

Music Theory V – Form & Analysis

MUST 3215

Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Brian Jarvis (bejarvis@utep.edu)

The University of Texas at El Paso – Fall 2016

Course description

Theory V (a.k.a., Form & Analysis) is the study of tonal musical forms at both large and small levels. The goals of this course are to be able to: (1) represent musical analyses graphically, (2) use personal analytical skills to comprehend a piece's structure, (3) further develop verbal and written ability to accurately describe music in an intelligent and effective manner, (4) and to develop the skills necessary for analyzing music across a wide range of styles and formal possibilities.

Useful information

Course website	The course website (Blackboard) has course documents, assignments, handouts, weekly quizzes, reading quizzes, and proficiency quizzes. It also contains useful links to helpful websites and printable staff paper.
Office hours:	Fox Fine Arts Center 431 11:30 – 12:30 PM on Monday and Friday and by appointment.

Required materials for every class

- Staff paper
- Pencil with eraser (no need for pens)
- Notebook for class notes and reading notes
- Textbook

Required textbooks

- William Caplin's *Analyzing Classical Form*
 - The textbook is available in the UTEP bookstore but you can purchase it from anywhere you like. If you buy a used copy, make sure your copy has not been marked up. Using a previous owner's assignments (even if only in part) is unacceptable and suspected violations will go directly to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for consideration
 - **NOTE:** Caplin has two similarly titled books. You need the one with the word "Analyzing" in the title. The other books will not work for this course.

Grading

- Your overall grade for the semester will be calculated as outlined below:
 - Weekly Reading Quizzes 10%
 - Weekly Skills Quizzes 15%
 - Weekly Assignments 25%
 - Midterm Exam 20%
 - Final Project 30%

- Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

A	90-100	B	80-89	C	70-79	D	60-69	F	Below 60
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- Grade updates will be provided a few times throughout the semester. Please feel free to inquire about your current average at any time.
- **In order to pass this course, you need a grade of C or higher.**

Course Format

- **Hybrid Course**

This course is a hybrid of traditional face-to-face interaction and technology-based interaction. We will combine the strengths of meeting in a real classroom amongst a group of people with the efficient power of computers into a course that will provide you with the opportunity to individualize your practice until you can reach the required level of skill.

- **Online Quiz Availability and Due Dates**

All online quizzes will be due before the scheduled start of class and will be available for 24 hours before that. For example, if you are in the 9:30 am section, your Wednesday quizzes will be due before 9:30 am on Wednesday and the quiz will become available the day before on Tuesday at 9:30 am.

- **Weekly Skills Quizzes**

We will typically only have one, face-to-face meeting per week. The day we don't meet will include an online, weekly skills quiz (in addition to the daily proficiency quizzes) over the topics introduced during the previous class period. These quizzes will help to prepare you for the weekly assignment.

- **Daily Proficiency Quizzes**

There are two sets of proficiency quizzes due each week. These are different than the weekly quizzes mentioned above. The proficiency quizzes are meant to give you regular, ongoing practice with core concepts as well as review with more recent concepts. While available, they can be taken as many times as necessary and you will be able to review the results immediately upon completing each quiz. Only the highest score ever recorded during the period of availability will count towards your grade. These quizzes are graded pass/fail. In order to be considered "prepared for class," all the quizzes due on a given day must be completed with the minimum grade or higher and they must be on time. Not meeting these conditions means that you are unprepared for class that day. For example, if there are three proficiency quizzes due one day, passing two quizzes and failing the third would result in being marked unprepared for class. See the section called "Being prepared for class" to learn how this impacts your grade.

Reading Quizzes

You will first encounter all new material for this course on your own before coming to class. Each week, you will complete an online reading quiz (usually before Tuesday's class) that will help you learn the new concepts at your own pace. Then, in class, we will refine your understanding of those concepts together.

Weekly Assignments

There is one paper assignment due each week. These assignments will include musical analysis and will give you the opportunity to encounter the concept of the week in a real piece of music as well as hone and refresh previously learned skills. As with all other work in this course, these assignments are to be completed by you alone. Unauthorized collaborations are not acceptable and all cases will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for consideration.

Midterm Exam

There is only one exam in this course. The weekly quizzes, proficiency quizzes, weekly assignments, and in-class discussions are what will prepare you for the exams. Your grades on the exam is very important and they reflect your current ability in the class. **In order to pass the course, your midterm exam grade needs to be higher than a 70%.** An average of less than 70% but greater than or equal to 60% will result in an overall course grade of D. An average of below 60% will result in an overall course grade of F.

Final Project

The final project involves you teaching your analysis of a complete piece to other students, assessing their understanding of your teaching, and responding to their evaluation of your presentation. You will make a video/audio recording of your presentation using PowerPoint and you'll narrate over the video using your voice. This project will have the unique distinction of being completed in conjunction with Dr. John Peterson's students from James Madison University in Virginia. The particulars of this project will be explained in a document on the course website.

No late homework

Late homework is **NOT** accepted. Unless you have made prior arrangements with the instructor, any missed homework, quizzes, and the exam will receive a grade of a zero. Exceptions can be made in the case of a genuine emergency or significant illness if written documentation (e.g., a note from a health care provider, an accident report, etc.) is shown to the instructor within one week of the due date. See the instructor if you are unsure about whether your absence will be counted as excused or unexcused.

Dropped grades

Your lowest weekly quiz grade, lowest weekly assignment grade, and lowest reading quiz grade will be dropped when calculating your final overall average. The exam grade, of course, will **NOT** be dropped.

Attendance policy

- Plan to attend every class and to show up on time.
- One unexcused absence is allowed with no penalty.
 - Each subsequent unexcused absence will result in a **3% DEDUCTION FROM THE FINAL GRADE.**

Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness. This does not mean that any note from a medical professional will excuse students from absences. Notes from medical providers should state that the student was unable, in their professional opinion, to be in class on the day or days in question. Voluntary appointments like teeth cleanings or physicals will not be excused. In accordance with the university policy the authority for deciding whether the student is excused for medical reasons rests with the instructor. Please feel free to check with the instructor if you are unsure whether or not an excuse counts as excused.

Being prepared for class

In order to be prepared for class, you need to do following:

- Complete the Proficiency Quizzes before the due date and at the required level
- Arrive before the scheduled start of class
- Stay for the duration of the class
- Not use cell phones, laptops, or other electronic devices during class (see policy below)
- Not distract others or the classroom environment in the opinion of the instructor
- Bring the required materials to each class (see Required Materials section above)

If any of the above requirements are not met, the student will be marked as being unprepared for class. The first three instances of being unprepared for class will be recorded by the instructor but do not impact your grade. Starting with the fourth instance and all instances after that, **1% WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM THE STUDENT'S FINAL GRADE** for each instance.

If you are late (tardy) tell the instructor **AFTER** class so that you can be counted as present. The instructor takes attendance at the very beginning of class and will not be updating attendance with late arrivals. This is done to ensure that class time is maximized for course content.

