

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER
School of Performing Arts

course syllabus for

MUSI 1211: Music Theory I (2 credit hours)

Fall 2024

MWF 9:05–10:00 a.m. – FAC 2006

Professor: Dr. Kyle Gullings

Office: FAC 1215

Email (preferred contact method): kgullings@uttyler.edu

Office Phone: 903.565.5653

Office Hours: (subject to change)

Mondays 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Tuesdays 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Thursdays 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

(other times by appointment)

Course Description: An elementary study of melody, rhythm, and diatonic tonal harmony in four voices and in simple instrumental textures. Emphasis on rudiments of music, voice leading, harmonic progression, and elemental melodic forms.

Co-Requisite: MUSI 1116 (Aural Skills I). Students not possessing the co-requisite(s) will be administratively removed from the class unless otherwise approved by the department.

Course Learning Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. **Identify and write all elements of the fundamentals of music**, including pitches in various clefs, rhythms, simple and compound meters and time signatures, major and minor scales and key signatures, intervals, triads, and seventh chords, at a mastery level (proficient level only for tenor and alto clefs)
2. **Evaluate and write single-voice cantus firmus lines and counterpoint in first and second species**, at a proficient level
3. **Compose an original melody**, using and analyzing various musical elements covered in class

Required Texts:

Online Textbook and Other Resources:

<http://openmusictheory.com/> (our free, online, open-access textbook)

Other Required Materials: Manuscript paper and a pencil are required at each class meeting. Composition assignments may be written on manuscript paper or notated using software.

Additional Online Resources: (for independent practice)

<http://openmusictheory.github.io/> (the old website [Version 1] of our online textbook)

<http://www.musictheory.net> (another free, online resource for learning about and practicing music theory)

<http://www.dolmetsch.com/theoryintro.htm>

Grading:

Grade Weighting	Homework Assignments and Quizzes	25%
	Analysis Projects	15%
	Participation	10%
	Composition Project	10%
	Midterm Exam	20%
	Final Exam	20%

Grading Scale	90–100%	A
	80–89%	B
	70–79%	C
	60–69%	D
	Below 60%	F

Methods for Assessing Outcomes: Students will be evaluated through regular out-of-class assignments, analysis projects, quizzes, in-class participation, a composition project, a midterm exam, and a final exam.

Methods of Instruction: A variety of instructional methods will be used, including in-class lectures, group and individual exercises and discussion, listening examples, and online assignments.

**** Due Dates and Excused Absences Policy:** All assignments are due on the days indicated, at the start of class. At the instructor's discretion, reduced credit *may* be given for analyses, presentations, or other work that is late or missing due to *unexcused* absences. If granted, late work for reduced credit must be turned in before that same assignment is returned to the class, generally within one week of the due date, after which the assignment will not be accepted.

At the instructor's discretion, absences may be considered *excused* only for legitimate, *documented* reasons (serious illness, family emergency, etc.). Even in cases of *excused absences*, any outstanding assignments are due at the following class period. Missed presentations typically must be made up within one week of the absence. In all cases, it is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of absences as soon as possible, and to *document* that absence if an *excused absence* is being requested.

**** Attendance Policy:** Full attendance and participation are expected in this course. Arrival after class has begun will count as a tardy. Three tardies will count as one unexcused absence.

For this course, students are allowed **three unexcused absences**. After this, the following penalties may be applied:

4-6 unexcused absences = 1 letter grade reduction

7-9 unexcused absences = 2 letter grades reduction

10+ unexcused absences = automatic failure of the course ("F")

(This penalty is not part of the Participation grade, which reflects engaged activity in class.)

Additionally, avoidable distractions such as cell phone use/texting, eating food, outside work, and unnecessarily leaving the room during class time may result in a tardy or absence for the day, at the instructor's discretion. Multiple occurrences will result in the student being asked to leave the class session.

**** Communication:** Students are required to regularly check their Patriot e-mail account and the class Canvas page.

**** Academic Integrity:** Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated (cheating, copying homework, plagiarism, etc.).

Statement on the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in This Course: AI is not permitted in this course at all. To best support your learning, you must complete all graded assignments by yourself. This exclusion of other resources to help complete assignments includes artificial intelligence (AI). Refrain from using AI tools to generate any course context (e.g., text, video, audio, images, etc.) for an assignment or classroom activity.

Other: For additional **Student Resources** and **University Policies and Information**, please read below, or view those sections on our course Canvas site under the Syllabus Module.

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Student Resources

Resources to assist you in the course

- [UT Tyler Student Accessibility and Resource \(SAR\) Office](#) (provides needed accommodations to students with document needs related to access and learning)
- [UT Tyler Writing Center](#)
- [The Mathematics Learning Center](#)
- [UT Tyler PASS Tutoring Center](#)
- [UT Tyler Supplemental Instruction](#)
- [Upswing \(24/7 online tutoring\) - covers nearly all undergraduate course areas](#)
- [Robert Muntz Library](#) and [Library Liaison](#)
- [Canvas 101](#) (learn to use Canvas, proctoring, Unicheck, and other software)
- Digital Support Toolkit (for supported courses only. Students are automatically enrolled in the toolkit for

- supported courses)
- LIB 422 -- Computer Lab where students can take a proctored exam
- [The Career Success Center](#)
- [UT Tyler Testing Center](#)
- [Office of Research & Scholarship Design and Data Analysis Lab](#)

Resources available to UT Tyler Students

- [UT Tyler Counseling Center](#) (available to all students)
- [MySSP App](#) (24/7 access to Student Support Program counseling through phone or chat and online wellness resources available in a variety of languages)
- [Student Assistance and Advocacy Center](#)
- [Military and Veterans Success Center](#) (supports for our military-affiliated students)
- [UT Tyler Patriot Food Pantry](#)
- [UT Tyler Financial Aid and Scholarships](#)
- [UT Tyler Student Business Services](#) (pay or set up payment plans, etc.)
- [UT Tyler Registrar's Office](#)
- [Office of International Programs](#)
- [Title IX Reporting](#)
- [Patriots Engage](#) (available to all students. Get engaged at UT Tyler.)

University Policies and Information

Withdrawing from Class

Students may [withdraw](#) (drop) from this course using the [Withdrawal Portal](#). Withdrawing (dropping) this course can impact your Financial Aid, Scholarships, Veteran Benefits, Exemptions, Waivers, International Student Status, housing, and degree progress. Please speak with your instructors, consider your options, speak with your advisor, and visit the One-Stop Service Center (STE 230) or email enroll@uttyler.edu to get a complete review of your student account and the possible impacts to withdrawing. We want you to make an informed decision. UT Tyler faculty and staff are here for you and often can provide additional support options or assistance. Make sure to carefully [read the implications for withdrawing from a course and the instructions](#) on using the [Withdrawal portal](#).

Texas law prohibits students from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career*. The six courses dropped includes those from other 2-year or 4-year Texas public colleges and universities. Consider the impact withdrawing from this class has on your academic progress and other areas, such as financial implications. We encourage you to consult your advisor(s) and Enrollment Services for additional guidance. **CAUTION #1:**

Withdrawing before census day does not mean you get a full refund. Please see the [Tuition and Fee Refund Schedule](#).

CAUTION #2: All international students must check with the [Office of International Programs](#) before withdrawing.

All international students are required to enroll full-time for fall and spring terms. **CAUTION #3:** All UT Tyler Athletes must check with the Athletic Academic Coordinator before withdrawing from a course. **CAUTION #4:** All veterans or military-affiliated students should consult with the [Military and Veterans Success Center](#).

* Students who began college for the first time before 2007 are exempt from this law.

Artificial Intelligence Statement

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy. *[Refer to the About This Course section of the UT Tyler Syllabus Module for specific information on appropriate use of AI in your course\(s\).](#)*

Final Exam Policy

Final examinations are administered as scheduled. If unusual circumstances require that special arrangements be made for an individual student or class, the Dean of the appropriate college, after consultation with the faculty member involved, may authorize an exception to the schedule. Faculty members must maintain student final examination papers for a minimum of three months following the examination date.

Incomplete Grade Policy

If a student, because of extenuating circumstances, is unable to complete all of the requirements for a course by the end of the semester, then the instructor may recommend an Incomplete (I) for the course. The "I" may be assigned in place of a grade *only when **all** of the following conditions are met:* (a) the student has been making satisfactory progress in the course; (b) the student is unable to complete all coursework or final exam due to unusual circumstances that are beyond personal control and are acceptable to the instructor; and (c) the student presents these reasons before the time that the final grade roster is due. The semester credit hours for an Incomplete will not be used to calculate the grade point average.

The student and the instructor must submit an Incomplete Form detailing the work required and the time by which the work must be completed to their respective department chair or college dean for approval. The time limit established must not exceed one year. Should the student fail to meet all of the work for the course within the time limit, then the instructor may assign zeros to the unfinished work, compute the course average for the student, and assign the appropriate grade. If a grade has yet to be assigned within one year, then the Incomplete will be changed to an F, or NC. If the course was initially taken under the CR/NC grading basis, this may adversely affect the student's academic standing.

Grade Appeal Policy

Disputes regarding grades must be initiated within sixty (60) days from the date of receiving the final course grade by filing a Grade Appeal Form with the instructor who assigned the grade. A grade appeal should be used when the student thinks the final course grade awarded does not reflect the grades earned on assessments or follow the grading scale as documented in the syllabus. The student should provide the rationale for the grade appeal and attach supporting document about the grades earned. The form should be sent via email to the faculty member who assigned the grade. The faculty member reviews the rationale and supporting documentation and completes the instruction section of the form. The instructor should return the form to the student, even if a grade change is made at this level. If the student is not satisfied with the decision, the student may appeal in writing to the Chairperson of the department from which the grade was issued. In situations where there is an allegation of capricious grading, discrimination, or unlawful actions, appeals may go beyond the Chairperson to the Dean or the Dean's designee of the college from which the grade was issued, with that decision being final. The Grade Appeal form is found in the [Registrar's Form Library](#).

NOTE: The Grade Appeal Form is different from the Application for Appeal form submitted to the Student Appeals Committee, which does not rule on grade disputes as described in this policy.

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 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 the Assistant Director Student Accessibility and Resources/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <https://www.uttyler.edu/disability-services>, the SAR office located in the Robert Muntz Library, LIB 460, email saroffice@uttyler.edu, or call 903.566.7079."

Military Affiliated Students

UT Tyler honors the service and sacrifices of our military-affiliated students. If you are a student who is a veteran, on active duty, in the reserves or National Guard, or a military spouse or dependent, please stay in contact with your faculty member if any aspect of your present or prior service or family situation makes it difficult for you to fulfill the requirements of a course or creates disruption in your academic progress. It is important to make your faculty member aware of any complications as far in advance as possible. Your faculty member is willing to work with you and, if needed, put you in contact with university staff who are trained to assist you. The [Military and Veterans Success Center \(MVSC\)](#) has campus resources for military-affiliated students. The MVSC can be reached at MVSC@uttyler.edu or via phone at 903.565.5972.

Students on an F-1 Visa

To remain in compliance with Federal Regulations requirements you must do the following:

- Traditional face-to-face classes: Attend classes on the regular meeting days/times.
- Hybrid Classes: Attend all face-to-face classes convened by the instructor according to the schedule set for your specific course.
- Online course: Only one online course can count toward your full-time enrollment. Students are expected to be

fully engaged and meet all requirements for the online course.

Academic Honesty and Academic Misconduct

The UT Tyler community comes together to pledge that "Honor and integrity will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do." Therefore, we enforce the [Student Conduct and Discipline policy](#) in the Student Manual Of Operating Procedures (Section 8).

FERPA

UT Tyler follows the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) as noted in [University Policy 5.2.3](#). The course instructor will follow all requirements to protect your confidential information.

Absence for Official University Events or Activities

This course follows the practices related to [Excused Absences for University Events or Activities](#) as noted in the Catalog.

Absence for Religious Holidays

This course follows the practices related to [Excused Absences for Religious Holy Days as noted in the Catalog](#).

Absence for Pregnant Students

This course follows the requirements of Texas Laws SB 412, SB 459, SB 597/HB 1361 to meet the needs of pregnant and parenting students. Part of the supports afforded pregnant students includes excused absences. Faculty who are informed by a student of needing this support should make a referral to the Parenting Student Liaison. NOTE: Students must work with the Parenting Student Liaison in order to receive these supports. Students should reach out to the Parenting Student Liaison at parents@uttyler.edu and also complete the [Pregnant and Parenting Self-Reporting Form](#).

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 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>.

Music Theory I – Fall 2024

Course Calendar

(subject to change)

Week	Date	Topic or Event
1	8/26	First Class Day / Intro to our online textbook and Wednesday's readings
		Brief Introduction to Analysis Project #1, Part 1 of 2 due Fri. 8/30 (find some "great music")
		Music Theory Fundamentals Assessment (on paper, completed in class today)
	8/28	First <i>Full</i> Class Day / Syllabus
		Introduction to Tonal Music, Music Theory, Analysis, more info on Analysis Project #1
		Introduction to the "textbook"
		I. Fundamentals [<i>unit heading</i>]
		Introduction to Western Musical Notation
		Notation of Notes, Clefs, and Ledger Lines
	8/30	Due: Analysis Project #1 (Great Music, and How It Works), Part 1 of 2
		Reading Clefs
		The Keyboard and the Grand Staff
2	9/2	NO CLASS: Labor Day
	9/4	Half- and Whole-steps and Accidentals
	9/6	Due: Analysis Project #1 (Great Music, and How It Works), Part 2 of 2
		American Standard Pitch Notation (ASPN)
		Other Aspects of Notation (dynamics, expression marks, etc.)
3	9/9	Census Date (last day to withdraw from courses without penalty)
		Rhythmic and Rest Values
	9/11	Simple Meter and Time Signatures
	9/13	"
		Compound Meter and Time Signatures
4	9/16	Compound Meter and Time Signatures
		Other Rhythmic Essentials
	9/18	Major Scales, Scale Degrees, and Key Signatures
	9/20	"
5	9/23	Major Scales, Scale Degrees, and Key Signatures
		Minor Scales, Scale Degrees, and Key Signatures
	9/25	Due: HW#1 (Major Scales, Major Key Signatures)
		Instructor absent due to OER Fellows Open Texas Workshop, see Canvas for update
		Substitute instructor TBD on Minor Scales, Scale Degrees, and Key Signatures
	9/27	Minor Scales, Scale Degrees, and Key Signatures
6	9/30	Introduction to Diatonic Modes and the Chromatic "Scale" [<i>not graded</i>]
		The Basics of Sight-singing and Dictation [<i>not graded</i>]
		Intervals
	10/2	Due: HW#2 (Minor Scales, Minor Key Signatures)
		Intro. to Analysis Project #2 (Interval Study)
		Intervals
	10/4	"
		Triads
7	10/7	Triads

Week	Date	Topic or Event
(7)	10/9	Due: HW#3 (Intervals)
		Triads
	10/11	“
8	10/14	Seventh Chords
	10/16	Due: Analysis Project #2 (Interval Study)
		Due: HW#4 (Triads)
		Seventh Chords
	10/18	“
9	10/21	Intro. to Composition Project
		Seventh Chords
		Midterm Exam Review
	10/23	Due: HW#5 (Seventh Chords)
		Midterm Exam
	10/25	Inversion and Figured Bass
10	10/28	Inversion and Figured Bass
		Roman Numerals and SATB Chord Construction
	10/30	“
		Intro. to Analysis Project #3 (Chord Qualities in Popular Songs)
	11/1	Roman Numerals and SATB Chord Construction
11	11/4	Withdrawal Deadline (last day to withdraw from courses without a grade of “W”)
		II. Counterpoint and Galant Schemas <i>[unit heading]</i>
		Introduction to Species Counterpoint (includes cantus firmus writing)
	11/6	Class meeting today is tentative, pending instructor conference travel itinerary
		Introduction to Species Counterpoint (includes cantus firmus writing)
	11/8	Instructor out of town for CMS National Conference, see Canvas for substitute instructor plans
12	11/11	First-species Counterpoint
	11/13	Due: Composition Project Draft #1 (Single-Line Melodies w/Fundamentals & Cantus Firmus)
		First-species Counterpoint
	11/15	“
13	11/18	Second-species Counterpoint
	11/20	Due: HW#6 (Cantus Firmus A & First-species Counterpoint A [2 sheets])
		Due: Analysis Project #3 (Chord Qualities in Popular Songs)
		Second-species Counterpoint
	11/22	“
14	11/25–29	NO CLASS: <i>Thanksgiving Break</i>
15	12/2	Due: HW#7 (Second-species Counterpoint)
		Discuss Composition Project
		Final Exam Review
	12/4	Due: Composition Project Final Draft (Single-Line Melodies w/Fundamentals & Cantus Firmus)
		Final Exam Review
	12/6	Composition Project Performances
		Final Exam Review
		Optional Review Session: Friday, Dec. 6 at 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
16	12/9 (M)	Final Exam: Monday, Dec. 9 at 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.