

Graduate Music Theory Review (MUAC 3935-1)

Autumn Quarter 2020

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This course provides an accelerated review of materials from the undergraduate theory core, including analysis and written exercises in diatonic and chromatic harmony, counterpoint, tonal forms, and an introduction to 20th-Century theory.

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Time and Location

Time

We will have eight synchronous weekly meetings on Tuesdays, **6:00–7:30 PM (MT)**.

Important Dates

Last day to register via PioneerWeb without a signature: **9/20/2020, Sunday, 11:59PM**

First Synchronous Class: **9/29/2020**

Last Synchronous Class: **11/17/2020**

FINAL EXAM: **12/1/2020, Tuesday, 6:30–7:30 PM (MT)**

The Final Exam time is determined by registrar. If you cannot take the final exam on 12/1 for a schedule conflict, let me know ASAP.

Office hours

By appointment. Please e-mail me if you'd like to meet with me via Zoom.

Location

Zoom meeting via Canvas. In the case when Zoom server is down, we will meet using a web-based meeting service called jitsi. Join by click on this link: <https://meet.jit.si/gradtheoryreview>

Required Materials

Textbook

You do not need to purchase any textbook for this course. We will use [Open Music Theory](#) website as the main resource, which is free and open access.

If you would like additional resources, I recommend following:

- Burstein, L. Poundie and Joseph N. Straus. *Concise Introduction to Tonal Harmony*. New York and London: W.W. Norton & Company, 2016.
- Laitz, Steven G. and Christopher Bartlette. *Graduate Review of Tonal Theory*. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010.

Flat.io

Flat.io is a notational software that is accessible through a web browser. Using Flat.io allows me to generate assignments and quizzes that you can complete electronically without having to install any software on your computer. *More information to follow!*

What To Bring

- **Note taking tools:** please make sure you have **pencil and staff paper** (or electronic equivalent) with you so you can take notes from the class, and follow along with exercises.
- **Assignments and Class Notes:** make sure you have access to the submitted assignment due for each class so you can participate in the class discussion.

Course Breakdown

Attendance/Class Participation:	10%
Assignments:	50%
Quizzes:	20%
Final Exam:	20%

Course Overview

Please refer to Canvas for most up-to-date calendar. Here is a general overview of this class:

Week 1–2: Fundamentals Review (asynchronous materials)

I will post asynchronous lectures, class notes, and optional assignments on Canvas. I will also post self-check diagnostic quiz so you can determine which concepts to brush up on before we meet in Week 3 for synchronous lecture. There will be an in-class Quiz based on the asynchronous material, so make sure you take your time to review the materials!

Week 3–4: Diatonic Harmony, Figured Bass, and Modulation to closely related keys

Week 5–6: Chromatic Harmony, Voice Leading and Chromatic modulation

Week 7–8: Small and Big Forms, Chromatic Harmony review, and Analysis Practice

Assignments, Quizzes and Final Exam

Assignments

There will be one assignment due at the beginning of each synchronous lecture. You may redo the assignments for a better grade, which will be due before the next assignment's due date.

Quizzes

You will have a 15-minute quiz to complete after each synchronous lecture. This is to serve as a review, and you will be allowed to retake the quiz up to three times.

Final Exam

Final Exam will be given online in a similar manner as the Proficiency Exam you took in September. We will be using a separate canvas site and we will use Zoom to proctor. Final Exam will be synchronous and time-limited, on December 1st, 6:00–7:30 PM, MT. If you have a legitimate excuse that prevent you from taking the final exam, please let me know ASAP.

Late Work and Second Chances

I am a big believer in second chances, and that is why I allow redo of assignments and quizzes. This option is not available for late work, however—I will NOT accept any late work, so plan ahead and complete the assignments early.

Grading

The final grade for this course is posted as pass/fail. Successful completion of this course will meet the proficiency exam requirement for your graduate degree. Your grade in this course will be based on attendance, weekly homework assignments, quizzes, and a final exam. **You must take the final to pass this class.**

I understand that this is a zero credit, pass/fail course and this course is designed for you to succeed as long as you show up and put in your work. If you feel that you need extra practice, make sure you are taking advantage of the redo policy and re-take the quizzes as necessary. Feel free to explore the recommended textbook and resources, or ask me for some extra exercises.

I do not grade on a curve, or based on an average and I do not offer extra credit assignments. The points that you receive are the points that your work earns.

Assistance and Academic Integrity

I strongly support collaborative learning and discussion outside class. Sometimes, however, you may have difficulty deciding what constitutes help and what constitutes plagiarism and academic misconduct.

The following kinds of assistance are all encouraged:

- asking a classmate for assistance with a particularly difficult point in the class notes
- using online aids
- consulting other textbooks and providing an appropriate citation
- reproducing demonstrations by me from an office hour or class

The following kinds of assistance, however, constitute plagiarism:

- working on individual assignments or quizzes together
- sharing answers
- asking friends to complete assignments for you

For more information about the Academic Misconduct policy at DU, please refer to the Honor Code at www.du.edu/honorcode [Links to an external site.](#).

Instances of suspected plagiarism can be painful and difficult to deal with, for faculty as well as for students. The University's policies mandate two things:

1. that I report significant infractions of the Academic Misconduct policy and
2. that I discuss the matter with the students responsible before I do that reporting.

Everything you write down on the assignment and quiz must be your own work. Any suspected copying will be investigated by me and reported to the Music Theory Department. Any proven copying will lead to a grade of 0 on the work in question of each person involved and a letter will be placed in the Registrar and Lamont School files. If a student is caught a second time, they will immediately receive an "F" for the course. All instances of copying, either suspected or proven will be reported to the student conduct office.

University Policies and Sources of Support

Students with disabilities or medical issues Any student who feels they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability or medical condition should contact the Disability Services Program to coordinate reasonable accommodations. The Disability Services Program is located on the 4th floor of Ruffatto Hall at 1999 E. Evans Ave. Telephone: 303.871.2372, 303.871.2278 or 303.871.7432. Information is also available on line at <http://www.du.edu/disability/dsp> [Links to an external site.](#); see the Handbook for Students with Disabilities.

Religious observance DU students are granted excused absences from class if needed for observance of religious holy days but should contact instructors to make alternate arrangements during the first week of class. For information and a list of religious holidays, visit DU's religious accommodations policy here: <http://www.du.edu/studentlife/religiouslife/about-us/policy.html> [Links to an external site.](#)

Student-athletes are responsible for informing their instructors of any class days to be missed due to DU sponsored varsity athletic events in which they are participating. Student-athletes are provided with a schedule of travel dates that coincide with class dates and an absence policy to present to instructors. This must be signed by the instructor and it is the student-athlete's responsibility to return the signed forms to an assigned athletics adviser. In the event that a team reaches post-season play (i.e. Conference or NCAA Tournament), letters will be sent to instructors informing them of additional missed class dates. It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to make arrangements with instructors regarding any missed lectures, assignments, and/or exams.

Modes of address Class rosters are provided to me with your legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the quarter so that I may make appropriate changes to my records.

This syllabus is subject to change. Please refer to the syllabus posted on Canvas for the most up-to-date information. Last Edited: 9/13/2020