

University of Utah * School of Music
MUSC 1110:002 Music Theory I (3-credit)
Fall 2016 * Room: DGH 302
Section 002: MWF 8:35-9:25a

Instructor: Dr. Luke Dahn

Office: DGH 438

Office hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 1:30-2:45pm (or by appt.)

Email: lukedahn@gmail.com (preferred) or luke.dahn@utah.edu Office phone: 801-585-3720

REQUIRED MATERIALS

1. Laitz, Steven. *The Complete Musician: An Integrated Approach to Tonal Theory, Analysis, and Listening*, 4th edition. (Oxford University Press, 2016). ISBN: 978-0-19-934709-4
2. Laitz, Steven. *The Complete Musician: Writing and Analysis Workbook*, 4th ed. (Workbook 1) ISBN: 978-0-19-934710-0
3. Staff paper (a notebook, or download and print some from here: <http://www.musicsheaf.com/>)
4. Pencils! Please do all analysis and compositional assignments in pencil.
5. A notebook or binder for note-taking.

CATALOGUE COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course begins with a brief review of fundamentals and then moves on to species counterpoint (1st and 2nd species), basic four-part writing, and an introduction to tonal syntax

Prerequisites: For music majors only.

Corequisites: MUSC 1130 (Musicianship I) and MUSC 1150 (Keyboarding I)

COMPLETE COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

The primary goal of the music theory sequence is to establish a firm grounding in the principles of Western tonal music. In this, music theory should affect virtually all aspects of our musical activities. Our listening will be enhanced through an internalization and comprehension of what we hear. Our performing will be informed by an understanding of how music works, helping us create meaningful interpretations. Our composing skills will be developed as we put what we learn to creative use. MUSC 1110 begins by establishing a comprehensive understanding of the foundations of tonal music, then introduces the basics of part-writing and in the basic principles of voice leading and harmonic syntax that are involved. In this course, the student will:

- Recognize, identify and notate basic musical elements including rhythm, pitch, scales, intervals, and chords.
- Develop a familiarization with the principles of two-voice counterpoint (first and second species)
- Develop an understanding of the basics of part-writing
- Further develop the skill of analyzing the structure of chords and melodies.
- Become familiar with proper harmonic progressions in tonal music.
- Learn the proper uses of triads in first and second inversion.
- Develop creative skills as we begin to compose using the skills we have acquired.

COURSE WORK

Homework Assignments (25% of overall grade)

You will be given regular homework assignments, and all assignments must be turned in on time. Late assignments will likely not be accepted, and if they are, they are subject to a grade penalty. On occasion, we will work through homework assignments in class, but we will only do this as long as I sense that everyone is coming to class well prepared. **Unfortunately, electronic submissions of written homework assignments will not be accepted. Hard copies must be submitted** (unless explicit exceptions are made by the instructor). The reason for this is that providing feedback on assignments is too cumbersome with electronically submitted assignments.

The Keyboard Module assignments will, however, be submitted electronically. These keyboard assignments will be discussed in detail in class.

Reading Assignments (0% of overall grade)

While 0% percent of your overall grade is specifically designated for the reading assignments, it will be very important that you keep up with the scheduled readings. Some homework assignments require consulting the textbook, and quizzes and tests will also contain questions related to the reading assignments. You are therefore responsible for *understanding* (i.e. not just reading) the text material.

Two Exams (40% of overall grade (20% each))

There will be two scheduled exams (a midterm and a final), each of which will most likely contain both a take-home portion and an in-class portion. More information regarding the content of these exams, which will both be cumulative, will be discussed in class.

4 Basics Quizzes (20% of overall grade (5% each))

There will be four quizzes given throughout the semester. These quizzes are shown in the course schedule below and correspond to four specific categories of music theory basics: scales & key signatures, intervals, rhythm & meter, and triads & seventh chords.

Attendance & Participation (10% of overall grade)

Attendance and participation are expected. Attendance will be taken each class, and an attendance & participation grade will be given for each two-week period. *Absences will not be excused unless I am notified prior to class.* Students late to class will be given half attendance credit for that day. Furthermore, students who are physically but not mentally present will likely not receive full A&P credit.

The quality of this class depends to a significant degree on the engagement of the students. I therefore strongly encourage active participation of every member of our classroom community.

5% TBD Grade

Understanding that students have different learning styles and that each student excels at different types of assignments, the final 5% of the overall grade will be assigned by the student at the beginning of Week 9 (after the graded midterm exams are returned) to any of the following:

- 1) Homework – becomes 30% of overall grade
- 2) Quizzes – becomes 25% of overall grade (i.e. each exam becomes 4% of overall grade)
- 3) Midterm Exam – becomes 25% of overall grade
- 4) Final Exam – becomes 25% of overall grade
- 5) Attendance & Participation – becomes 15% of overall grade

If no decision is made by the student, this final 5% will be assigned to homework by default. Once made, decisions are irreversible.

BASICS REVIEW SESSIONS

There will be four “Basics Review Sessions” on the class days immediately preceding the four Basics Quizzes. (See schedule below.) These sessions will be *required* for any student receiving a grade below 80 on the assignments submitted the class before (Assignments 1, 2, 3 and 6). Those who are not required to attend the review sessions are still very welcome to come.

Announcements regarding who is exempt from attending these review sessions will be sent out no later than 8:00pm on the night prior to the session, though I will do my best in sending these announcements much sooner.

GRADE BREAKDOWN

25%	Homework Assignments
20%	Basics Quizzes (4 x 5%)
40%	Two Exams (20% each)
10%	Attendance & Participation
5%	TBD – To be assigned to an above category by student following midterm exam
100%	

Grade Scale: A 100-93; A- 92-90; B+ 89-87; B 86-83; B- 82-80; C+ 79-77; C 76-73; C- 72-70; D+ 69-67; D 66-63; D- 62-60; E 59-0

OTHER COURSE POLICIES

1. No laptops in class (unless otherwise specified). Laptops are distracting for students using them, for students around them, and for the instructor. Plus, many studies have shown that humans do not multi-task well (just one: <http://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/teaching-professor-blog/multitasking-confronting-students-with-the-facts/>), including one study showing that laptops directly lead to lower grades (Sana, Faria, Tina Weston, and Nicholas Cepeda. “Laptop multitasking hinders classroom learning for both users and nearby peers.” *Computers & Education*, Vol. 62, March 2013, pp.24-31).
2. Phones are distracting to everyone in class. Please don’t use them!! Your text can wait.
3. Please communicate! If you have a disability, an illness, a question, a concern, a lack of understanding of a concept, a word of encouragement, please let me know. I have an “open door” policy at all times. The best ways to contact me are stopping by during my office hours and email.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

While I encourage students to have work-study partners and engage in discussions about homework assignments, ultimately all class work is to be completed entirely on one’s own (unless explicit exceptions are granted) and must conform to the University of Utah’s policies on academic honesty. These policies are explained at: <http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php>

IMPORTANT DATES

Classes Begin	Mon, 8/22	Last Day to Withdraw	Fri, 10/21
Last day to add/drop	Fri, 9/2	Thanksgiving Break	11/24-11/25
Labor Day (no class)	Mon, 9/5	Classes End	Thu, 12/8
Midterm Exam	Fri, 10/19	Final Exam Period	12/12-12/16
Fall Break	10/8-10/16	Final Exam	Fri, 12/16

GENERAL COURSE OUTLINE—MUSC 1110

(Subject to change with advance notice)

Wk	D	Date	Syllabus	Assignment (R = reading; A = assignment)
1	M	8.22	Course Introduction	
	W	8.24	Assessment Exam	
	F	8.26	Ch. 1A – Musical Space	R pp. 7-15
2	M	8.29		A1 (scales & key signatures); R pp. 15-25
	W	8.31	BASICS REVIEW SESSION 1: Scales & Key Signatures	
	F	9.2	Basics Quiz #1: Scales & Key Signatures	
3	M	9.5	NO CLASS * LABOR DAY	
	W	9.7	Ch. 1A (cont.)	R pp. 27-34
	F	9.9		A2 (intervals) R pp. 34-41
4	M	9.12	BASICS REVIEW SESSION 2: Intervals	
	W	9.14	Basics Quiz #2: Intervals	
	F	9.16	Ch. 1B – Musical Time	R pp. 45-59
5	M	9.19		R pp. 59-64
	W	9.21		A3 (rhythm & meter); R pp. 64-75
	F	9.23	BASICS REVIEW SESSION 3: Rhythm & Meter	A4 (keyboard module: Exercise 1)
6	M	9.26	Basics Quiz #3: Rhythm & Meter	
	W	9.28	Ch. 2 – Harnessing Space and Time; First species	R pp. 78-86
	F	9.30		R pp. 86-96
7	M	10.3	Second Species	A5 (first species); R pp. 97-103
	W	10.5		
	F	10.7		A6 (second species)
FALL BREAK * OCTOBER 8-16				
8	M	10.17	Summary & Review of First and Second Species	
	W	10.19	MIDTERM EXAM	
	F	10.21	Ch. 3 – Musical Density; [Building Triads]	A7 (Keyboard module: Exercise 2) R pp. 106-117
9	M	10.24	[Building Seventh Chords]	R pp. 123-125
	W	10.26		A8 (triads & seventh chords)
	F	10.28	BASICS REVIEW SESSION 4: Triads & Seventh Chords	A9 (Keyboard module: Exercise 3)
10	M	10.31	Basics Quiz #4: Triads & Sevenths	
	W	11.2	Ch. 3 cont. [Basics of Roman Numeral Analysis]	R pp. 117-129
	F	11.4		R pp. 130-137
11	M	11.7		A10 (analysis)
	W	11.9	Ch. 4 – Harmony, Melody, Rhythm Converge	A11 (Keyboard module: Exercise 4) R pp. 143-150
	F	11.11		R pp. 151-153
12	M	11.14		A12 (analysis); R pp. 154-162
	W	11.16	Ch. 5 – Tonic and Dominant Pillars	R pp. 166-174
	F	11.18		R pp. 174-178
13	M	11.21		A13 (voice-leading); R pp. 179-183
	W	11.23		A14 (Keyboard module: Exercise 5)
	F	11.25	THANKSGIVING BREAK	
14	M	11.28	Ch. 6 – The Impact of Melody, Rhythm, Meter on Harmony	R pp. 186-196
	W	11.30		R pp. 196-203
	F	12.2		A15; R pp. 204-209
15	M	12.5		A16 (Keyboard module: Exercise 6)
	W	12.7	FINAL EXAM REVIEW	
	F	12.9	READING DAY * NO CLASS	
	F	12/16	Final Exam @ 8:00-10:00am	

UNIVERSITY POLICY STATEMENTS

ADA Statement

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

Faculty and Student Rights and Responsibilities

All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee. Faculty...must strive in the classroom to maintain a climate conducive to thinking and learning. PPM 6-316. Students have a right to support and assistance from the University in maintaining a climate conducive to thinking and learning. PPM 6-400.

Addressing Sexual Misconduct

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

Accommodations Policy

Some of the writings, lectures, films, or presentations in this course may include material that conflicts with the core beliefs of some students. Please review the syllabus carefully to see if the course is one that you are committed to taking. If you have a concern, please discuss it with me at your earliest convenience.

Wellness Statement

Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive at the University of Utah. For helpful resources contact the Center for Student Wellness; www.wellness.utah.edu; 801-581-7776.

Incompletes policy

(I) Incomplete grade. Given for work not completed due to circumstances beyond your control. You must be passing the course and have completed at least 80% of the required coursework. Arrangements must be made between you and the instructor concerning the completion of the work. You may not retake a course without paying tuition. If you attend class during a subsequent term, in an effort to complete the coursework, you must register for the course. Once the work has been completed, the instructor submits the grade to the Registrar's Office. The "I" will change to an "E" if a new grade is not reported within one year. A written agreement between the student and the instructor may specify the grade to be given if the work is not completed within one year. Copies of the agreement are kept by the instructor and the academic department.

O. Attendance Requirements (<http://www.regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-100.html>)

1. The University expects regular attendance at all class meetings. Instructors must communicate any particular attendance requirements of the course to students in writing on or before the first class meeting. Students are responsible for acquainting themselves with and satisfying the entire range of academic objectives and requirements as defined by the instructor.
2. Students absent from class to participate in officially sanctioned University activities (e.g., band, debate, student government, intercollegiate athletics) or religious obligations, or with instructor's approval, shall be permitted to make up both assignments and examinations. The University expects its departments and programs that take students away from class meetings to schedule such events in a way that will minimize hindrance of the student's orderly completion of course requirements. Such units *must* provide a written statement to the students describing the activity and stating as precisely as possible the dates of the required absence. The involved students *must* deliver this documentation to their instructors before the absence.
3. Except in cases of sudden illness or emergency, students shall, in advance of the absence, arrange with the instructor to make up assignments (see policy on assignments in #4 of the course evaluation section above).
4. Unexpected University facility closures due to weather, emergency or disaster may occur from time to time. Students may be required to complete coursework missed due to these or other class cancellations; however, instructors requiring mandatory make-up sessions may not penalize students if they are unable to attend due to time conflicts, etc.

Non-Contract Note

"The syllabus is not a binding legal contract. It may be modified by the instructor when the student is given reasonable notice of the modification."