

Other Scales and Modes

by Deborah Smith



This document is for use ONLY by participants in the Music Language Online Course

Hyperlinks: All purple or blue underlined text indicates a clickable link. The images/icons are also linked to videos.

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MLOC - Musicianship

This resource has been designed to help students, teachers and musicians:

- strengthen their musicianship skills across a variety of concepts
- practice and refine their understanding of a variety of concepts
- improve and foster their aural skills using solfa, handsigns and other approaches
- enhance their musical independence through use of inner hearing

This Online Course does not teach the concepts but enables practicing, refining, scaffolding and strengthening of musicianship skills. Although this course can be undertaken as a standalone module, information and resources TEACHING these concepts is available in the [Musicianship & Aural Training for the Secondary School Level 2](#) and [Musicianship & Aural Training for the Secondary School Level 3](#).

The content for the MLOCM is available in two different formats:

- 1. Weekly Plans** - which are emailed to participants on a weekly basis following the activation of a relevant Digital Product Key. These are also available on the [MLOCM](#) page on the DSMusic Website for participants who wish to work at their own pace.
- 2. Concept Plans** - available on the [MLOCM](#) page on the DSMusic Website for participants who wish to focus in on a specific concept or element e.g. the Major Scale in Solfa or Triads and Chords etc.

Weekly Plans

The content for Music Language Online Course - Musicianship Module is delivered in Weekly Plans. These are interactive PDF documents that include a daily breakdown of practice activities and optional extension tasks - the entire 10 week course is mapped out for you in this way.

The Weekly Plans bring together all of the concepts for practice, introducing them with a Basic Practice Activity, then consolidating this with a series of Practice Activities. Every Activity will outline the process steps and link to a practice video. Many will also include notation examples or tone ladders. The Weekly Plans detail short practice activities across a six-day period.

Concept Plans

The Concept Plan you're about to get started with focuses on Other Scales and Modes.

This means all of the activities for this concept across the Music Language Online Course - Musicianship Module are grouped here in chronological order, so you have the option to follow the Weekly Plans, or focus in on a certain area using the Concept Plans.

Do Not Share

Please do not share any videos or downloadable material (including this Concept Plan) from the Music Language Online Course with others unless they have purchased a copy as well. They can purchase their own MLOCM at the DSMusic [website](#).

Using This Concept Plan

This Concept Plan is a step by step practice plan. It outlines the exercises for each concept in order, so you can sequentially strengthen your musicianship skills in that area.

This PDF is an interactive document - clicking the purple icons allows you to access practice videos to use as you follow the process steps. You can also tick off the checkboxes for every activity you complete, tracking your progress with this concept.

See the [MLOCM](#) page on the website for Orientation material and refer to your Weekly Plans to find daily breakdowns of all activities across all concepts.



**click on the
images with
each activity**

**these will take
you straight to
the practice
video you need**



Access Expiry

Access to course materials expires 730 days (2 years) after purchase of the Digital Product Key.

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VCE Music Support Facebook page.



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Teachers? This one is specially for you. Click on the Purple Facebook icon to join our Classroom Music Teacher Support Page.

Don't forget, you can also email Deb at deborah@dsmusic.com.au for further help and advice.

Other Scales and Modes in Solfa



The Natural Minor Scale in Solfa - Basic Practice Activity

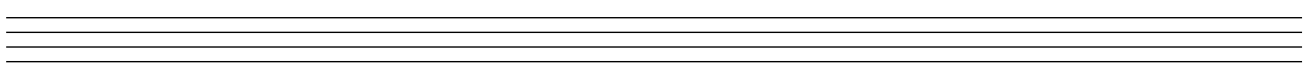
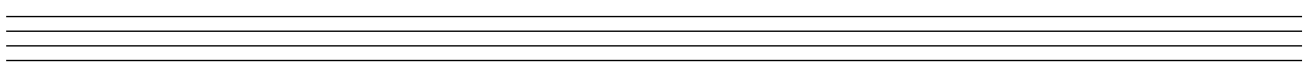
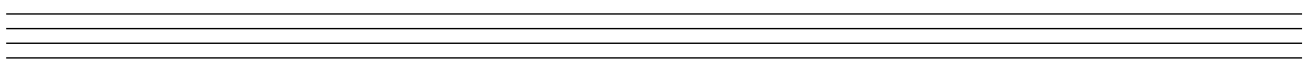
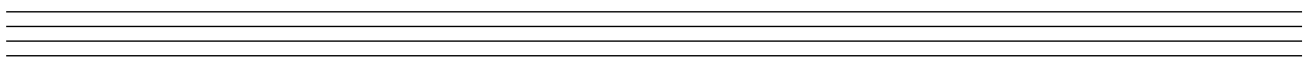
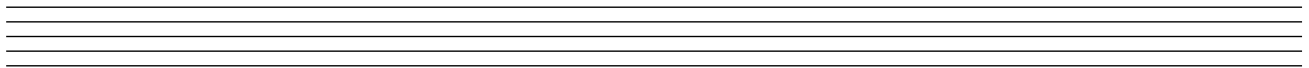
Week 1 Day 5 - Process

1. Watch the video while focusing on the singing
2. Watch the video while focusing on the handsigns
3. Watch the video while showing the handsigns
4. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with the video
5. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, watching the video, without sound
6. Repeat Step 5, without the video



For information about the **Natural Minor Scale** see Page 41 of [MAAT Level 2](#) and Page 32 of [MAAT Level 3](#)

For information about [Solfa and Handsigns](#) go to the [Advice](#) menu in the [Music Language Online Course Musicianship Module page at \[dsmusic.com.au\]\(http://dsmusic.com.au\)](#)



Other Scales and Modes in Solfa

The Natural Minor Scale in Solfa - Practice Activity 1

Week 2 Day 1 - Process

1. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with or without the video, several times
2. Sing the scale, in solfa with handsigns, descending (beginning on the top *la* then going down first) then ascending



The Harmonic Minor Scale in Solfa - Basic Practice Activity

Week 2 Day 4 - Process

1. Watch the video while focusing on the singing
2. Watch the video while focusing on the handsigns
3. Watch the video while showing the handsigns
4. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with the video
5. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, watching the video, without sound
6. Repeat Step 5, without the video



For information about the **Harmonic Minor Scale** see Page 71 of [MAAT Level 2](#) and Page 45 of [MAAT Level 3](#)

The Harmonic Minor Scale in Solfa - Practice Activity 1

Week 2 Day 6 - Process

1. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with or without the video, several times
2. Repeat Step 1, inner hearing tonic, mediant and dominant notes



For information about tonal names see Page 49 of [MAAT Level 2](#) and Page 4 of [MAAT Level 3](#)

Other Scales and Modes in Solfa

The Major Pentatonic Scale in Solfa - Basic Practice Activity

Week 3 Day 2 - Process

1. Watch the video while focusing on the singing
2. Watch the video while focusing on the handsigns
3. Watch the video while showing the handsigns
4. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with the video
5. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, watching the video, without sound
6. Repeat Step 5, without the video



For information about the **Major Pentatonic Scale** see Page 13 of [MAAT Level 2](#) and Page 110 of [MAAT Level 3](#)

The Major Pentatonic Scale in Solfa - Practice Activity 1

Week 3 Day 3 - Process

1. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with or without the video, several times
2. Sing each note in the scale three times, ascending then descending, in solfa, using a quaver, crotchet, quaver (syn-co-pa) rhythmic pattern, while conducting the beat in simple quadruple metre, as shown in the example below



For information about [Conducting](#) go to the [Advice](#) menu in the [Music Language Online Course Musicianship Module page](#) at dsmusic.com.au

Other Scales and Modes in Solfa

The Minor Pentatonic Scale in Solfa - Basic Practice Activity

Week 4 Day 2 - Process

1. Watch the video while focusing on the singing
2. Watch the video while focusing on the handsigns
3. Watch the video while showing the handsigns
4. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with the video
5. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, watching the video, without sound
6. Repeat Step 5, without the video



For information about the **Minor Pentatonic Scale** see Page 27 of [MAAT Level 2](#) and Page 110 of [MAAT Level 3](#)

The Minor Pentatonic Scale in Solfa - Practice Activity 1

Week 4 Day 3 - Process

1. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with or without the video, several times
2. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa, while handsigning in canon - start handsigning two notes after you begin singing



Other Scales and Modes in Solfa

The Blues Scale in Solfa - Basic Practice Activity

Week 5 Day 1 - Process

1. Watch the video while focusing on the singing
2. Watch the video while focusing on the handsigns
3. Watch the video while showing the handsigns
4. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with the video
5. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, watching the video, without sound
6. Repeat Step 5, without the video



For information about the **Blues Scale** see Page 125 of [MAAT Level 3](#)

The Blues Scale in Solfa - Practice Activity 1

Week 5 Day 3 - Process

1. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with or without the video, several times
2. Sing the scale, ascending then descending, in solfa, while conducting the beat in compound duple, triple and quadruple metre



For example, in compound triple metre, it could sound like this

For information about compound metre see Page 37 of [MAAT Level 2](#) and Page 29 of [MAAT Level 3](#)

Other Scales and Modes in Solfa

The Mixolydian Mode in Solfa - Basic Practice Activity

Week 6 Day 1 - Process

1. Watch the video while focusing on the singing
2. Watch the video while focusing on the handsigns
3. Watch the video while showing the handsigns
4. Sing the mode, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with the video
5. Sing the mode, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, watching the video, without sound
6. Repeat Step 5, without the video



For information about the **Mixolydian Mode** see Page 137 of [MAAT Level 3](#)

The Mixolydian Mode in Solfa - Practice Activity 1

Week 6 Day 2 - Process

1. Sing the mode, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with or without the video, several times
2. Repeat Step 1, with or without the video, inner hearing every second note



For information about [Inner Hearing](#) go to the [Advice](#) menu in the [Music Language Online Course Musicianship Module page at \[dsmusic.com.au\]\(http://dsmusic.com.au\)](#)

Other Scales and Modes in Solfa

The Dorian Mode in Solfa - Basic Practice Activity

Week 7 Day 2 - Process

1. Watch the video while focusing on the singing
2. Watch the video while focusing on the handsigns
3. Watch the video while showing the handsigns
4. Sing the mode, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with the video
5. Sing the mode, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, watching the video, without sound
6. Repeat Step 5, without the video



For information about the **Dorian Mode** see Page 174 of [MAAT Level 3](#)

The Dorian Mode in Solfa - Practice Activity 1

Week 7 Day 3 - Process

1. Sing the mode, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with or without the video, several times
2. Sing the mode, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, using the following sequence, as shown below



Ascending: $\frac{3}{4}$ | $\frac{3}{4}$ | $\frac{3}{4}$

Descending: $\frac{3}{4}$ | $\frac{3}{4}$ | $\frac{3}{4}$

Other Scales and Modes in Solfa

The Lydian Mode in Solfa - Basic Practice Activity

Week 8 Day 1 - Process

1. Watch the video while focusing on the singing
2. Watch the video while focusing on the handsigns
3. Watch the video while showing the handsigns
4. Sing the mode, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with the video
5. Sing the mode, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, watching the video, without sound
6. Repeat Step 5, without the video



For information about the **Lydian Mode** see Page 174 of [MAAT Level 3](#)

The Lydian Mode in Solfa - Practice Activity 1

Week 8 Day 2 - Process

1. Sing the mode, ascending then descending, in solfa with handsigns, with or without the video, several times
2. Sing the mode, in solfa with handsigns, ascending then descending in 3rds, as shown in the example below



Ascending: $\frac{4}{4}$ *f l s t l d' t r' etc*

Descending: $\frac{4}{4}$ *f' r' m' d' r' t d' l etc*