

MUS 465: Counterpoint and Analysis

TTH 9:30-10:50am, Rm. 219

Fall 2007

Instructor: Dr. Kyle Kindred

Office: Kirkley G-03

Office hours: Monday/Wednesday 10am-12pm

Phone: (936) 294-1377

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REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS

- *Music for Ear Training*, Horvit, Koozin, and Nelson (2nd edition)
- *Music for Sight-Singing*, Benjamin, Horvit, and Nelson (4th edition)
- *Music for Ear Training* CD-ROM, included with text.
- Music staff paper; pencils, eraser (Assignment, quizzes, or exams done in ink will not be accepted!)

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

Required Texts and Materials

- *Benjamin, Thomas. *The Craft of Tonal Counterpoint*, 2nd edition
- *Counterpoint Binder – 3-ring binder to organize handouts, assignments and class notes. Include **PLENTY** of manuscript paper, which can be found at www.blanksheetmusic.net.
- *Pencils (Assignments, quizzes, or exams done in ink will not be accepted!)
- Finale Notepad 2006 (free download available atcom)

***NOTE: Bring these materials to every class!!! Daily attendance/participation points will be deducted each class meeting in which you do not have all required materials.**

Course Description

This course is designed to be an intensive study of the music of J.S. Bach, the goal of which is to lead the students to a greater understanding of the principles of counterpoint that underline most of Western art music. The class will include listening, analysis, performance, stylistic studies, and creative projects. During the course of the semester students will write two-voice imitative (canons, inventions) and non-imitative (dance suite movements) music in the style of J.S. Bach. As a part of their stylistic studies, students are strongly encouraged to become familiar with the compositions on the reference list.

Course Objectives

- 1) to gain an understanding of the principles of voice-leading, harmony, and figured bass
- 2) to better understand the techniques of counterpoint embodied in the works of J.S. Bach
- 3) to have a knowledge of the stylistic and formal elements found in the contrapuntal music of the Baroque period.

Major Assignments

Assignment #1 - Binary Dance Movement (10% of course grade)

Compose a two-voice binary dance movement (16-24 measures) based on the models given in Chapter Four of the text. Provide a roman-numeral analysis, labeling modulations and non-chord tones. Your assignment may be scored for piano or a pair of appropriate instruments (high/low) and will be performed (live or computer aided) in class on **TUES. NOV 15TH and THURS. NOV 17TH.**

Assignment #2 - Canon for Voice (5% of course grade)

Compose a two-voice canon suitable for voices (words optional) using the procedures laid out in Chapter Six of the text. Your assignment should be 12-16 measures in length. Provide a roman-numeral analysis, labeling modulations and non-chord tones. These canons will be sung by the class on **TUES. NOV 22ND.** Please bring enough copies of your assignment to facilitate the performance.

Assignment #3 - Two-Part Invention (15% of course grade)

Compose a two-part invention (approximately 32-48 measures) using the procedures outlined in Chapter Seven of the text. Provide a roman-numeral analysis, labeling modulations and non-chord tones. These works may be written for piano or a pair of appropriate instruments (high/low) and will be performed (live or computer aided) in class on **THURS. DEC. 8TH.**

*** More specific deadlines or due dates may be given in order to facilitate progress on each of these assignments.**

Exams

Exam #1 (September 22) - Chapter 1, Appendix 1, Assigned pieces and Listening

Exam #2 (October 20) - Chapters 2 & 3, Chromatic Chords, Assigned pieces and Listening

Final Exam (Thursday, December 15; 8am-10am) - Chapters 4-7, Assigned Pieces and Listening

Extra Help

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 see me during scheduled office hours, feel free to contact me so that we may arrange a time to meet that will fit your schedule. I can most easily be reached by office phone or email; if you need to contact me urgently, you may reach me by cell phone.

Attendance

Regular and punctual attendance will be expected of you throughout the semester. University policy permits two (excused or unexcused) absences without penalty (except for announced tests). Reserve these for possible emergency or illness. For each additional unexcused absence, 5% will be deducted from your final grade. Valid excuses include official university functions, serious illness or family emergency with an acceptable explanation or note. If you anticipate a legitimate absence on a test date, contact me well in advance so that a make-up test can be scheduled. **Make-up quizzes or exams will NOT be given for sickness without an official doctor's note.** Once a test has been returned (usually the next class meeting), a make-up test will not be possible. You are responsible for all assignments and material covered on the days of your absence. Tardiness will be counted as one-third off your attendance for the day. **Attendance is the most significant factor affecting your success in this course.**

Grading

Homework/Class Participation/Pop Quizzes		(35%)
Exams	2 @ 10% each	(20%)
Major Assignments	3 @ 10%, 5%, and 15% respectively	(30%)
Final Exam		(15%)

The following scale will be used for the final grade:

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

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 fifteen days of the semester or the first seven 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.

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 SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

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 a, minimally, a directive to leave class or being reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.