

Course: MUSC 1603: Music Theory I
Schedule: MWF 1-1:50pm
Location: Instrumental Rehearsal Hall – FM105
Instructor: Dr. Geraci
Email: paul.geraci@msutexas.edu **Office Phone:** 940.397.6839
Office: Fain Fine Arts Building C117O
Hours: As posted and by appointment. Meeting may be virtual.

Materials: Kostka, Stefan and Payne, Dorothy. *Tonal Harmony*. 8th Ed.
New York: McGraw Hill, 2013.
Kostka, Stefan, and Payne Dorothy. *Workbook for Tonal Harmony*. 8th
Ed. New York: McGraw Hill, 2013.
Score paper and pencils

Course Description: This is the first of four classes designed to give the student the necessary knowledge, vocabulary, and skills germane to a collegiate music graduate. Music Theory I will introduce rudimentary basics of music, scales and chord identification, rhythm and form, figured bass, and tonic-dominant relationships. A lab is also added to this class, which, will be dedicated to the instruction of aural skills such as sight-singing, ear-training, and melodic and harmonic dictation.

Objectives:

1. The student will have a firm understanding of the basics of music.
2. The student will develop music writing skills and voice leading in traditional tonal harmony through part writing.
3. The student will be able to harmonize diatonic melodies and realize figured bass.
4. The student will develop analytic and critical listening skills to further music study, learning, and thinking about music.

Evaluation:

Theory

50% Homework

20% Tests

30% Examinations – a mid-term and a final

Grading scale for the class will be:

100-90 = A

89-80 = B

79-70 = C

69-60 = D

59 and below = F

Attendance: Required. Three Unexcused absences will result in a grade reduction. Five absences will result in an “F” for the course. The student will be on time for class.

Classroom etiquette: Students are expected to behave in a respectful manner. Disruptions will not be tolerated and are grounds for disciplinary action. Students will refrain from consuming food and beverages (except water) during class. Students may not record, photograph, or video lectures without written permission of the instructor, unless they have been granted an accommodation, which must be presented to the instructor beforehand. In all cases, posting or publishing of such material is prohibited and is grounds for immediate dismissal from the class.

Students should be dressed appropriately for class. This applies to any online portions of the course.

Cell Phones: Cellular phone usage will not be permitted during class time. Cellular phones should be kept silent and out of view. Failure to comply with this will result in a grade reduction or an “F” for the course. Laptop computers, tablets, ipads, or any other electronic devices are also not permitted except when the instructor asks that they are to be used with the class software or when class is conducted virtually.

ADA Statement: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil protections for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment which provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. In accordance with state and federal law, MSU provides academic accommodations to students with documented disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Support Services (DSS) in Room 168 of the Clark Student Center (phone 940-397-4140). The instructor is under no obligation to offer accommodations for students with disabilities who are not registered with DSS.

COVID-19 Concerns: Because this term takes place in the midst of a global pandemic, all university procedures must be strictly followed. In addition, some special classroom procedures must be observed as well; this may include the wearing of face masks and maintaining a distance of 6 feet from others. If you believe that you are ill or have had close contact with a positive COVID-19 person, stay home and contact the instructor.

Because of these concerns, the course may revert to a fully online experience at any time. The current plan is to provide face to face instruction.

Special Needs: If a student has any particular special needs, they should inform the instructor as soon as possible.

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.

- The instructor reserves the right to make adjustments in the syllabus if needed.

Course Calendar – Written Theory

8/23	Syllabus review. Basics of music.
8/25	Chapter 1 – Pitch, interval quantities, key signatures
8/27	Chapter 1 – Scales, relative and parallel keys
8/30 –	Chapter 1 –Interval qualities
9/1	NO CLASS – JAZZ on the QUAD
9/3 –	Chapter 1 – Review: Intervals, scales, signatures
9/6 –	Labour Day – No Classes
9/8 –	Chapter 2 – Rhythm and meter (simple and compound)
9/10 –	Chapter 2 –Metric groupings, time signature, simple and compound time
9/13	Chapter 3 – Triads and seventh chords
9/15	Chapter 3 – Continued – Chord Construction
9/17	Chapter 3 – Continued
9/20	Chapter 3 – Continued
9/22	Test I Review
9/24	----- Test I ----- Test on chapters 1, 2, and 3.
9/27	Chapter 4 – Diatonic Chords in Major and Minor Keys

9/29 Chapter 4 – Continued – Roman Numerals

10/1 Chapter 4 – Continued

10/4 Chapter 4 – Analysis and Construction with Roman Numerals

10/6 Mid Term Review

10/8 ----- **MID TERM EXAM** -----

10/11 Chapter 5 – Principles of Voice Leading (Cadence, Spacing, voicing)

10/13 Chapter 5 – Continued (Parallel motion, Direct, unequal 5ths)

10/15 Chapter 5 - Continued

10/18 Chapter 6 –Root Position Part Writing (Deceptive, melodic Aug 2nd)

10/20 Chapter 6 - Continued

10/22 Chapter 6 - Continued

10/25 Extra Day

10/27 Review for Test 2

10/29 ----- **Test 2** -----

11/1 Chapter 7 – Harmonic Progression (Sequence)

11/3 Chapter7 - Continued (Harmonization)

11/5 Chapter7 - Continued (Harmonization)

11/5 Harmonize a melody

11/8 Chapter 8 – Triads in 1st inversion

11/10 Chapter 8 - Continued

11/12 Chapter 8 - Continued

11/15 Harmonize a melody with 1st inversion chords

11/17 Review for Test 2

11/19 **TEST #2**

11/22 Extra Day

11/23 – 11/28 THANKSGIVING BREAK – No Classes

11/29 Chapter 9 – Triads in 2nd Inversion

12/1 Chapter 9 - Continued

12/3

12/3 Final Exam Review

12/4 FINALS WEEK