

Music Theory II

Midwestern State University

Spring 2021 Syllabus – General Information

Instructor: Dr. Corey Robinson

Course Number: MUSC 2623

Class Location: Fain Fine Arts Center C117C

Class Time: Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1:00-1:50pm

Email: corey.robinson@msutexas.edu

Phone: (940) 397-4054

Office: Fain Instrumental Music Hall 101 (office hours posted on door)

Course Description:

The purpose of the music theory sequence (Theory I-IV) is to provide music majors with an understanding of inner workings of theoretical musical concepts. Focus will be placed on application of these concepts through the identification and construction of musical concepts within part-writing exercises.

Music Theory II focuses on the understanding of diatonic harmony and the enhancement of part-writing skills.

Course Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and construct any triad or 7th chord in a musical example through written or verbal communication
2. Demonstrate their knowledge of diatonic harmony by completing part-writing assessments
3. Show their knowledge of common part-writing practices through composition of musical exercises focusing on various aspects of diatonic harmony

Course Requirements:

Attendance:

Attendance will be taken each class period. Students are allowed to be absent a total of three class periods without penalty. Each subsequent absence will lower the student's final grade by one letter. Tardiness of more than ten minutes will be considered an absence. If a student is absent for a school related function, documented illness, or other reasonable excuse, it is the student's responsibility to communicate with the instructor and make-up any missed work. All make-up work will be given at the discretion of the instructor.

Staying at home and utilizing Zoom "just because you feel like it" is unacceptable and will be considered an absence. The use of remote participation is reserved for students who are quarantining due to COVID-19.

Participation:

Students will be expected to participate in class daily. Active participation is the best way to accelerate your learning in this course. Answer questions; don't be afraid to make mistakes; and think about how you can utilize this information in other areas of your study.

Required Materials:

1. Burnstein, L. Poundie and Joseph N. Straus. *Concise Introduction to Tonal Harmony* (2nd Edition). New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 2020.
2. Burnstein, L. Poundie and Joseph N. Straus. *Concise Introduction to Tonal Harmony Workbook* (2nd Edition). New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 2020.

Grading

Homework 50% of Final Grade

Homework will be assigned regularly for this course. Each assignment is due at the beginning of class on its due date. Hard copies of assignments are required unless you have made prior arrangements with me to utilize a digital format. Printing a hard copy of electronically notated homework is acceptable.

Exams 50% of Final Grade

There will be four exams over the course of the semester. Each will cover 3-4 chapters of material. Exams 1-3 will each be worth 10% of your grade. The final exam will cover the final 20%.

Tentative Course Schedule

	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Week 1: Jan 11, 13, 15	Introduction, syllabus	Review chord qualities and inversions	Chapter 11
Week 2: Jan 18, 20, 22	<i>No Class: Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i>	Chapter 11	Chapter 11
Week 3: Jan 25, 27, 29	Chapter 12	Chapter 12	Chapter 12
Week 4: Feb 1, 3, 5	Chapter 13	Chapter 13	Chapter 13
Week 5: Feb 8, 10, 12	Review for Exam #1	Exam #1	Chapter 14
Week 6: Feb 15, 17, 19	Chapter 14	Chapter 15	Chapter 15
Week 7: Feb 22, 24, 26	Chapter 15	Chapter 16	Chapter 16
Week 8: Mar 1, 3, 5	Chapter 17	Chapter 17	Review for Exam #2
Week 9: Mar 8, 10, 12	Exam #2	Chapter 18	Chapter 18

Week 10: Mar 15, 17, 19	Chapter 18	Chapter 19	Chapter 20
Week 11: Mar 22, 24, 26	Chapter 20	Chapter 20	Chapter 21
Week 12: Mar 29, 31, Apr 2	Chapter 21	Review for Exam #3	Exam #3
Week 13: Apr 5, 7, 9	Chapter 22	Chapter 22	Chapter 23
Week 14: Apr 12, 14, 16	Chapter 23	Chapter 24	Chapter 24
Week 15: Apr 19, 21, 23	Review	Review	Review

Exam #4 will be given during the final exam time for this course

COVID-19 Information:

This course will fully comply with all recommendations and guidelines given through the “MSU Taskforce to Return to Campus” report. Here is a link to their complete report: <https://msutexas.edu/return-to-campus/assets/files/december-2020-reopening-taskforce-report.pdf>. Another helpful resource is the MSU Texas Coronavirus Update page which can be found here: <https://msutexas.edu/coronavirus/index.php>.

It is important that all students attend class in-person whenever possible. Staying home and streaming the lecture “because you feel like it” is not acceptable. The use of Zoom is for students who are quarantined due to COVID-19.

There are some additional points that I would like to emphasize.

- 1) Masks will be required for all students during class from the moment of entering the Fain Fine Arts Building until leaving.
- 2) Students must follow all cleaning protocols posted in each room.
- 3) If you need assistance or would like to meet with me during my office hours, the best way to contact me is through email. We will then schedule a Zoom call as soon as possible. An in-person meeting can also be scheduled if necessary.
- 4) Social distancing will occur throughout every class.
- 5) If you are feeling in any way sick, do not attend class, and contact me immediately.

Other Information:

Special Needs

If a student needs class accommodation(s) because of a documented disability, (2) has an emergency medical condition that may interfere with class performance, or (3) requires special handling in case the building must be evacuated, he/she is encouraged to contact the office of Disability Support Services in room 168 Clark Student Center (940) 397-4140 and make an appointment with the professor as soon as possible.

Student Conduct

Behavior that interferes with either the instructor's ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to benefit from the instruction will result in the instructor removing the disruptive student(s) from the class, either temporarily or permanently (instructor drop), and assigning a final lower grade, up to and including an F. In addition, and depending on the nature of the behavior or conduct, the student(s) may be subject to further disciplinary actions as per MSU policies.

Privacy Statement

Federal privacy law prohibits the instructor from releasing information about students to certain parties outside of the university without the signed consent of the student. Thus, in almost all cases the professor will not discuss a students' academic progress or other matters with his/her parents. Please do not have them call. Regardless of these important legal considerations, the professors' general policy is to communicate with the students, not their parents, even when a student has signed a consent form. College students are adults and are expected to behave accordingly.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty including plagiarism and giving or receiving unauthorized assistance is prohibited. Plagiarism is (1) the use of source material of other persons (either published or unpublished, including the Internet) without following the accepted techniques of giving credit or (2) the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given. If a student in the class plagiarizes material, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken. The Student Honor Creed developed and adopted by the MSU Student Government reinforces the discouragement of plagiarism and other unethical behaviors. The first statement of the creed reads, "As an MSU student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, steal, or help anyone else do so." Plagiarism is lying, cheating, and stealing.

Social Justice

Social justice is one of Midwestern State University's stated core values, and the professor considers the classroom a place where students are treated with respect as human beings, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age, or ability. Moreover, diversity of thought is appreciated and encouraged, provided the students can agree to disagree. The professor's expectation is that ALL students consider the classroom a safe environment.

Campus Carry

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at MSU Campus Carry Policy Website.