

Music Theory III

MUST 2313

Syllabus

Instructor: Brian Jarvis (bejarvis@utep.edu)
The University of Texas at El Paso – Fall 2015

Course description

Theory III is a continuation of Theory II. In Theory III, you will expand your study of chromatic harmony and phrase structure and begin your study of phrase rhythm and musical form. Throughout the semester you will develop your ability to read theory texts and gain vocabulary that will assist and enhance your capacity for discussing musical elements in precise ways.

Theory III focuses on “Western Art Music” from the common-practice period (approximately 1600-1900). This means that the materials we discuss are focused on a particular style of music and is not meant to be applicable to all music of the world or even the American music of the 20th and 21st centuries. Often, however, there is plenty of overlap between the musical components of Western Art Music of the common-practice period and popular, jazz, and “Art” music of the 20th and 21st centuries. As of yet, music has presented no bounds but finding commonalities and similarities within and between styles is a common occurrence. In this course, we will work towards the effort of establishing a firm foundation with which to learn about, participate in, and become engaged with music of the past, present, and future.

Useful information

Course website	The course website (Blackboard or www.brianedwardjarvis.com) has course documents, homework, handouts, practice quizzes and practice exams. It also contains useful links to helpful websites.
Office hours:	Fox Fine Arts Center 431 11:30 – 12:30 PM on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and by appointment.
Free Tutor:	Free tutoring is offered for this course. See the “Tutoring” link on the course’s Blackboard page for more information.

Required materials for every class

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

Required textbooks

- Kostka, Payne, Almén *Tonal Harmony*, 7th edition
 - You must purchase the textbook and the workbook (unless you already have them).
 - No photocopies will be accepted.
 - Only the 7th edition will work for this course, previous editions will not work.

Tonal Harmony is a collection of materials; we will be using the textbook and workbook. These items are available at the campus Bookstore or you can buy them online. You will be using these materials throughout the core theory curriculum (Theory I-IV). Additionally, reading assignments outside of the textbook will be posted on Blackboard or www.brianedwardjarvis.com and are considered required reading when assigned.

Grading

- Your overall grade for the semester will be calculated as outlined below.
 - Homework (*see proficiency quiz grading below) 30%
 - Quizzes (twelve) 30%
 - Midterm exam 20%
 - Final exam 20%
- Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

A	90-100	B	80-89	C	70-79	D	60-69	F	Below 60
---	--------	---	-------	---	-------	---	-------	---	----------

- Grade updates will be provided a few times throughout the semester. Please feel free to inquire about your current average at any time.

Proficiency Quizzes

Weekly proficiency quizzes are assigned each week to encourage mastery of core concepts. These quizzes are all online and can be found on the course Blackboard site. Each quiz can be taken as many times as necessary before the due date. Only the highest score ever recorded will count towards your grade so you are encouraged to take them again if you would like more practice (doing so will not change your grade if you have already passed the quiz once). Because these are proficiency quizzes, each quiz is timed and there is a minimum grade required to pass. There will either be 1, 2, or 3 proficiency quizzes due each week. All quizzes are due before 11:59pm on Saturday. The quizzes themselves are considered required practice and are not strictly worth points. However, they must all be completed each week, before the due date, at the specified level of proficiency otherwise Friday's homework assignment will receive a 50% grade reduction.

Daily assignments

There are homework and/or reading assignments due every day. Homework/reading is due at the beginning of class. Quizzes will be based upon the assigned reading or homework due that day.

No late homework

Late homework is **NOT** accepted. Unless you have made prior arrangements with the instructor, any missed homework, quizzes, and exams 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 quiz grade and your two lowest homework grades will be dropped when calculating your final overall average. Exam grades, however, will **NOT** be dropped. This policy is in place for days when the homework does not go well or for those rare exceptions when homework is left at home or lost.

Attendance policy

- Plan to attend every class and to show up on time.
- Two unexcused absences are allowed.
 - 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.

Tardy policy

Arriving after the scheduled start of class is a tardy. Three tardies will count as one absence.

If you are late (tardy or not 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.

Cell phones or other electronic devices

There is no need for students to use electronic devices during class. Audio recording, video recording, and photography are not allowed without prior authorization from the instructor. Before the scheduled start of class, students are expected to silence their electronic devices and put away all cell phones, laptops, tablets, or other electronic devices inside a closed bag or purse where they are not audible or visible to you or anyone else. Any student whose technology item is visible or audible during class will be marked as tardy (3 tardies = 1 absence). The instructor will not inform students if they violate the electronic device policy during class, and will instead discretely mark offending students as tardy without disrupting class. This syllabus serves as the official warning for such violations. This is done to ensure that class time is maximized for course content.

Exam Dates

Midterm exam	Friday, October 9 th (in class)
Final exam	Section 001 (9:30am section) – Wednesday 10:00-12:45, Section 003 (10:30am section) – Friday 10:00-12:45

Be sure to mark these dates on your calendar and let the instructor know about conflicts within the first week of class. The university policy regarding final exams will be strictly adhered to.

Academic Integrity and Scholastic Dishonesty

Information about The University of Texas at El Paso's definitions and expectations regarding academic integrity and scholastic dishonesty can be found at <http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/>. In this course, all homework, quizzes, exams, and projects are to be completed on your own. Actual or attempted cheating, plagiarism, and collusion will not be tolerated. Suspected violations will go directly to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for consideration.

Accommodations and Support Services:

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should: (1) register with and provide documentation to the Center for Accommodations and Support Services and (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of class. For more information about services available to UTEP students with disabilities, see the following website <http://sa.utep.edu/cass/studentsresources/>.

Syllabus Change Policy

The information on this syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class and/or via email.