pieces;

**MDT 035 Elements of Composition III (New)**

Use of acquired knowledge in computer aided notation and principles of harmony to compose an instrumented in score form and an audio recording with programme notes. Use of smart play back facilities with the aid of fruity loops, acid ho and adobe audition software in producing the final project which will be bound and accompanied by an audio recording. Complete a given melody or melodies and generate an accompaniment or several accompaniments to a composition to last between two and three minutes.

**MDT 036 Introduction to Music Recording Project (New)**

This unit implements techniques of the ‘recording chain’ and media management based on “Recording and Sequencing Techniques” and production of “Music Projects”. Placement of microphones for optimum results, using available studio resources such as keyboard, MBox, garage band, band in a box, pre-installed sound sources, principles of copyright procedures, elements of marketing and launching of products.

**MDT 037 Introduction to Music Industry (Revised)**

A study of issues that govern music industry practices such as development of talent, creation of appropriate music products, music recording technicalities and difficulties, modern day piracy and its implications for the artistes, collaborative activities with other musicians, music sales intricacies, matters related with loyalties. A closer look at selected artistes and / or music creations.

**MDT 038 Practicum (Existing)**

Culmination of skills and concepts acquired during the course. Practical application of acquired knowledge, hands-on experience with the industry or music organizations, one-semester affiliation with existing music or industrial establishments under the supervision of lecturers.