

Mississippi State University
Department of Music

Course: MU 1413-01, Theory, (3-credit hrs.)
Schedule: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:00 to 9:15 A.M.
Classroom #: Building B, #112 (Theory Room)
Instructor: Dr. Sebba
Office #: Building A, # F
Office Phone: 325-2854
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 to 12:00 (or by appointment)
Email: rys3@colled.msstate.edu

Books: Kostka, Stefan and Dorothy Payne. Tonal Harmony, with an introduction to Twentieth Century Music, sixth edition, McGraw-Hill, 2009. ISBN-13 9780073401355. Textbook
Kostka, Stefan and Dorothy Payne. Tonal Harmony, with an introduction to Twentieth-Century Music, sixth edition, McGraw-Hill, 2009. ISBN-13 9780077269968. Workbook
Burkhart, Charles and William Rothstein. Anthology for Musical Analysis, Postmodern Update, sixth edition, Schirmer, 2008. ISBN-10: 0-495-18976-6. ISBN-13: 978-0-495-18976-3
Staff paper, notebook, pencil, and eraser.

Course Description:

The theory class is given as part of a requisite for music majors. The class meets three times a week and encompasses an introduction to diatonic and chromatic harmony. By the end of the semester the students not only will be able to read music but will be able to analyze and to understand its structure independently of their instrument of emphasis.

CFPO # 1, 3, 4, 6; INTASC # 1, 6, 7; MENC # 5, 6, 7, 8, 9; NASM # 2b, 2c, 2d, 3b, 4d

Relationship to Other Courses:

Music Theory I, II, III and IV are pre-requisite for all the Upper Level courses. An exam will be given at the last semester of theory as the UDPE (Upper Division Proficiency Exam) and students who pass the exam will be allowed to enroll in the upper courses of the program. Other courses in the music curriculum, such as music history, piano classes, and studio lessons, are closely related to the subject. Students should not proceed to the next semester if the final grade of the previous class is lower than a C. Enrollment in two different sections in the same semester is unacceptable since each semester is prerequisite to the next one.

CFPO # 3, 5; INTASC # 4, 6, 7; MENC # 7

Objectives:

The purpose of a music theory class is to give the students a thorough understanding of the basic materials of music, such as: pitch and rhythmic notation, harmonic analysis using functional harmony and popular symbols, idea of phrase structure, sections and cadence, non-harmonic tones and three and four-voice part writing.

The class emphasis is learning by doing, with each topic presented at least within a week prior to the exam, with a series of exercises from the book and/or handouts. The purpose is on the exposition of theoretical procedures rather than on individual composers' interpretations of these procedures.

CFPO # 3; INTASC # 4; MENC #5, 6; NASM # 2a, 2b, 3c, 4d

Diversity:

This class is designed with an opportunity for the instructor to acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to help all students learn. To achieve the final goal the instructor will offer a variety of extra materials as well as different approaches to the subject.

CFPO # 7; INTASC # 1, 3, 6, 8; MENC # 5, 8, 9; NASM # 2c

Technology:

According to **ISTE National Educational Technology Standards (NETS):**

“Standard I. Teachers demonstrate a sound understanding of technology operations and concepts

Standard II. Teachers plan and design effective learning environments and experiences supported by technology.

Standard III. Teachers implement curriculum plans that include methods and strategies for applying technology to maximize student learning.

Standard IV. Teachers apply technology to facilitate a variety of effective assessment and evaluation strategies.

Standard V. Teachers use technology to enhance their productivity and professional practice.

Standard VI. Teachers understand the social, ethical, legal, and human issues surrounding the use of technology in PK-12 schools and apply those principles in Practice.”

With the six standards in mind this course will use Finale applied on assignments such as: harmonization, three and four-voice part writing, and general music writing.

CFPO # 3, 5, 6, 10; INTASC # 1, 4, 6; MENC # 4; NASM # 1, 3a, 5a, 5c

Class participation/attendance:

Presence is imperative and absences are not allowed with exceptions of administrative excuses or serious medical and family reasons. Please, do not arrive late or leave early. Any student who arrives 5 minutes late will be counted absent. The door will be closed after 8:05 and students will not be allowed to enter or interrupt the class after started. ***More than four unexcused absences will result in the lowering of your final grade by one letter (10.00 points). After that, each absence will lower your final grade by 5.00 points.***

Each student should be part of the activities in class without disturbing the classroom pace, and should purchase his/her own books, pencil, and eraser as well as any other material asked. If the student forgets his/her books, he/she will be excused once, and by the second time he/she will be considered as absent.

All students will be treated equally, even the non-music major who are aware of the class difficulty and pace. The students are responsible for their books, participation, and attendance of classes and exams, without any exception.

Outline:

Weeks: 1-4 Review: All chapters from first semester (fast-pace review)

Exam #1: January 30, 2009

Weeks: 5-8 Chapter: 21 – Mode Mixture (Borrowed Chords)

Project 1: February 27, 2009 at 8:00 AM before the exam

Exam #2: February 27, 2009

Weeks: 9-12 Chapter: 16 – Secondary Functions I (Secondary Dominants)

Week 11: SPRING BREAK!!!

Exam #3: March 27, 2009

Weeks: 13-16 Chapter: 17 – Secondary Functions II (Secondary Leading Tones)

Project 2: April 24, 2009 at 8:00 AM (Last day of class)

*Exam #4: April 29, 2009 from 8:00-11:00 AM
(According to the university schedule)*

Schedule and dates are subject to change according to the pace of the class and the students' need. All dates and material will be given at least a week prior to exams.

Grading:

80% - There will be four exams during the semester, each one representing 20% of your final grade (including Midterm and Final exams), a total of 80%. It is imperative that each student is present for each exam, and *no make-up exams are allowed*, even with a doctor's excuse, and *no grades will be dropped* unless specified by the professor. *Only in case of absence of an exam the grade of the final will replace the missing grade at the end of the semester. In case of tardiness during an exam the student will have the rest of the allotted time to finish the exam and no exceptions are allowed.*

10% - Homework, small assignments, and pop quizzes: they will be averaged and will count as 10% of the final grade. It is very important to turn in homework and assignments on time; late ones *will not* be accepted being considered as *zero*. The student will have until 4:00 PM of the due date to return their homework or assignments and they should be placed in the Dr. Sebba's mailbox. Remember that the office closes at 4:00 PM and assignments on or under my office door will not be considered.

10% - Written and Creative Assignments: One written project (micro-theme/essay/short paper) and a creative project will be given worth 5% each.

5% - Written project: a brief typed paper (not more than three pages) analyzing a given score. The final paper is due on the last class before the Mid-Term exam at 8:00 AM. A guideline will be given as instructions for the analysis; corrections of your drafts are encouraged until the class before its due date, but not later. Late assignments will not be accepted or corrected.

5% - Creative project: a brief composition (ca. 4 measures) for a SATB choir on a given figured bass. The composition should follow the rules of four-voice part writing. The final project is due on the last day of class at 8:00 AM. You should use Finale for this project and hand-written projects are unacceptable; corrections and guidance for the project is given until the class before its due date, but not later. Late assignments will not be accepted or corrected.

CFPO # 1, 3, 6, 7, 10; INTASC # 1, 4, 7; MENC # 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7; NASM # 1, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3f, 3g, 4a, 4b, 4d, 5a, 5d, 5e

Final Grade Percentage:

Exam 1, 2, 3, 4	= 80%
Assignments, homework, pop quizzes, etc.	= 10%
Written and creative projects	= 10%

Grades:

A= 100.00 - 90.00
B= 89.00 - 80.00
C= 79.00 - 70.00
D= 69.00 - 60.00
F= 59.00 - 0.00

According to the *Bulletin of the Mississippi State University*, page 195:

*“To be eligible for student teaching, the student must have completed a minimum of 18 semester credit hours in the major subject with a minimum of **2.50 Q.P.A.** or higher at the time of application. Final eligibility (**2.5 GPA**) is determined through screening at the end of the semester prior to student teaching. The student must also have completed all professional education and methods courses with a minimum grade of “C” prior to student teaching.”*

Exams’ Material:

Exams will cover the material from classes, books, handouts, homework, and assignments. There will be **no make-up exams** (see under **Grading**). All exams are comprehensive and will cover the materials given in class.

The class prior to the exam will be a review section with extra materials and discussion groups, if necessary. Students will receive their exam corrected and graded the class after the exam when I will go through the exam answering any question concerning grades and methods of evaluation.

Honor Code:

“As a Mississippi State University student I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do.”

For an entire description of the Mississippi State University Student’s Honor Code visit the following website: <http://students.msstate.edu/honorcode/>

Statement of Student Rights and Academic Miscount:

“Any student with a documented disability who may require special accommodations should self-identify to the instructor as early in the semester as possible to receive effective and timely accommodations.”

"All occurrences of academic miscount will be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines and procedures outlined in the Academic Miscount Policy which may be accessed on the web at: http://www.msstate.edu/web/student_policies.html."

If students are caught cheating, both (the one who gives the answers and the one who asks for the answers) will receive a grade of zero for the assignment, homework, and/or exam.

Bibliography:

- Aldwell, Edward and Carl Schachter. Harmony & Voice Leading, third edition, Schirmer, 2003. ISBN: 0-15-506242-5
- Benjamin, Thomas/Michael Horvit/Robert Nelson. Techniques & Materials of Music From the Common Practice Period Through the Twentieth Century, sixth edition, Schirmer, 2003. ISBN: 0-534-51759-5
- _____. Music for Analysis – Examples from the Common Practice and the Twentieth Century, fourth edition, Wadsworth Publishing Company, 1996. ISBN: 0-534-25506-X
- Benward, Bruce and Marilyn Saker. Music – in Theory and Practice, volumes I and II, seventh edition, McGraw-Hill, 2003. ISBN: 0-07-241430-8
- Kostka, Stefan and Dorothy Payne. Tonal Harmony with an Introduction to Twentieth-Century Music, fourth edition, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1999. ISBN: 0-0289782-1
- Laitz, Steven G. The Complete Musician – An Integrated Approach to Tonal Theory, Analysis, and Listening, McGraw Hill, New York, 2003. ISBN: 0-19-509567-7
- Ottman, Robert W. Advanced Harmony Theory and Practice, fourth edition, Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 1992. ISBN: 0-13-006016-X
- Ottman, Robert W. Elementary Harmony, fourth edition, Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 1992. ISBN: 0-13-257288-5
- Roig-Francolí, Miguel A. Harmony in Context, McGraw-Hill, New York, 2003. ISBN: 0-697-35487-3
- Searl, James A. and Joseph K. Distefano. Music and Materials for Analysis – An Anthology, Ardsley House Publishers, Incorporated, 1995. ISBN: 1-880157-19-5
- Spencer, Peter. The Practice of Harmony, fifth edition, Prentice Hall, New Jersey, 2000. ISBN: 0-13-182660-3