

# MUS 122: Music Theory I

CID Number 7810

MWF 11-11:50am, Room 216

Fall 2007

**Instructor:** Vincetti Frizzo

**Office:** Kirkley G02

**Office hours:** By Appointment

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## REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS \*

- *Tonal Harmony*, Kostka and Payne (5th edition)
- *Workbook for Tonal Harmony*, Kostka and Payne (5<sup>th</sup> edition)
- Example CD's and Finale® Workbook software – included with your *Workbook for Tonal Harmony*
- Music staff paper; pencils, eraser (Assignment/exams done in ink will not be accepted!)

**\*ALL STUDENTS MUST OWN THEIR OWN BOOKS AND HAVE ALL MATERIALS PRESENT FOR EVERY CLASS PERIOD.**

## 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 diatonic music using triads in all inversions. This course's content is coordinated with that of Musicianship I (MUS 122).

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

- **Elements of Pitch (Chapter 1):** The keyboard and octave registers, notation of the staff, major and minor scales and key signatures, scale degree names, intervals, modes.
- **Elements of Rhythm (Chapter 2):** Rhythm, durational symbols, beat and tempo, meter, division of the beat, simple and compound time signatures.
- **Introduction to Triads and Sevenths (Chapter 3):** Triads, and seventh chords, inversions, inversion symbols and figured bass, lead sheet symbols, recognizing chords in various textures.
- **Diatonic Chords in Major and Minor (Chapter 4):** The minor scale, diatonic triads in major and minor, diatonic seventh chords in major and minor.
- **Harmonic Progression (Chapter 7):** Qualities of typical chord progressions found in tonal music.
- **Principles of Voice Leading (Chapter 5):** The melodic line, notating chords, voicing a single triad, parallel motion.
- **Root Position Part Writing (Chapter 6):** Root position, part writing with repeated roots, root position part writing a 4th (5th) apart, root position part writing a 3rd (6th) apart, root position part writing a 2nd (7th) apart, instrumental ranges and transpositions.
- **Triads in First Inversion (Kostka, Chapter 8):** Bass arpeggiation, substituting first inversion triads, parallel sixth chords, part writing first inversion triads, soprano-bass counterpoint.

## CO-ENROLLMENT

Normally, students in this class will be enrolled in MUS 124 (Musicianship I) and MUS 111X (Class Piano I). The principles dealt with in these corresponding theory, musicianship, and piano classes all build upon and reinforce each other. These courses should be taken concurrently to ensure maximum success in learning the

fundamental principles of Western music. Please notify your instructor if you are not currently enrolled in corresponding theory, musicianship, and piano classes.

### **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 counted *absent* for that class period. Being physically present in class does not necessarily constitute attendance!

### **THEORY DEPARTMENT ATTENDANCE AND TARDY POLICIES**

Regular and punctual attendance is expected of you throughout the semester. **University policy permits three classroom hours of unexcused absence without penalty per semester (MWF = 3 absences, TTH = 2 absences).** Reserve these for possible emergency or illness. **For each additional unexcused MWF absence, one-third of a letter grade will be deducted from your final grade. For each additional unexcused TTH absence, one-half of a letter grade will be deducted from your final grade.** Valid excuses 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 a make-up test can be scheduled. **Once a test has been returned, a make-up test will not be possible.** You are responsible for all assignments and material covered on the days of your absence.

The instructor will take attendance at the beginning of each class period. Students not arriving by the time attendance is completed will need to sign the official tardy sign-in sheet at the front of the classroom in order to be counted present for that class period. Students failing to sign this list when tardy will be counted absent without exception. Every student will be allowed 2 tardies without penalty per semester. **Every third tardy will be counted as equal to one absence. (3 tardies = 1 absence, 6 tardies = 2 absences, etc.)**

**!!! ATTENDANCE IS A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR AFFECTING YOUR SUCCESS IN THIS COURSE !!!**

### **CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE**

Students will **NOT** be allowed to have food or drinks in the classroom; however, water in a closed container is acceptable with instructor's approval. Students may **NOT** use cell phones or other electronic devices such as laptops, iPods, etc. during class. Students will be penalized one tardy for each disruption caused by any of these devices during class. Special needs accommodations for allowing any of the above is allowed, but only through approval of the university and the Counseling Center.

### **NEATNESS**

In order to properly evaluate your work, your instructor must be able to read it. Therefore, all work done for this class **MUST** be legible as determined by the instructor. **Any work the instructor considers to be illegible will NOT be graded and will NOT receive credit.**

### **TIMED QUIZZES**

Timed quizzes will be given throughout the semester. If you do not make an 80% or higher on a quiz, you will be required to retake it up to two times. If you make an 80% or the second or third time, you will receive an 80% as your grade for the timed quiz. If you do not make an 80% or higher the second time, you will be required to retake the test for a third and final time. If you score below an 80% the third time, that will be your final grade for the timed quiz. If you miss the first round of a timed quiz, you will only get two chances to take that particular timed quiz. Second and third rounds must be taken during special retake sessions to be scheduled at the beginning of the semester by your instructors. After each retake session, grades will be posted (listed by Sam ID number and not by students' names!) on the

bulletin board near the front lobby entrance. Retakes for each timed quiz must be taken by the deadlines set on the Retake Schedule, which you will receive the first week of classes.

### **HOMEWORK POLICY FOR THEORY I-IV**

Your three lowest homework/pop quiz grades will be dropped. **Homework is due at the beginning of class –NO EXCEPTIONS.** If you are absent, you may get someone to turn your homework in for you at the beginning of class. **No homework is accepted late.** If you miss a pop quiz because of an absence, excused or unexcused, you will not be able to retake it.

#### **Resubmission policy for homework:**

Students who receive unsatisfactory marks (79 or below) will have the opportunity to resubmit an assignment to the instructor. You will receive half credit for all points corrected, with a highest possible grade of 80. **Revised work is due the class meeting after it is returned to the student.**

Students turning in an incomplete assignment, you may only resubmit the portion that was originally completed.

### **FINAL GRADE CALCULATIONS FOR THEORY I-IV**

Assignments and Quizzes	30%
Final Project	10%
Exams (3 Unit Exams worth 20% each)**	60%
Possible Penalties for Class Attendance/Participation	(see above)

\*\*50 minutes will be allotted for each of the first two Theory Unit Exams. The Final Exam will be a cumulative exam given during the scheduled final time. The Final Exam will take place as scheduled by the university, unless your instructor indicates otherwise.

### **GRADING SCALE**

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

*Note: Your instructor will NOT freely give points or extra credit to students to improve their final grade.*

### **SHSU THEORY DEPARTMENT TUTORING POLICY**

Each student has his/her own unique areas of strength and weakness. 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. A department tutor may also be available for free tutoring for all theory and musicianship students throughout the semester. (More information on this will be given a week or two into the semester.) NOTE: The Kostka/Payne *Tonal Harmony* text now has online tutorials to help you with the basic concepts from each chapter in the text. Simply take the following link ([www.mhhe.com/kp5](http://www.mhhe.com/kp5)), click on "Student Edition" under "Online Learning Center" at the left and choose the desired part of the book on the scroll-down list on the left and lesson with which you desire extra help or practice. Other free websites such as [www.musictheory.net](http://www.musictheory.net) can be a great resource for students seeking help. Ask your instructor or see the SHSU Theory and Composition website for even more ideas.

### **UNIT EXAM DATES (subject to change if needed):**

Unit One Exam	9/21/07
Unit Two Exam	10/26/07

**EARLY WARNING SLIPS / FIRST ALERT**

After the first two exams, the instructor will fill out an “Early Warning Slip” on behalf of any student having problems with grades, attendance, attitude, fundamental skills, etc. These official notifications by the theory department are sent to a student’s applied instructor and/or ensemble director in order to express specific concerns regarding the student’s academic performance.

The Counseling Center on campus also offers a service called “First Alert” which aims to give aid to students identified by their instructors as needing extra help with their coursework. At any time during the semester, instructors may send a “First Alert” warning to the counseling center on campus, if a student seems to be having any kind of difficulty in class. The theory department is committed to working with students, applied instructors, and ensemble directors to ensure each student’s success in the classroom.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS RECEIVING UNSATISFACTORY GRADES**

Students who have received a final grade of F 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.**

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**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.

**PROPER CLASSROOM DEMEANOR/RULES OF CONDUCT:**

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Please turn off or mute your cellular phone and/or pager before class begins.

Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking among each other at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in, minimally, a directive to leave class or being reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

**AMERICANS 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 affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help 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) 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.