



Music Theory I – 50:700:225
Fall 2014- TR 11:00am-12:20pm

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Course Syllabus

COURSE OVERVIEW:

This is the beginning semester of the Music Theory sequence (semesters 1, 2, 3) required by music majors. The emphasis of this course is on basic skills of reading and writing music. The successful student will develop fluency in music through written class assignments, music dictation, classroom drilling of intervals, triads, key signatures, scales and oral rhythmic and melodic exercises. Over the course of the semester the successful student will build a musical foundation which will make possible, further studies in music theory, history, analysis, and performance. The student will be given three written exams during the course of the semester and two oral exams. The oral exams, given individually, test the ability to read rhythms and identify notes in a melody. The instructor also monitors during each class meeting, the student's progress in performing assigned musical exercises.

All online activity for the course will take place on
www.jarredantonacci.com

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Kostka/Payne, *Tonal Harmony with an Introduction to Twentieth Century Music*, 7th ed.
- Kostka/Payne, *Workbook for Tonal Harmony*
- All accompanying CD's for the Textbook & Workbook

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- Manuscript Paper (10 to 12 staves, 8 ½ x 11)
- No. 2 pencils for music assignments and quizzes (NO INK OR FELT TIP PENS)
- Access to internet

LEARNING GOALS:

By the conclusion of the semester successful students will be able to display significant knowledge of the notation of Western music. Successful students will be able to examine a piece of music and identify the key, mode, tempo, and meter, and also analyze the melodic, harmonic and rhythmic aspects.

ATTENDANCE/CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:

You are permitted 2 absences for the semester. Any absence beyond 2 will result in a lowering of your final grade by one half letter (i.e.: an A to an A-) per absence. Only a medical issue – accompanied by a doctor's note – or other type of family emergency is excusable.

CELL PHONE POLICY:

It is understood that you will have a cell phone in class. There are times when I may call on you to use your cell phone to verify facts, clarify issues, or complete in-class projects. However, if I see you using your phone for non-class activities I WILL NOT SAY ANYTHING. I will make a note of excessive cell phone use, which will go in your record. At the end of the semester, I will adjust your grade according to how many times I marked you down for inappropriate phone use. Furthermore, if you inquire about raising your grade because it is suffering, you will **not** be offered any extra credit or extensions on projects. Accept the fact that your actions have consequences and you will be held accountable for your addiction to the cell phone.

PARTICIPATION:

This course will require you to work individually and in groups. Hands on assignments will require you to organize your time in and out of the classroom. Homework assignments will be discussed in class and, simply put, you need to add to the discussions in class. Make sure you find ways to get involved in class discussions. NEVER worry about sounding 'stupid' or getting something wrong. Every opinion is valid and will be treated with respect.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Any behavior that disrupts the learning of other students **will not be tolerated**. This class is based on a balance between lecture and discussion. Talking during lectures or while another classmate has the floor is unacceptable. Direct any questions you might have to me. Any issues with excessive talking, note passing and/or inactive listening will result in your removal from my classroom. There will be no gray area when it comes to your undivided attention towards classroom activities and discussion. In summary, if I see you sleeping and/or talking out of place, I will deduct five points off your final grade. During class time, it is crucial that you are taking clear notes and participating. Cheating is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in any form with any excuse. Anyone caught cheating – on tests, copying from a neighbor, using a used book that already has the answers in it, plagiarizing, or copying homework – will be given a zero for the exam/assignment and referred to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. You should take this matter extremely seriously. You must realize that by cheating or avoiding work you will be setting yourself up for failure later in life. Whatever job you find after your schooling has finished will be interested in your ability to problem-solve and be creative. You need to work your mind to keep yourself relevant in the workplace.

COURSE OUTLINE

(Course outline subject to change)

Exam and quiz schedule will be announced in class. It is your responsibility to submit written assignments in a timely manner. Late assignments will not be accepted during the final two weeks of class. The best schedule for you to follow is this:

- 1) On Tuesday, come to class and prepare for a new unit in the book.
- 2) Between Tuesday and Thursday, complete the self-test in the text. The answers are in the back. I WILL NOT BE GRADING THESE.
- 3) On Thursday come in with any questions you may have. Thursday will be our "hands on" day where you will need to complete in-class assignments.

- 4) Thursday to Tuesday, complete all workbook assignments or any other assignment given in class.
- 5) All workbook assignments are due by Tuesday at the beginning of class.
- 6) PLAN YOUR TIME ACCORDINGLY.

Week 1: 9/2–9/4

- Chapter 1: Elements of Pitch. Entire chapter.
- Workbook Assignment: Chapter 1 – All.

Week 2: 9/9–9/11

- Chapter 2: Elements of Rhythm. All.
- Workbook Assignment: Chapter 2 – All.

Week 3: 9/16–9/18

- Chapter 3: Introduction to Triads and Seventh Chords
- Workbook Assignment: Chapter 3 – All.

Week 4: 9/23–9/25

- Chapter 4: Diatonic Chords in Major and Minor Keys
- Workbook Assignment: Chapter 4 – All.

****** TEST 1 ******

Week 5: 9/30–10/2

- Chapter 5: Principles of Voice Leading
- Workbook Assignment: Chapter 5 – All.

Week 6: 10/7–10/9

- Chapter 6: Root Position Part Writing
- Workbook Assignment: Chapter 6 – P. 41 - 47

Week 7: 10/14–10/16

- Chapter 6: Root Position Part Writing continued.
- Understanding Instrument Transposition
- Workbook Assignment: Chapter 6 – P. 48 - 54

Week 8: 10/21–10/23

- Chapter 7: Harmonic Progression and The Sequence
- Workbook Assignment: Chapter 7 – All

Week 9: 10/28–10/30

- Chapter 8: Triads in First Inversion
- Workbook Assignment: Chapter 8 – All

Week 10: 11/4–11/6

- Chapter 9: Triads in Second Inversion
- Workbook Assignment: Chapter 9 – All

Week 11: 11/11–11/13

- Handouts on Counterpoint. Understanding counterpoint and First Species writing.
- Assignments: All Handouts.

Week 12: 11/18–11/20

- Continuing Counterpoint: 3 and 4 species counterpoint
- Assignments: All Handouts.

Week 13: 11/25

- Continuing Counterpoint: Techniques of prolonged counterpoint
- Assignments: All Handouts.

Week 14: 12/2–12/4

- Score Reading and Analysis
- Assignment: Score analysis handouts – All

Week 15: 12/9–12/11

- Review. Preparation for final.