

**University of Texas at Tyler School of Performing Arts
COURSE SYLLABUS SPRING 2026
MUSI 4340 (3 credit hours) – Counterpoint
Online Course**

**Professor: Dr. Kory Reeder
Email: kreeder@uttyler.edu
Office hours: by appointment Tuesday/Thursday – Held Via Zoom**

Catalog information:

A survey course covering elements of counterpoint and an overview of musical forms as they pertain to counterpoint studies, as well as historical periods and composers. Emphasis is placed on exercises, listening to representative repertoire, as well as on composition and creative assignments.

Required text:

There is no required text for this course. All course materials provided digitally via Canvas. However, all students will be required to publish and interact with the online course content on a weekly basis and will need to have access to the internet, staff paper or digital notation software, as well as the ability to provide audio examples of all work.

Music notation software is recommended, however, most assignments may be completed with hand-written notation

The Robert R. Muntz Library has ample computer stations available for students who may not own their own. Visit <https://www.uttyler.edu/library/in-the-library/computer-use-policy/> for more information.

Microsoft 365 is available to all students. Please visit the link below for more information.
<https://www.uttyler.edu/it/office365/365-students.php>

Music notation software is recommended, however, most assignments may be completed with hand-written notation

Class Structure:

This course is 100% online and asynchronous. Due to the online nature of this course, you must be an active participant and advocate for your own learning. Active participation means asking questions, finding answers to questions, and adding relevant information to your rolodex of knowledge.

Assignments

All assignments are due Sundays by 11:59PM (23:59)

Weekly Assignments – 80% of final grade

Mid-Term Project – 10%

Final Project – 10%

Grading Scale Overall

90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C; 60-69% = D; 0-59% = F

Class Policies and Procedures

All Materials will be posted to Canvas by Noon on Mondays.

All Assignments are Due Sundays by 11:59PM (23:59)

Students will upload all assignments to Canvas. Note: please pay close attention to

Late Work and Scheduled Disruptions

As all materials will be posted to Canvas on Mondays and all assignments are Due Sundays by 11:59PM (23:59): students are expected to develop and maintain their own workflow and schedule throughout the semester and adjust accordingly. All assignments can be turned in on or before their due date electronically on Canvas – a determined student could feasibly complete and turn in all required materials the same day they are posted by the instructor to Canvas. Because of this flexibility and the regular schedule of due dates and released material, no late work will be accepted in this class.

That being said, life sometimes happens, events occur, or unexpected tragedies happen that can significantly disrupt our lives. Predetermined disruptions (official school/sports related) are excused and will incur no penalty when advance notice is given to the instructor. Last-minute absences (sickness, family emergency) should be communicated as soon as possible by email to the instructor. However, all materials must be turned in to receive any grade higher than a zero; an excused disruption is not a free-pass to forgo the completion of an assignment. If you need to work out an extension, please communicate with the instructor as early as possible.

If you know you will be unable to turn in an assignment or quiz on time, turn it in early or make arrangements with the instructor before the due date and time.

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do. Students Rights and Responsibilities To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link:

<http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at

<http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free.

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>.

Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar. Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average.

Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability/Accessibility Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application.

The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester. Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned

absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

“Cheating” includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student's test paper;
- using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed “crib notes”.
- The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructors has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;

- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
- taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
- misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

“Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.

“Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty. iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.

UT Tyler Resources for Students

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)

Schedule

All materials will be posted to Canvas by Noon on Mondays
All assignments are due Sundays by 11:59PM (23:59)

Week 1 - January 12 – January 18 – Overview of Counterpoint

Week 2 – January 19 – January 25 – The Single Melodic Line

Week 3 – January 26 – February 1 – Definition and Rules of First Species

Week 4 – February 2 – February 8 – Melodic Motion and Cadences in First Species

Week 5 – February 9 – February 15 – Syncopation in Second Species

Week 6 – February 16 – February 22 – Suspensions and Expanding Melodic Possibilities

Week 7 – February 23 – March 1 – Rhythmic and Melodic Embellishments in Third Species

Week 8 – March 2 – March 8 – Mid-Term Projects

Week 9 – March 9 – March 15 – **Spring Break: no content for this week**

Week 10 – March 16 – March 22 – Syncopation in Fourth Species and Contrapuntal Dissonances

Week 11 – March 23 – March 29 – Use of Passing Tones in Fourth Species

Week 12 – March 30 – April 5 – Combination of Previous Species and Flexible Rhythm

Week 13 – April 6 – April 12 – Melodic Independence in Fifth Species

Week 14 – April 13 – April 19 – Introduction to Modes

Week 15 April 20 – April 27 – Review and Final Project Introduction

Week 16 April 29 – May 3 – Final Projects

Final Project due by 5PM (17:00) on April 29, 2026.

Syllabus Change Policy

If changes need to be made to this syllabus, an announcement will be made in Canvas to explain the necessary adjustments.