

**The University of Texas at El Paso**  
**MUST 5313: Survey of Music Theory / CRN 16381**  
**Fall 2017 / ONLINE**

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Dominic Dousa

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### **OFFICE HOURS**

I am available to communicate via Skype from 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM Monday through Friday when I do not have other teaching, research, or administrative commitments. Please call my office or email me if you would like to connect on Skype.

Feel free to contact me via email if you have any questions. I check email frequently, and thus you can expect a response within 24 hours of your email.

For information about my professional background, please see <http://faculty.utep.edu/ddousa>

**Course Prerequisites:** Admission to the graduate music program (M.M. in music performance or music education)

### **COURSE MATERIALS**

▪ There is no required textbook for this course. I will provide overview sheets for each topic that will be available on Blackboard. It will be helpful to use your undergraduate theory textbook as a reference source. Among the standard undergraduate textbooks, there are some differences in conventions for common symbols used for harmonic analysis. The overview sheets will provide a guide for the expectations regarding terminology used for this class and other theory graduate courses at UTEP.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

▪ This course involves a review of fundamental materials from a standard undergraduate music theory sequence. Topics include analysis of melody, harmony, and form in music of the Common-Practice Era through the present, as well as aural skills exercises involving recognition and dictation.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

- quickly and efficiently apply standard terminology and symbols in analyzing melody, harmony, form, and other musical elements in music from the Baroque era through contemporary times.
- identify by ear the musical materials involved in analysis (intervals, chords, scales, rhythm, melody, harmony, form).

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Class Participation. Active involvement is very important in this class, and it is imperative that you keep up with the online course materials. While there is no formal participation component to your grade or required discussion board postings, you are encouraged to ask questions and contribute to discussion boards, which provide an interactive forum for addressing questions about course materials.
- Homework. Homework involving written analysis and ear training exercises will be assigned regularly. Unless otherwise noted, assignments are to be completed by 11:59 PM Mountain Daylight Time (MDT) of the due date. Your grade on the assignment, as well as the answers, will be available on Blackboard after the due date has passed.

You may consult your classmates on homework assignments, though the main goal of these assignments is to help you learn the process of analysis. Thus, it is recommended that you work independently as much as you can.

- Quizzes. Quizzes will be given on Blackboard regularly to test mastery of specific topics. These quizzes will be short and timed, and they will be due at 11:59 PM MDT on the due date. You will not have access to printed or electronic resources during these quizzes.
- Midterm and Final Exams. There will be three midterm exams and a comprehensive final exam administered via Blackboard. Like quizzes, they will be timed and due at 11:59 MDT on the indicated date, and you will have no access to printed or electronic resources.

**\*Once you start a quiz or exam, the timer will commence and you will be scored on your performance on the exam up to the end of that session. Make sure that you are able to enter responses quickly and efficiently, so that you can complete quizzes and exams in a timely fashion.**

**\*Collaborating on quizzes and exams is not allowed. Any type of collaborative effort on these course requirements, in addition to copying and distributing quiz and exam materials in any form, constitutes cheating and will be dealt with according to university policy. Quizzes and exams need to be taken with Respondus LockDown Browser. Details on using this technology will be sent in an email.**

### TENTATIVE SEMESTER SCHEDULE

WEEK (DATES)	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENTS / QUIZZES / EXAMS
<b>Week 1 (Aug 28-Sep 3)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction &amp; Course overview</li> <li>• THEORY: Chord Structure and Function</li> <li>• AURAL SKILLS: Chord Identification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework 1a and 1b (due Friday, 9/1)</li> <li>• Quizzes 1a and 1b (due Sunday, 9/3)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 2 (Sept 4-10)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THEORY: Chord Structure and Function (continued)</li> <li>• AURAL SKILLS: Chord Identification (continued)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework 2a and 2b (due Friday, 9/8)</li> <li>• Quizzes 2a and 2b (due Sunday, 9/10)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 3 (Sept 11-17)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THEORY: The Phrase Model, Non-chord tones</li> <li>• AURAL SKILLS: Chord Identification (continued)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework 3a and 3b (due Friday, 9/15)</li> <li>• Quizzes 3a and 3b (due Sunday, 9/17)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 4 (Sept 18-24)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THEORY: Secondary Dominant and Leading-tone Chords</li> <li>• AURAL SKILLS: Interval Identification (continued)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework 4a and 4b (due Friday, 9/22)</li> <li>• Quizzes 4a and 4b (due Sunday, 9/24)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 5 (Sept 25-Oct 1)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THEORY: Voice-Leading and Tendency Tones</li> <li>• AURAL SKILLS: Interval Identification (continued)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MIDTERM EXAM #1</b> (due Wednesday, 9/27)</li> <li>• Homework 5a &amp; 5b (due Friday, 9/29)</li> <li>• Quiz 5 (due Sunday, 10/1)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 6 (Oct 2-8)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THEORY: Cadences and Phrase Structure</li> <li>• AURAL SKILLS: Scale Degree Identification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework 6a and 6b (due Friday, 10/6)</li> <li>• Quizzes 6a and 6b (due Sunday, 10/8)</li> </ul>

<b>Week 7</b> <b>(Oct 9-15)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THEORY: Other Chromatic Harmonies (Neapolitan, Mode Mixture, +6, CT<sup>o7</sup> Chords)</li> <li>• AURAL SKILLS: Rhythmic Dictation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework 7a and 7b (due Friday, 10/13)</li> <li>• Quizzes 7a and 7b (due Sunday, 10/15)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 8</b> <b>(Oct 16-22)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THEORY: Modulation</li> <li>• AURAL SKILLS: Melodic Dictation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework 8a and 8b (due Friday, 10/20)</li> <li>• Quizzes 8a and 8b (due Sunday, 10/22)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 9</b> <b>(Oct 23-29)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THEORY: Modulation (continued)</li> <li>• AURAL SKILLS: Melodic Dictation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 9 (due Tuesday, 10/24)</li> <li>• Homework 9 (due Thursday, 10/26)</li> <li>• <b>MIDTERM EXAM #2</b> (due Sunday, 10/29)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 10</b> <b>(Oct 30-Nov 5)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THEORY: Binary, Ternary, and Rondo Forms</li> <li>• AURAL SKILLS: Harmonic Dictation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework 10a and 10b (due Friday, 11/3)</li> <li>• Quizzes 10a and 10b (due Sunday, 11/5)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 11</b> <b>(Nov 6-12)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THEORY: Sonata Form</li> <li>• AURAL SKILLS: Harmonic Dictation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework 11a and 11b (due Friday, 11/10)</li> <li>• Quizzes 11a and 11b (due Sunday, 11/12)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 12</b> <b>(Nov 13-19)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THEORY: Non-Functional Harmonic Progressions, End-of-the-19th Century Harmonic Practice</li> <li>• AURAL SKILLS: Mode Identification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework 12a and 12b (due Friday, 11/17)</li> <li>• Quizzes 12a and 12b (due Sunday, 11/19)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 13</b> <b>(Nov 20-26)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THEORY: Modes &amp; Other 20th-Century Scales, 20th-Century Chord Structures</li> <li>• AURAL SKILLS: Mode and Other 20th-Century Scale Identification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MIDTERM EXAM #3</b> (due Wednesday, 11/22)</li> <li>• Homework 13 (due Sunday, 11/26)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 14</b> <b>(Nov 27-Dec 3)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THEORY: Pitch-Class Set Theory</li> <li>• AURAL SKILLS: Review</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework 14a and 14b (due Friday, 12/1)</li> <li>• Quizzes 14a and 14b (due Sunday, 12/3)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 15</b> <b>(Dec 4-10)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THEORY: Pitch-Class Set Theory (continued)</li> <li>• AURAL SKILLS: Review</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework 15a and 15b (due Friday, 12/8)</li> <li>• Quizzes 15a and 15b (due Sunday, 12/10)</li> </ul>

**FINAL EXAM: Due Wednesday, December 13**

## GRADING

• Grades will be calculated based on homework, quizzes, and exams. Each component will be calculated as a percentage score (for example, if you earn 40 out of a possible 50 points on an exam, your percentage score for that component would be  $40/50 * 100 = 80.0\%$ ). These scores will be weighted according to the following outline in determining your final grade. A sample semester grade calculation is provided.

		<i>Grading Scale</i>	
Homework	40%	90% and above	A
Quizzes	10%	80% up to 90%	B
Midterm Exam 1	10%	70% up to 80%	C
Midterm Exam 2	10%	60% up to 70%	D
Midterm Exam 3	10%	Below 60%	F
Final Exam	20%		

### *SAMPLE SEMESTER GRADE CALCULATION*

Homework: 278 out of 300 total points earned = 92.7%

Quizzes: 190 out of 230 total points earned = 82.6%

Midterm Exam #1: 40 out of 50 points earned = 80.0%

Midterm Exam #2: 46 out of 50 points earned = 92.0%

Midterm Exam #3: 42 out of 50 points earned = 84.0%

Final Exam: 132 out of 150 points earned = 88.0%

Final Grade:  $.40*92.7 + .10*88.7 + .10*80.0 + .10*92.0 + .10*84.0 + .20*88.0 = 88.5 = B$

- For students with final scores within 1% of the next grade level (59%, 69%, 79%, 89%), the instructor may assign a higher grade if the student has (1) not missed homework, quizzes, and exams, (2) demonstrated *consistent* effort in mastering class material, and (3) shown improvement throughout the semester.
- Census Day is Wednesday, September 13. This is the last day to drop a course without a grade of 'W'.
- A grade of 'W' will be reported only if the student withdraws from the course by the Course Drop Deadline (Friday, November 3).
- A grade of 'I' will be reported only if extenuating circumstances (extended illness, legal matters, emergency) prevent the student from completing the course. An 'I' will not be given as a substitute for a failing grade. The student and instructor will determine a timetable for completion of all course requirements in a time frame that is in accordance with UTEP policy.

### COURSE POLICIES

- *Discussion Post Etiquette.* Communication via email and in discussion posts should be appropriately formal for an academic setting. Write concisely, in complete sentences, and refrain from using disrespectful language.
- *Academic Dishonesty.* Cheating is unethical, not acceptable, and a serious matter. Students found to be cheating will be subject to disciplinary action according to UTEP policy. For more information, please see <http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/>.
- *Special Needs.* I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please see me personally before or after class in the first two weeks or make an appointment to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148 or at [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or stop by at Room 106 in the Union East Building.

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: The information on this syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be announced via email.**