

David Orvek

Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

Ph.D. in Music Theory

Anticipated May 2025

Minors in Music History and Guitar Performance

Dissertation (working title): “Listening to the Music of Brian Ferneyhough”

Advisor: Andrew Mead

The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

M.A. in Music Theory

2019

Thesis: [“Generalized Transformational Voice-Leading Systems”](#)

Advisor: David Clampitt

Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TNB.S. in Music Theory and Literature, *summa cum laude*

2016

Honors thesis: “Ex Nihilo: An Inquiry into the Nature of Musical Composition”

Advisors: J. Bruce Ashton and Daniel Maxwell

TEACHING POSITIONS

Butler University, Indianapolis, IN

Instructor of Music Theory (full time)

Spring 2023–present

Adjunct Instructor of Music Theory

Fall 2022

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

Graduate Associate Instructor

Fall 2019–Summer 2023

The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Graduate Teaching Associate

Fall 2017–Spring 2019

Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN

Teacher’s Assistant

Fall 2014–Fall 2016

COURSES TAUGHT

MT 510: Analysis of Tonal Music

Institution: Butler University

Term: Spring 2024

Role: Instructor of record

Description: Upper-level undergraduate and master's level survey of analytical techniques for tonal music, including concepts like Schenkerian analysis, topic theory, schema theory, *Formenlehre*, and transformational theory.

MT 508: Graduate Music Theory Review

Institution: Butler University

Term: Fall 2023

Role: Instructor of record

Description: Remedial course for graduate music students. Review of tonal harmony and form from the common-practice period and a brief introduction to analytical techniques for jazz, popular music, early music, and music since 1900.

MUS-T 508: Written Theory Review for Graduate Students

Institution: Indiana University

Term: Summer 2023

Role: Instructor of record

Description: Remedial course for graduate music students. Review of tonal harmony and form from the common-practice period.

MT 413: Form and Analysis

Institution: Butler University

Terms: Fall 2022, Fall 2023

Role: Instructor of record

Description: Upper-level undergraduate survey of various approaches to formal organization in Western music from the Middle Ages to the present. Emphasis on analysis of individual works and effective communication of analysis through writing and visualization.

MT 317: Counterpoint

Institution: Butler University

Term: Spring 2023

Role: Instructor of record

Description: Upper-level undergraduate introduction to modal and tonal counterpoint through composition and study of representative works.

MT 211: Aural Skills 3

Institution: Butler University

Term: Fall 2023

Role: Instructor of record for 1 section; coordinated by Jeffrey Gillespie

Description: Core aural skills course for undergraduate music majors. Sight-singing and dictation of chromatic tonal music featuring applied dominants and modulation to closely related keys.

MT 202: Music Theory 4

Institution: Butler University

Terms: Spring 2022, Spring 2024

Role: Instructor of record

Description: Core written theory course for undergraduate music majors. Survey of theoretical approaches for the study of music since 1900. Emphasis on analysis of works representing significant trends in music of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

MT 201: Music Theory 3

Institution: Butler University

Term: Fall 2023

Role: Instructor of record

Description: Core written theory course for undergraduate music majors. Analytical survey of works representing significant trends in music of the long nineteenth century. Emphasis on chromatic harmony, form, and effective communication of analysis through writing and visualization.

MT 102: Music Theory 2

Institution: Butler University

Term: Spring 2023

Role: Instructor of record

Description: Core written theory course for undergraduate music majors. Completes first-year survey of fundamental concepts of tonal harmony and form.

MUS-T 331: Musical Skills IV

Institution: Indiana University

Term: Summer 2022

Role: Instructor of record

Description: Core aural skills course for undergraduate music majors. Sight-singing and dictation of post-tonal and atonal music. Emphasis on close study of representative repertoire.

MUS-T 252: Music Theory and Literature IV

Institution: Indiana University

Term: Spring 2021

Role: Graduate assistant; coordinated by Andrew Mead

Description: Core written theory course for undergraduate music majors. Analytical survey of music from Beethoven to Strauss and review of relevant theoretical concepts like chromatic harmony and form.

MUS-T 251: Music Theory and Literature III

Institution: Indiana University

Term: Fall 2020

Role: Graduate assistant; coordinated by Roman Ivanovitch

Description: Core written theory course for undergraduate music majors. Analytical survey of music from the Renaissance to Haydn. Introduction to modal theory and review of relevant concepts from tonal harmony.

MUS-T 231: Musical Skills II

Institution: Indiana University

Terms: Fall 2021, Spring 2022

Role: Instructor of record

Description: Core aural skills course for undergraduate music majors. Sight-singing and dictation of chromatic tonal music featuring applied dominants and modulation to closely related keys.

MUS-T 152: Music Theory and Literature II

Institution: Indiana University

Term: Spring 2020

Role: Graduate assistant; coordinated by Andrew Mead

Description: Core written theory course for undergraduate music majors. Completes first-year survey of fundamental concepts of tonal harmony and form.

MUS-T 151: Music Theory and Literature I

Institution: Indiana University

Term: Fall 2019

Role: Graduate assistant; coordinated by Joshua Tanis

Description: Core written theory course for undergraduate music majors. Introduction to fundamental concepts of tonal harmony and form.

MUS 2225: Aural Training II

Institution: The Ohio State University

Terms: Spring 2018, Spring 2019

Role: Graduate assistant; coordinated by Ann Stimson

Description: Core aural skills course for undergraduate music majors. Sight-singing and dictation of chromatic tonal music featuring applied dominants and modulation to closely related keys.

MUS 2224: Aural Training I

Institution: The Ohio State University

Terms: Fall 2017, Fall 2018

Role: Graduate assistant; coordinated by Ann Stimson

Description: Core aural skills course for undergraduate music majors. Introduction to aural skills through sight-singing and dictation of diatonic tonal music.

MUS 2222: Music Theory II

Institution: The Ohio State University

Terms: Spring 2018, Spring 2019

Role: Graduate assistant; coordinated by Anna Gawboy and Daniel Shannahan

Description: Core written theory course for undergraduate music majors. Introduction to chromatic harmony and form. Emphasis on skills acquisition and composition.

MUS 2221: Music Theory I

Institution: The Ohio State University

Terms: Fall 2017, Fall 2018

Role: Graduate assistant; coordinated by Anna Gawboy and Daniel Shannahan

Description: Core written theory course for undergraduate music majors. Introduction to fundamental concepts of tonal harmony and form. Emphasis on skills acquisition and composition.

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Orvek, David, and David Clampitt. [“SUM Classes and Quotient Generalized Interval Systems.”](#) In *Mathematics and Computation in Music: 8th International Conference, MCM 2022, Atlanta, GA, USA, June 21–24, 2022*, edited by Mariana Montiel, Octavio A. Agustín-Aquino, Francisco Gómez, Jeremy Kastine, Emilio Lluís-Puebla, and Brent Milam, 99–111. Cham: Springer, 2022.

INVITED TALKS

“‘Like a Piece of Woven Material’: Unity and Organicism in Elizabeth Maconchy’s String Quartet No. 11”

Hartt School Music Theory Colloquium — University of Hartford 2022

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS

“Ungrading, Trust, and Artificial Intelligence”

Society for Music Theory, Music Theory Pedagogy Interest Group — Denver, CO 2023

“Germaine Tailleferre’s Experiment with Serial Composition”

Patterns and Singularities: Graduate Students’ Conference — Indiana University 2023

“SUM Classes and Quotient Generalized Interval Systems”

Mathematics and Computation in Music — Atlanta, GA (with David Clampitt) 2022

“‘Like a Piece of Woven Material’: Unity and Organicism in Elizabeth Maconchy’s String Quartet No. 11”

Society for Music Theory — Online 2021

“Schubert, Schoenberg, and Some Extensions to Cohn’s Sum-Class System”

Society for Music Theory — Online (poster) 2020

South-Central Society for Music Theory — Nashville, TN 2020

“Closural Features in Non-Tonal Music: A Corpus Study of the Music of Schoenberg, Webern, and Berg”

Indiana University Symposium of Research in Music — Bloomington, IN 2019

“Ex Nihilo: An Inquiry into the Nature of Musical Composition”

Southern Adventist University Campus Research Day — Collegedale, TN 2016

AWARDS

Commendation for exemplary performance in the PhD oral exam — Indiana University 2022

Wennerstrom Music Theory Associate Instructor Fellowship — Indiana University	2022
Annual departmental award for outstanding achievement as an Associate Instructor	
Graduate Associate Award — The Ohio State University	2019
Annual departmental award for outstanding achievement as a Graduate Associate	
Top Achiever Award for Academic Excellence — Southern Adventist University	2016

SERVICE

Program Committee — IU Symposium of Research in Music	2022 & 2023
Organizer and Panel Member — Southern Scholars Experiencing Grad School Q & A	2021
Q & A session for undergraduates interested in graduate school	
Music Theory Midwest Technology Committee	2020–2023 (chair 2021–2023)
Co-Editor — Indiana Theory Review, vols. 37 & 38	2020–2023
Treasurer — Graduate Theory Association, Indiana University	2020–2021
Freshman Mentor — Southern Adventist University	Fall 2014 & 2015

RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

Editorial Assistant — Music Theory Spectrum	2024–present
Curriculum Designer — Music Fundamentals Online	2021
Office Assistant — School of Music, Southern Adventist University	2015–2016
Choral Librarian — School of Music, Southern Adventist University	2014–2016

RELATED SKILLS

Programming

Python, Music21, Humdrum, Bash, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, PHP

Languages

German (novice), French (novice)