



MUT 1121: Music Theory and Musicianship I
School of Performing Arts
College of Arts and Humanities, University of Central Florida

COURSE SYLLABUS – Fall 2020

Lecture Instructor: Bob Thornton

Lecture Meeting Times: ONLINE (asynchronous)

Office: PAC – M231

Lecture Location: ONLINE (Webcourses)

Office Hours: Email me to set up a Zoom meeting. We have been told that we're not allowed to hold in-person office hours until further notice due to COVID-19. You will be notified if this changes.

E-Mail: robert.thornton@ucf.edu

Office Phone: 407-823-3377 (Email is the preferred communication method during the COVID-19 pandemic.)

Lab Instructors: Dr. Yoonie Hwang
Daniela Monzon Villegas

Lab Meeting Times: 8am, 10am, or 11am

Lab Locations: ONLINE (synchronous through Zoom)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is the first semester of a four-semester music theory program. It provides an introduction to the study of tonal music through the exploration of melody, rhythm, harmony, and musical form. Written and aural skills will be emphasized.

COURSE OBJECTIVE

The general goal for the music theory sequence is to develop an informed and intelligent approach to the perception and creation of tonal (and atonal) music.

By the end of this semester, students should have a fluent understanding of the following concepts: Pitch Notation, Rhythmic Notation, Simple Meter, Compound Meter, Major and Minor Scales, Major and Minor Keys, Intervals, Triads, Seventh Chords, Basic Chord Functions, Common Harmonic Progressions, SATB Texture, Principles of Voice Leading, Triad Inversion Functions, and Cadences

Aural Skills – Students will develop the ability to perform and/or identify intervals, simple meter rhythms, major scales, minor scales, diatonic melodies, triad chord qualities, and basic chord functions.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- (1) Kostka, Stefan, and Dorothy Payne. *Workbook for Tonal Harmony* with Connect Student Access Card. **8th Edition**, New York: McGraw-Hill, 2018. ISBN: 9781260197082 (For Lecture Class)
- (2) Benjamin, Thomas, Michael Horvit, and Robert Nelson. *Music for Sight Singing*. **6th Edition**, Boston, MA: Schirmer, 2013. (For Lab Class)
- (3) Auralia – Cloud-based ear-training software (For Lab Class)

Due to classes being forced online this term, lab assignments and certain tests will need to be mostly administered through this ear-training program that will be integrated with Webcourses. The purchase price is \$35 for a year subscription.

You will be prompted to purchase a license when you first launch Auralia from Webcourses to complete the first assignment. No serial numbers or registration codes are required. Your account will be created automatically and you will be emailed confirmation of your purchase. Please check your junk and spam folders if you can't find the email.

Note that all instructors and students must only use the software via Canvas (Webcourses). No additional login details are required or supported.

- (4) Staff Paper

WEBCOURSE

The lecture webcourse for MUT1121 can be accessed through your myUCF account using your NID and NID password. Once logged in, simply click the “Online Course Tools” tab at the top of the page to list your webcourses. Alternatively, you can access the course through the Webcourses login page (webcourses.ucf.edu). The course content and assignments will be posted each week on the webcourse.

Each lab class will have a separate webcourse that will be administered by your lab instructor.

GRADING SYSTEM

60% of your final semester grade for the course will come from the lecture portion and 40% will come from the lab portion.

LECTURE – 60% of overall semester grade

40% Homework Assignments – Homework assignments will be posted each Friday in lecture and due the following Wednesday. Each assignment will be graded for accuracy and given a percentage grade. Late assignments, no more than one week late, will be accepted at the discretion of the instructor for half credit. Your homework grades will simply be averaged to determine your overall Homework Assignments grade.

25% Midterm Exam – Details of the Midterm Exam content will be discussed prior to administering the test.

25% Final Exam – If you score higher on the Final Exam than the Midterm Exam, your Midterm grade will be replaced with your Final Exam grade. Since such a large number of students begin the term with such limited experience/knowledge, this policy enables students to still do well in the course even if they take a little longer to absorb the material.

10% Composition Project – The Composition Project format/details will be discussed when the project is assigned during the week listed in the lecture schedule.

LAB – 40% of overall semester grade

60% Dictation Tests and Individual Singing Tests – Three dictation tests and three individual singing tests will be administered throughout the semester. Tests will include elements like interval recognition, rhythmic dictation, melodic dictation, harmonic dictation, isolated chord recognition, rhythmic performance, sight singing, and/or prepared singing.

40% Ear Training Assignments – Ear Training assignments utilizing Auralia will be posted weekly to the lab webcourse.

Also, the melodies/rhythms listed in the lab schedule should be prepared weekly for lab performance. Instructors might specify particular melodies to prepare for each class. Students might be called on randomly to demonstrate their preparation of the appropriate exercises.

Lecture Proficiency Tests

Three 5-minute proficiency quizzes (Key Signatures, Intervals, and Triads) will be administered throughout the semester. These will be graded simply as PASS or FAIL. A passing grade is 80% or better. 2 points will be deducted from your overall final semester grade for each proficiency quiz failed. However, you'll have unlimited opportunities to take each quiz.

Update: Since the music theory classes have been forced online due to COVID-19, proficiency tests WILL NOT be administered this term.

Attendance

LAB – The lab portion of the class will be synchronous. You will be expected to join the Zoom meeting for your lab each Tuesday and Thursday morning at your normally scheduled lab time. Due to COVID-19, we have been instructed to be lenient with attendance, even in online sessions. As a result, students are allowed four unexcused absences throughout the semester. A student's final lab grade will drop three points for each unexcused absence beyond four.

LECTURE – The lecture portion of the class will be asynchronous. In other words, you WILL NOT be required to attend regularly scheduled online meetings. However, you WILL be expected to work through the weekly content modules, watch the videos, and complete the assignments.

Make-up Tests

Make-up tests are only allowed in cases involving medical or family emergencies. It is a student's responsibility to contact the instructor about making up a test. If allowed, all makeup tests will be scheduled ASAP after the original test date.

Grading Scale

A	=	92-100
A-	=	90-91
B+	=	88-89
B	=	82-87
B-	=	80-81
C+	=	78-79
C	=	72-77
C-	=	70-71
D+	=	68-69
D	=	62-67
D-	=	60-61
F	=	59 and below

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

All faculty members are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete the pre-assessment by the end of the first week of classes, or as soon as possible after adding the course. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid. The pre-assessment will not affect your grade at all, but will simply allow us to document the varying degrees of fundamental theory knowledge among enrolled students.

Students are strongly encouraged to keep a consistent study routine for this course. The homework assignments mandate some outside work, but additional study will be necessary for some students to feel comfortable with the material. It is extremely important that you fully understand a concept before we can introduce a new one.

Please contact me at any time throughout the semester if you are having trouble grasping the material. I am happy to offer additional assistance and guidance. If you are unable to come by during my office hours, please schedule an appointment. Short and specific questions can easily be answered by email. If you are having greater issues, email me to set up a virtual meeting through Zoom. Unfortunately, we have been told that we are unable to hold in-person office hours until further notice due to COVID-19.

Student Conduct: Students should conduct themselves at all times in accordance with the University of Central Florida's "Golden Rule" and its accompanying rules of conduct. I will assume for this course that you will adhere to the academic creed of this University and will maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. In other words, don't cheat by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. Please do not ask me to change (or expect me to change) your grade illegitimately, or to bend or break rules for one person that will not apply to everyone.

Student Disabilities: The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Notice: This syllabus provides a general overview of the expectations and schedule for this course. I reserve the right to make alterations to the course syllabus and/or schedule if I deem them beneficial or necessary.

Notifications in Case of Changes to Course Modality

Depending on the course of the pandemic during the semester, the university may make changes to the way classes are offered. If that happens, please look for announcements or messages in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email about changes specific to this course.

COVID-19 and Illness Notification

Students who believe they may have a COVID-19 diagnosis should contact UCF Student Health Services (407-823-2509) so proper contact tracing procedures can take place.

Students should not come to campus if they are ill, are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, have tested positive for COVID, or if anyone living in their residence has tested positive or is sick with COVID-19 symptoms. CDC guidance for COVID-19 symptoms is located here: (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>)

Students should contact their instructor(s) as soon as possible if they miss class for any illness reason to discuss reasonable adjustments that might need to be made. When possible, students should contact their instructor(s) before missing class.

GENERAL LECTURE SCHEDULE

Chapters refer to *Tonal Harmony*.

All homework will be assigned on Friday in lecture and will be due the following Wednesday.

*The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the course schedule if deemed necessary or beneficial.

Week of:

Aug 24	Intro, Chapter 1 (Major Scales and Keys) Assignment #1
Aug 31	Chapter 1 (Minor Scales and Keys) Assignment #2
Sept 7	Chapter 1 (Intervals) Assignment #3
Sept 14	Chapter 2 (Simple Meters and Compound Meters) Assignment #4
Sept 21	Chapters 3 (Intro to Triads and Seventh Chords) Assignment #5
Sept 28	Chapter 4 (Diatonic Triads in Major and Minor Keys) Assignment #6
Oct 5	Chapter 4 (Diatonic Seventh Chords in Major and Minor Keys) Assignment #7
Oct 12	Midterm Exam Review MIDTERM EXAM (online)
Oct 19	Chapter 5 (Principles of Voice Leading) Assignment #8
Oct 26	Chapter 6 (Root Position Part Writing) Assignment #9
Nov 2	Chapter 7 (Harmonic Progression) Assignment #10 Composition Project Assigned
Nov 9	Chapter 8 (Triads in First Inversion) Assignment #11
Nov 16	Chapter 9 (Triads in Second Inversion) Assignment #12
Nov 23	Cadences and Review <i>Thanksgiving Break</i>
Nov 30	Review
Finals Week	FINAL EXAM (online)

GENERAL LAB SCHEDULE

Units correspond with the *Music for Sight Singing* textbook. The prepared melodies/rhythms for each week come from the Sight Singing book. Instructors might specify which melodies to prepare for certain classes. Weekly ear-training assignments utilizing Auralia will be posted to the lab webcourse.

*The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the course schedule if deemed necessary or beneficial.

Week of:

Aug 24	Intro, Unit 1	
Aug 31	Units 1-2 Melodies – pages 6-8 (nos. 1-26)	Rhythm – Unit 1
Sept 7	Unit 2 Melodies – pages 18-19 (nos.1-11)	Rhythm – Unit 2
Sept 14	Unit 2 Melodies – pages 20-21 (nos. 12-27)	Rhythm – Unit 2
Sept 21	Ear Training/Dictation Test 1 Individual Singing Test 1	
Sept 28	Unit 3 Melodies – pages 27-28 (nos. 1-15)	Rhythm – Unit 4
Oct 5	Unit 3 Melodies – pages 29-30 (nos. 16-26)	Rhythm – Unit 4
Oct 12	Unit 4 Melodies – pages 39-40 (nos. 1-15)	Rhythm – Unit 4
Oct 19	Unit 4 Melodies – pages 41-42 (nos. 16-27)	Rhythm – Unit 4
Oct 26	Ear Training/Dictation Test 2 Individual Singing Test 2	
Nov 2	Unit 5 Melodies – pages 55-56 (nos. 1-11)	Rhythm – Unit 5
Nov 9	Unit 5 Melodies – pages 57-58 (nos. 12-21)	Rhythm – Unit 5
Nov 16	Unit 6 Melodies – pages 73-74 (nos. 1-10)	Rhythm – Unit 6
Nov 23	Unit 6 Melodies – pages 75-76 (nos. 11-20) <i>Thanksgiving Break</i>	Rhythm – Unit 6
Nov 30	Unit 6 and review Melodies – pages 75-76 (nos. 11-20)	Rhythm – Unit 6
Finals Week	Ear Training/Dictation Test 3 Individual Singing Test 3	