

Music Theory I
(Music 2221/2021)
Autumn 2020

Instructors	Section	Schedule	Contact	Mailbox	Office
Dr. Daniel Shanahan	All	All Monday Lectures Office hours: Monday 2-4; by appointment	shanahan.37@osu.edu	110 Weigel	Mershon Auditorium 502
Joseph Spearman	010	W; F 10:20-11:15 (zoom link to be provided) Office Hours: Monday 5-7	spearman.39@osu.edu	Hughes Hall, first floor near the elevators	Mershon Auditorium, 404
Dallas Carpenter	020	W; F 12:40-1:35 (zoom link to be provided) Office Hours: Wednesday 4-6	carpenter.995@osu.edu		
Samantha Burgess	030	W; F 12:40-1:35 (zoom link to be provided) Office Hours: Thursday (4-6)	burgess.318@osu.edu		
Alex Sallade	040	W; F 10:20-11:15 (zoom link to be provided) Office Hours: Tuesday (11:15-1:15)	sallade.5@osu.edu		

Format of instruction: For Autumn semester of 2020, this class will be taught synchronously via Zoom. We will be delivering lectures at the scheduled time, with combined lectures on Mondays, and smaller group sessions on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Course description: This course will give you the tools and vocabulary to answer big questions about music. Such questions might include:

- How does music convey the ideas of motion and rest?
- How are melodies constructed?
- How do two different melodies fit together?
- How do rhythm and timing help create musical drama?
- What makes a certain musical moment sound the way it does?
- What harmonic progressions are more common, and which are rare?
- How do you embellish a melodic line?
- How does melody relate to harmony?
- How do different textures contribute to the music's character and form?
- What parts of a composition are the main focus, and which parts are in more of a supporting role?

You will explore these questions and others you might want to ask through two perspectives:

1. that of the *listener/interpreter*, who notices musical details and can communicate how the details interact with one another; and
2. that of a *creative musician*, who uses the knowledge gleaned through analysis and recombines musical ideas in new ways to create original compositions.

The work you do in the course supports everything else you do as a professional musician: making musical judgments and interpretations; explaining how a piece works; justifying your performance choices and those of others; learning and memorizing repertoire; listening to music deeply; fixing intonation issues; teaching in the studio or classroom; communicating with your teacher or ensemble leader; understanding how your part fits into the whole; generating new music for yourself or others to enjoy; reading what others have written about your favorite music or composers; comparing different composers, artists, or musical styles; learning how musical styles developed through time.

Course goals:

1. You will learn to make musical inquiries and formulate answers through analysis.
2. You will learn a set of vocabulary and concepts that will help you communicate your ideas.
3. You will develop a deeper understanding of how music “works.” Anyone with talent and a good ear can play notes on a page, but an educated musician knows how their individual part relates to the whole, and they can distinguish between more important parts and less important parts. This knowledge will help you make better interpretive decisions.
4. You will develop an insider's knowledge of musical structure through small composition exercises.

Prerequisite: To fulfill the prerequisite for this course, you should have passed one of the following:

- OSU's Theory Placement Exam, MUSIC 1121,
- "K" credit for a music fundamentals course at a different school,
- Music Fundamentals Online
- received a score of 3 or better on the AP music theory exam.

If none of these apply to you, please notify Dr. Shanahan immediately.

Course sequence information: There are four semesters of Music Theory. You must obtain a C- or better in this class AND receive at least a 80 or above on every Music Theory Skillbuilder quiz to pass on to Theory II this spring and proceed on track with your degree plan or fulfill the theory requirement for the music minor. There will be four opportunities to *take* the MTSB quizzes throughout the semester.

EM credit: If you have had substantial previous training in music theory and counterpoint equivalent to a college course, you may try to obtain credit for Theory I by passing the EM credit test. If you believe you can demonstrate mastery over the entire content of this course, including improvisational skills, analysis of form, hypermeter, tonic/pre-dominant/dominant expansion, and other concepts, please contact Dr. Shanahan to set up a time to take the test.

Textbook: You will not need to purchase a printed textbook or workbook for this course. All materials and handouts will be available on Carmen.

Required resources and supplies

- Staff paper (free at musicshleaf.com)
- Folder or binder for collecting assignments and handouts
- Pencil for writing exercises in class. The learning process necessarily entails making mistakes, so it is important that you be able to erase and correct your work. No assignments written in pen will be accepted.

Grading:

Weekly Reflections	5%
Weekly Fundamentals Assessments	5%
Unit Quizzes	25%
Assignments:	30%
Midterm Project:	15%
Final Project	20%

Credit hours and time commitment: This course is a two credit-hour class. According to rule 3335-8-24 of the Administrative Code, students hoping to obtain a final grade of C should schedule up to three hours of study time a week outside of class. Achieving a final grade of A or B may require more time commitment. <http://trustees.osu.edu/rules/university-rules/rules8/ru8-24-25.html>

Breakdown of assignments:

Reflections: Every week, you will be asked to reflect on the previous week's learning. These are about assessing your own progress in the course, and are graded as complete/incomplete. Typically, students spend about 10-20 minutes on this a week. It also provides you with an opportunity to let us know if there's anything going on that might be hindering your learning, or if we can approach certain concepts differently.

Weekly Fundamentals Assessments: Every week, you will take a brief (5-7 minute) online assessment on Carmen. These are intended to be a practice space for you to become more fluent with the basic spellings and grammars of music (key signatures, triad spellings, inversions, etc.). As such, you can take these as many times as you'd like, as long as they are completed by the weekly due date. If you are struggling with the fundamentals, you are highly encouraged to block out extra time to practice every week. We will keep your highest grade from all attempts.

Unit Quizzes: There are online quizzes at the end of each of the five units. You will have up to one hour to complete each quiz.

Assignments: There are six assignments this semester, which will consist listening, analyzing, writing about music, and composing. These assignments will be either 2-3 pages of written text, or 8-16 measures of written music.

Midterm Project: The midterm project will contain 2-3 pages of written analytical text, conforming to the *Chicago Manual of Style*. There will be a peer-review stage, as well, in which you are asked to anonymously review a colleague's draft, and provide feedback.

Final Project: The final project consists of an analytical paper of 5-7 pages, conforming to the *Chicago Manual of Style*, and a brief analytical interview.

Weekly Layout (subject to change):

Unit	Week	Topic	Quizzes	Assignments
Describing Music	1 (8/26)	Syllabus; introduction; What is music theory? Repetition, variation, and difference.		(online pre-test)
	2 (8/31)	Listening to form and musical structures; notational styles; reviewing scales and key signatures.	Fundamentals Quiz (FQ) 1	Assignment 1: Analyzing Musical Structure
Melodies and phrases.	3 (9/7)	No class on Monday; What is a phrase?; Melodic cadences.	FQ 2; Quiz 1 on Wednesday.	
	4 (9/14)	Sentences and periods, harmonic cadences.	FQ 3	Assignment 2: Analysis and Transcription of Musical Phrases
	5 (9/21)	Introducing Roman numerals, harmonic function.	FQ 4	

Measuring time in music.	6 (9/28)	Cross-cultural examples of meter and hypermeter.	FQ 5; Quiz 2	Assignment 3: Musical dice game analysis.
	7 (10/4)	Hypermeter and larger groupings.	FQ 6;	Midterm Project Due (Friday)
	8 (10/11)	Complex rhythms and meters; analyzing flow in hip-hop.	FQ 7	Assignment 4: Analysis of Sentences and Periods
Putting melodies together.	9 (10/18)	Consonance and dissonance; dependent melodies	FQ 8; Quiz 3	
	10 (10/26)	Independent melodies; polyphony	FQ9	Assignment 5: Analysis of dependent melodies
	11 (11/2)	Species counterpoint	FQ 10; Quiz 4	
Writing and Analyzing Harmonic Progressions	12 (11/9)	Writing progressions; No class on Wednesday (11/11; Veteran's Day observed).	FQ11	Assignment 6: Counterpoint assignment
	13 (11/16)	Introduction to the Harmonic and Melodic analysis of Jazz and Pop	FQ 12	
	14 (11/23)	Review	FQ 13; Quiz 5	(online post-test)
	15 (11/30)	Final project interviews.		Final Project (Due 11/30)

Expectations for attendance and preparation: Your daily schedule and course materials will be posted on the Canvas server. You are responsible for completing any assigned materials ahead of the due date, including reading, watching, or listening to any material that will help you prepare for class. Class time will be primarily used to deepen understanding of concepts and practice skills. Therefore, we expect you to attend class daily. Having said that, attendance will not directly affect your grade this semester. Instead, we will be taking attendance for the purposes of advisement. You are encouraged to reach out to your instructor if you have to miss a class to ensure that you are caught up on all material and coursework.

Excused and Unexcused Absences: You may turn in assignments or make up work only if you obtain an excused absence. Absences may be excused by the instructor in cases of family emergency, debilitating illness with doctor's note, religious observance, participation in varsity athletics, or participation in music-related activity requiring travel. To obtain an excused absence, consult with the instructor in advance and show proper documentation. Whenever possible, complete assignments beforehand. All missed work is due in class on the day you return unless other arrangements are made in writing.

If your absence is unexcused, you will not be able to make up missed quizzes or turn in assignments. Keep in mind that more than three unexcused absences will likely result in a lower final grade and may jeopardize your completion of the course.

Weekly reflections (online): You will be asked to complete a short weekly reflection online. The purpose of the reflections is for you to consolidate your understanding, identify areas of improvement or weakness, and communicate with your instructor on a regular basis. Reflections will open on Monday morning and close Sunday at midnight.

Cumulative Quizzes: There will be a several short quizzes in class to test your knowledge and understanding of course content. Quiz topics will be posted in advance on the Carmen classes server. No make-up quizzes will be given unless you have obtained an excused absence.

Assignments: You will be given eleven assignments throughout the semester. You will workshop the assignments in small groups prior to the due date. Make sure you schedule adequate time to complete the assignments—do not attempt to begin them Sunday night before the Monday deadline. No late assignments will be accepted, unless you have obtained an excused absence.

Composition projects and research project: You will complete two compositions and perform them with your peers: 1) A two-voice counterpoint assignment on a given melody for your Midterm project 2) A four-voice period or sentence.

Final Exam: Your knowledge of course content will be assessed through a timed final exam, delivered at the end of the semester during the scheduled final exam time for your section. See <https://registrar.osu.edu/scheduling/finals/finals.asp>

Disability Services: The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. SLDS contact information: slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; slds.osu.edu; 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.

Academic Honesty: It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations.

Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct <http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/>.

Counseling Services: As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life Counseling and Consultation Services (CCS) by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling (614) 292-5766. CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on-call counselor when CCS is closed at (614) 292-5766 and 24-hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Prevention Hotline at 1-(800)-273-TALK or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Sexual Misconduct/Relationship Violence: Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories (e.g., race). If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleix.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator, Kellie Brennan, at titleix@osu.edu.

Statement on Diversity: The Ohio State University affirms the importance and value of diversity in the student body. Our programs and curricula reflect our multicultural society and global economy and seek to provide opportunities for students to learn more about persons who are different from them. We are committed to maintaining a community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among each member of our community; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited.

Hearing Wellness: Protection and preservation of your hearing is an important responsibility as a mature musician. All students are encouraged to schedule annual hearing examinations to monitor subtle changes in hearing over time. Additionally, the acquisition and regular use of custom-fitted “musician’s ear plugs” will help ensure preservation of hearing. Audiology examinations and custom-fitted hearing protection can be attained through the Ohio State Department of Speech and Hearing Science on west campus. More information is available at <https://sphs.osu.edu/clinic/audiology-services>.

Summary of NASM Goals, Section VIII.

B. Common Body of Knowledge and Skills.

1. Performance.

- Skills requisite for artistic self-expression
- Understanding of repertoire in performance area
- Sight reading, general musicianship
- Lead and collaborate in matters of musical interpretation
- Keyboard competency

2. Musicianship Skills and Analysis.

- Understand common elements and organizational patterns of music
- Perform aural, verbal, visual analyses
- Take aural dictation
- Apply theoretical understanding to own area of specialization (composition, performance, scholarly, pedagogy)
- Place music in its stylistic context

3. Composition/Improvisation.

- Create original or derivative music
 - Original compositions or improvisations
 - Variations/improvisations on existing materials
 - Experimentation with various sound sources
 - Imitation of musical styles
 - Manipulating common elements in non-traditional ways
- Relate creative activity to work in major field.

4. History and Repertory

- Students must understand music history and repertoires through the present time, including the “study and experience of musical language and achievement” of one musical style outside the primary area of specialization

5. Synthesis. “By the end of undergraduate study students must be able to work on musical problems by combining, as appropriate to the issue, their capabilities in performance; aural, verbal, and visual analysis; composition/improvisation; and history and repertory.”

C. Results.

- Entry-level competence in major area
- Significant technical mastery
- Capability to solve professional problems independently
- Coherent set of artistic/intellectual goals evident in work
- Ability to form and defend value judgments about music
- Communicate musical ideas, concepts, requirements to professionals and laypersons