

MUS 1222: Music Theory I

Fall 2017

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Office Hours: By Appointment

Required Texts and Materials:

- 1) *Tonal Harmony: With an Introduction to Twentieth-Century Music*, 8th edition (Kostka/Payne/Almen)
- 2) *Workbook for Tonal Harmony*, 8th edition (Kostka/Payne/Almen)
- 3) Staff paper; pencils and erasers (Work done in ink will not be accepted.)

You must have the appropriate text and workbook editions. Electronic textbooks are not allowed. Photocopies of workbook assignments will not be accepted.

Course Description:

This course provides an intensive drill in the fundamentals of music theory followed by an introduction to tonal music of the Western tradition. After mastering basic concepts involving the visual recognition and written reproduction of key signatures, scales, intervals, rhythm, meter, triads, and seventh chords, students will study figured bass, Roman Numeral analysis, and four-voice part writing of root position triads. This course's content is coordinated with that of Musicianship I (MUS 1224).

Prerequisite Requirements:

Each student enrolled in this course must officially be accepted by the School of Music as a music major in order to remain enrolled. At the beginning of the semester, instructors will check the major status for each enrolled student, and any student not classified as a music major by the School of Music will be immediately dropped from the course.

Co-enrollment:

Students in Music Theory I should also be enrolled in Musicianship I to ensure maximum success in learning the fundamental concepts of Western music. Please notify your instructor immediately if you are not currently co-enrolled.

Theory Department Attendance and Tardy Policy:

Your instructor will take classroom attendance at the beginning of every class. Regular and punctual attendance is expected throughout the semester. University policy permits 3 classroom hours of unexcused absence without penalty per semester (TTH = 2 absences). For each additional unexcused absence, 3 points will be deducted from your final grade. Arriving late to class twice = 1 unexcused absence; once roll has been taken, you are officially late to class. Excused absences include: official university functions or illness with appropriate documentation. If you anticipate a legitimate absence on a test date, contact your instructor at least one week in advance so that plans can be coordinated for any quizzes or exams. Make-up exams and quizzes for legitimately excused absences only are at the discretion of the instructor. You are responsible for all assignments and material covered on the days of your absence.

Class Participation:

When you come to class, be prepared to participate in discussions and other activities involving the assigned readings, exercises, etc. Bring your questions to class! Students who have not brought their materials, are sleeping in class, are not paying attention, or are disrupting the learning environment in any way may be asked to leave class and will be counted absent for that class period.

Classroom Etiquette:

Students will not be allowed to have food or drinks in the classroom, except for water in a clear and sealed container. Students may not use cell phones or other electronic devices such as laptops, etc., during class unless with express permission from the instructor. Students may not use offensive language or be disrespectful to other members in the class. Disruptive students may be asked to leave the class for that day and will be counted absent. It is essential to have a *positive learning environment* so that you and your colleagues can do your best in the class.

Homework Policy:

Homework should be turned in before class starts. Your instructor will give you specific procedural information. Late assignments will not be accepted unless you have received advanced permission from your instructor.

Neatness:

All work to be graded should be: neat, legible, and done in pencil. Any work the instructor considers to be illegible or done in ink will not be graded and you will not receive credit. If you have a question about the quality of your work, ask your instructor before you turn it in to be graded.

Timed Quizzes:

Most Fridays during the semester, a theory fundamentals timed quiz will be given over current and previously covered materials from the course. Both accuracy and speed at spelling key signatures, chords, scales and intervals will be necessary for success with these quizzes and the remaining courses in the core theory sequence.

Final Grade Calculation for Course:

Homework Assignments	25%
Timed Quizzes	15%
Technology Assignments	10%
Final Composition Project	5%
Exam #1	15%
Exam #2	15%
Final Exam	15%

Exam Dates (subject to change):

Exam #1 **Monday, September 25**
Exam #2 **Friday, October 20**
Final Exam **TBA**
(see SHSU final exam schedule)

Grading Scale:

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

Requirements for Students Receiving Unsatisfactory Grades:

Students who have received a final grade of D or lower in any theory or musicianship course the previous semester will be required to drop the next course in the sequence if still enrolled at the beginning of the next semester. Prerequisite courses *must* be passed with a grade of C or higher for promotion to the next level.

SHSU Theory department tutoring policy:

Each student has his/her own unique areas of strengths and weaknesses. If you are falling behind in a certain area and are not able to visit your instructor during scheduled office hours, feel free to contact them via email to arrange a time to meet that will fit your schedule. In addition, a department tutor will also be available for free tutoring for theory and musicianship throughout the semester. Your instructor may request that you attend tutoring sessions when your current class average is below the required passing grade of 70.

University Policy on Academic Dishonesty:

The Faculty Handbook states that the University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Furthermore, the University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. In sum: do your own work! Working on homework assignments with your friends and classmates is *not* acceptable; this is an example of collusion.

More on Classroom Demeanor and Rules of Conduct:

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, the mission of the University. Students are prohibited from using tobacco products in class, making offensive remarks, texting, sleeping, talking amongst each other at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a, minimally, directive to leave class, or being reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with the University policy.

American with Disabilities Act:

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may adversely affect your work in the class, you are encouraged to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with your instructor how best we can serve you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. No accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

Student Absences on Religious Holidays Policy:

Section 51.911 (b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to be absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) a religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first 15 days of the semester or the first 7 days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

Information for Musicians About Staying Healthy

All students are encouraged to read materials provided by the National Association of Schools of Music and the Performing Arts Medicine Association. These three handouts can be found on the SHSU School of Music website. From the School of Music homepage, click on *Current Students* and then *Current Students Homepage* on the dropdown list. Links to these pdf files will be on this page under *NASM Student Information Sheets*. Below are the links to the three handouts:

Protecting your Neuromusculoskeletal Health

<http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/448de41d-76d6-4ee9-b2f8-b640df504e8a.pdf>

Protecting Your Vocal Health

<http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/2cc99732-e47b-40a7-87f3-e9c9c101660a.pdf>

Protecting Your Hearing Health

<http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/d6f88394-d423-4082-9c12-047b3e762146.pdf>

Please re-read this syllabus and feel free to ask your instructor if you need clarification regarding anything discussed in these pages. It is assumed that, by receiving this syllabus, you accept and will adhere to policies and procedures contained therein.