



MUS 2620

MUSIC THEORY I

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 11:30–12:20, School of Music 115

David John Baker

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Music and Dramatic Arts 212

Office Hours: T Th 9:00AM – 10:00AM

While the listings below are meant to best represent the content of this course, the instructor reserves the right to modify lecture and assigned work materials if necessary.

Course Description: This course provides instruction for mastery in basic concepts of music theory from rudimental skills through modulations. You will learn to topics covered will range from notation fundamentals, to harmony and voice leading, to basic species counterpoint, to four part voice writing, to chromatic harmony.

Prerequisites: MUS1701 or have passed the rudiments screening exam.

Credit Hours: 3

Texts: *Concise Introduction to Tonal Harmony*, 1st Edition

Student Workbook: for Concise Introduction to Tonal Harmony, 1st Edition

Authors: L. Poundie Burstein and Joseph N. Straus

ISBN-13: 978-0393600469

ISBN-13: 978-0393264821

Other Materials: Pencils, Manuscript Paper, Notebook

Course Objectives:

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. analyze and create four part diatonic harmony voice exercises
2. analyze and create basic chromatic harmony exercises
3. play and sing theoretical examples discussed in class at the keyboard
4. write eloquently about music discussed in class

Grade Distribution:

Attendance and Participation	20%
Research Participation	5%
Homework	15%
Quizzes	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

Letter Grade Distribution:

97 - 100	A+	77 - 79	C+
93 - 96	A	73 - 76	C
90 - 92	A-	70 - 72	C-
87 - 89	B+	67 - 69	D+
83 - 86	B	63 - 66	D
80 - 82	B-	60 - 62	D-

Course Policies:

1. Attendance is expected at each class meeting since the instructors demonstration of practice techniques and study materials will benefit the students greatly.
2. Attendance will be taken via small daily quizzes. Students will be unable to make up quizzes if they arrive after quiz has been collected.
3. Excused absence constitutes absence by the University (e.g., performance, tour) or a note provided by the University Health Center.
4. It is the students responsibility to arrange a make-up time/day with the instructor within one week form the date of the excused absence. Failure to do so will result in a zero for the missed assignment.
5. Tardiness is considered to be a distraction to teaching. If you are late to class it may result in the students ejection from class. Disruptive or disrespectful behaviour will not be tolerated and will be reported to the Dean of Students.
6. All written work is due at the start of class on the designated date.
7. Students are expected to complete all assignments. The instructor reserves the right to collect or spot check homework or classwork at anytime. Incomplete or missing work will result in a zero.
8. Required course materials must be brought to class. Sharing is not permitted.
9. Laptops, cell phones, or any other electronic device may not be used in class.

Assingments:

1. The student is responsible for all assignments that are distributed/posted by the instructor on Moodle. Assignments will come from either handouts or the assigned workbook.
2. All written work must be legible. If the instructor finds notation to be ambiguous, he reserves the right to deem it incomplete. Legibility can will be assessed objectively through external reference.
3. All written work must include the students name written at the top of the page.

Examinations:

1. Four (4) quizzes given either in class as marked on the syllabus
2. Midterm exam will be given during midterm week and is a 50 minute test covering all material from the first half of the semester
3. The final exam is a two (2) hour cumulative test on everything covered during the course.

Administration:**Academic Integrity**

All students enrolled at Louisiana State University are required to follow University policy regarding academic integrity. If any student is suspected of cheating, plagiarizing, or any other forms of academic dishonesty they will be reported to the administration.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a disability that may have some impact on your coursework for which you need accommodations, please see a staff member in the Office of Disability Services (112 Johnston Hall) so your accommodations can be met. Students that receive accommodations letters should meet with the instructor to discuss the provisions of the accommodations as soon as possible.

Assistance

The instructor is available and interested in discussing any course materials with you in order to enhance your learning. We can usually have brief discussions after class and can answer questions via email. Please feel free to visit me during my office hours at any point during the term. Additionally, I am happy to set up an appointment at any time that is mutually agreed upon for longer discussions or help.

Attendance and Tardiness

Attendance is will be taken every class, but only graded for 20 of all class meetings. Sign-in sheets will be handed out at the start of each class and collected in the first 10-15 minutes of class. If you are unable to sign in, it will be treated as an absence. If you are caught signing in for someone other than yourself, your attendance in class will be marked as absent.

You may miss at most two classes with no deduction unless you have a written note from a health care provider or have arranged the absence ahead of time with the instructor. More than two unexcused absences will result in a 5% deduction from your attendance and participation grade.

For more information, see the LSU university-wide attendance policy (PS-22).

Late Assignments

Assignments must be submitted at the start of class, either on Moodle or by paper depending on the assignment. Late assignments will be deducted 5 percentage points per class. For example, an assignment due Monday that earns a 94 will be given a 89 if handed in before Wednesday, and 84 if handed in before Friday. Assignments will not be accepted after one week.

Research Participation

Five percent of your grade in this class will come from engaging with on-going music research at Louisiana State University. This requirement is normally completed by participating in two short experiments at either the Music Cognition and Computation Lab at LSU or reading a relevant research paper in the field of music science and preparing a short presentation and write up on an article chosen in collaboration with the instructor. Participation in the first experiment is required by midterm examination. The instructor will announce in class how to schedule a time. Students interested in engaging more fully with research and apply to be a research assistant in the Music Cognition and Computation Lab should let the instructor know.

Course Materials

Week	Class	Day	Unit	Chapter	Reading	Workbook
0	0	14-Aug	Introduction		Assign Readings Before Class Begins	
1	1	21-Aug	Fundamentals	3	Triads and Seventh Chords	3.E 3.H
	2	23-Aug		4	Four Part Harmony	4.A 4.B
	3	25-Aug		5	Voice Leading	3.C 3.H
2	4	28-Aug		6	Harmonic Progression	6.D
	5	30-Aug		7	Figuration and Embellishing Tones	7.D.1
	6	1-Sep		8	Species Counterpoint I	8.A
3	7	4-Sep	No Class			
	8	6-Sep			Species Counterpoint II	Handout 1
	9	8-Sep	Quiz 1			
4	10	11-Sep	Diatonic Harmony I	9	I and IV	9.B
	11	13-Sep		9	I and IV	9.F
	12	15-Sep		10	The Dominant Seventh Chord	10.C
5	13	18-Sep		10	The Dominant Seventh Chord	10.G
	14	20-Sep		11	I6 to V6	11.B
	15	22-Sep		12	V65 and V42	12.C.2
6	16	25-Sep		13	V43 and vii6	13.C.1
	17	27-Sep		14	Approaching the Dominant IV ii6 and ii65	14.F
	18	29-Sep	Quiz 2			
7	19	2-Oct		15	Cadential 64	15.B
	20	4-Oct		15	Cadential 64	15.E
	21	6-Oct		15	Literature and Performances	
8	22	9-Oct	Review		Midterm Review of Study Guide	
	23	11-Oct	Midterm			
	24	13-Oct	No Class			
9	25	16-Oct	Diatonic Harmony II	16	Leading to the Tonic: IV	16.B
	26	18-Oct		17	Leading-Tone Seventh Chord	17.C
	27	20-Oct		18	Approaching V	18.D
10	28	23-Oct		19	Multiple Functions: VI	19.F
	29	25-Oct		20	Embellishing Tones in Four Part Harmony	20.B
	30	27-Oct		21	III and VII	21.D
11	31	30-Oct		22	Sequences	22.C
	32	1-Nov		22	Sequences	22.H
	33	3-Nov	Quiz 3			
12	34	6-Nov	Chromatic Harmony	23+24	Other 64 and Embellishing Chords	23.D
	35	8-Nov		25	Applied Dominants of V	25.B 25.C
	36	10-Nov		25	Applied Dominants of V	25.G
13	37	13-Nov		26	Other Applied Chords	26.B
	38	15-Nov		26	Other Applied Chords	25.C
	39	17-Nov		26	Other Applied Chords	Handout 2
14	40	20-Nov	Quiz 4			
	41	22-Nov			Performance of Part Writing Projects	
	42	24-Nov	No Class		No Class	
15	43	27-Nov		27	Modulation to the Dominant	27.C
	44	29-Nov		28	Modulation to Closely Related Keys	28.B 28.C
	45	1-Dec			Review	
16	46	5-Dec	Final Exam			