

**The University of Texas at El Paso  
MUST 5317: Analytic Techniques  
Spring 2024 / ONLINE / CRN 27199**

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Dominic Dousa

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### **OFFICE HOURS**

I am available to communicate via video conference anytime when I do not have other teaching, research, or administrative commitments. Please call my office or email me if you would like to make an appointment.

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 <https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/music/people/dom-dousa.html>

**Course Prerequisites:** Admission to the graduate music program and either (1) successful completion of the Graduate Music Theory Placement Exam or (2) successful completion of the UTEP Graduate Theory Review Modules that are assigned based on placement exam results.

### **COURSE MATERIALS**

- There is no required textbook for this course. All materials will be provided via email or Blackboard.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

- This course involves a study of the application of music theory terminology and concepts in the analysis of works from the musical literature, and of how this analysis informs performance and interpretation of these works.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

- apply appropriate terminology and symbols in analyzing the various musical elements (melody, harmony, rhythm, form, timbre, etc.) in the study of pieces from the standard repertory.
- understand what theoretical analytic techniques are appropriate for particular pieces of music.
- discuss how the combination of musical elements contributes to a piece's style and character.
- articulate how theoretical analysis has contributed to the understanding of a musical work and how this analysis has furthered the awareness of the piece's aural effects.

## 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, 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 both theoretical analysis and substantive verbal description of music will be assigned regularly. Unless otherwise noted, assignments are to be completed by 11:59 PM Mountain Time (MT) of the due date. Your grade on the assignment will be available on Blackboard after the responses have been evaluated.
- *Quizzes.* Quizzes will be given on Blackboard occasionally to test mastery of specific material. These quizzes will be short and timed, and they will be due at 11:59 PM MT on the due date. You will not have access to electronic resources during these quizzes.

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

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

▪ *Analysis Project*. You will be assigned a project involving an analysis of a complete musical work of your choosing that is approved by the instructor. This project will involve a detailed theoretical analysis, as well as a short commentary about how this analysis can inform and reflect the performer's interpretation.

### TENTATIVE SEMESTER SCHEDULE

| WEEK<br>(DATES)                 | TOPIC  | ASSIGNMENTS / QUIZZES  |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Week 1</b><br>(Jan 16-21)    | • Introduction & Course Overview                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment 1a (due Wednesday, 1/17)</li> <li>• Assignment 1b (due Saturday, 1/20)</li> <li>• Quiz 1 (due Sunday, 1/21)</li> </ul> |
| <b>Week 2</b><br>(Jan 22-28)    | • Melody and Phrase Structure                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment 2 (due Saturday, 1/27)</li> <li>• Quiz 2 (due Sunday, 1/28)</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Week 3</b><br>(Jan 29-Feb 4) | • Harmony  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment 3 (due Saturday, 2/3)</li> <li>• Quiz 3 (due Sunday, 2/4)</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Week 4</b><br>(Feb 5-11)     | • Texture  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment 4 (due Saturday, 2/9)</li> <li>• Quiz 4 (due Sunday, 2/10)</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Week 5</b><br>(Feb 12-18)    | • Form   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment 5 (due Saturday, 2/17)</li> <li>• Quiz 5 (due Sunday, 2/18)</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Week 6</b><br>(Feb 19-25)    | • Repertoire Study:<br><i>Mozart, Ave Verum Corpus</i>           | • Repertoire Analysis 1 (due Sunday, 2/25)   |
| <b>Week 7</b><br>(Feb 26-Mar 3) | • Repertoire Study:<br><i>Ewald, Brass Quintet No. 1 (Op. 5)</i> | • Repertoire Analysis 2 (due Sunday, 3/3)  |
| <b>Week 8</b><br>(Mar 4-10)     | • Repertoire Study:<br><i>Debussy, Nocturnes</i>                 | • Repertoire Analysis 3 (due Sunday, <b><u>3/17</u></b> )  |
| <b>March 11-17</b>              | SPRING BREAK   | (No new assignment, though more time given to complete Repertoire Analysis 3)  |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Week 9</b><br><b>(Mar 18-24)</b>     | • Repertoire Study:<br>Bonds, <i>The Negro Speaks of Rivers</i> | • Repertoire Analysis 4 (due Sunday, 3/24)        |
| <b>Week 10</b><br><b>(Mar 25-31)</b>    | • Repertoire Study:<br>Dvořák, <i>String Quintet</i> (Op. 97)   | • Repertoire Analysis 5 (due Sunday, 3/31)        |
| <b>Week 11</b><br><b>(Apr 1-7)</b>      | Analysis Project  | • Project Draft #1 (Analysis) (due Sunday, 4/7)   |
| <b>Week 12</b><br><b>(Apr 8-14)</b>     | Analysis Project  | • Project Draft #2 (Narrative) (due Sunday, 4/14) |
| <b>Week 13</b><br><b>(Apr 15-21)</b>    | Analysis Project  | (Work on group portion of project)                |
| <b>Week 14</b><br><b>(Apr 22-28)</b>    | Analysis Project  | (Conferences/Feedback on draft)                   |
| <b>Week 15</b><br><b>(Apr 29-May 6)</b> | Analysis Project  | • Analysis Project (due Friday, 5/6)              |

## GRADING

• Grades will be calculated based on homework, quizzes, repertoire analysis, and the final project. Each component will be calculated as a percentage score (for example, if you earn 200 out of a possible 250 points on the homework assignments, your percentage score for that component would be  $200/250 * 100 = 80.0\%$ ). 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            | 20% | 90% and above        | A |
| Quizzes             | 10% | 80% up to 90%        | B |
| Repertoire Analyses | 35% | 70% up to 80%        | C |
| Analysis Project    | 35% | 60% up to 70%        | D |
|                     |     | Below 60%            | F |

### *SAMPLE SEMESTER GRADE CALCULATION*

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

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

Repertoire Analyses: 463 out of 500 points earned = 92.6%

Analysis Project: 93 out of 100 points earned = 93.0%

Final Grade:  $.20*92.7 + .10*82.6 + .35*92.6 + .35*93.0 = 91.8 = A$

• 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 or quizzes (2) demonstrated *consistent* effort in mastering class material, and (3) shown improvement throughout the semester.

- Wednesday, January 31 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 by Monday, April 8.
- 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 <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/osccr/student-conduct/academic-integrity.html>.

Use of AI technologies or automated tools, particularly generative AI such as ChatGPT or DALL-E, is not allowed for assignments in this class. Each student is expected to use critical and creative thinking skills to complete tasks and not rely on computer-generated ideas. Any direct use of AI-generated materials submitted as your own work will be treated as plagiarism and reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).

- *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.**