

South Plains College
Course Syllabus: MUSI 1311.001
Fall 2021

Department: Fine Arts
Discipline: Music
Course Title: Music Theory I
Meeting Time: M/W 9:30am-10:45am
Instructor: Dr. Sesha Wallace
Office: FA 114C
Office Phone: (806) 716-2265
Email: swallace@southplainscollege.edu
Virtual Office Hours: TBD

Purpose of this Course

The purpose of this course is to develop an understanding of analysis and writing of tonal melody and diatonic harmony, including fundamental music concepts, scales, intervals, chords, 7th chords, early four-part writing, and analysis of small compositional forms. The student's understanding of these topics will be regularly assessed through homework assignments, quizzes, and written exams.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Construct and identify major scale and all forms of the minor scale.
2. Construct and identify triads and seventh chords in all inversions.
3. Analyze triads in harmonic context utilizing standard roman-numeral symbols.
4. Compose music in standard four-part chorale style.
5. Identify small musical forms.
6. Demonstrate musical concepts covered in class, including scales, triads, and basic harmonic progression on the keyboard.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of rhythmic meter and note duration through score analysis and composition.

Required Materials

Textbook *and* workbook: *Tonal Harmony, 8th edition by Kostka, Payne, and Almen.*

Notebook paper

Five-line staff paper

Pencil

Access to a printer (required) and scanner (preferred)

Face mask (not required but highly recommended)

Helpful Websites

<http://www.musictheory.net>

<http://www.teoria.com>

Course Format

This course is fully in-person but may be moved online at a future date, in response to COVID-19 safety requirements. Students will also have access to PowerPoint presentations from class.

- Students are expected to attend classes, whether in person or virtual.
- If the class moves online:
 - Virtual class will be asynchronous (at your own pace).

- Virtual attendance is defined as: logging in to Blackboard, reading through the class notes for the day and assigned reading, watching the recorded lecture, and completing assignments and/or assigned quizzes or exams by the assigned due date.
- You are not required to wear a face mask but it is highly recommended.
- The professor will work individually with students who need access to a virtual option, if the need arises due the Covid-19.

If the student does not communicate with the professor or login to Blackboard for 3 consecutive weeks, the student risks being dropped from the course.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend class and to be on time. The Attendance portion (10%) of the final grade average will be determined by the percentage of classes actively attended by the student.

This figure is arrived at by dividing the number of classes actively attended by the number of total class meetings. Each student will be allowed two (2) unexcused absences for which there will be no penalty. Attendance is recorded at the beginning of class. Students will attend the section in which they are registered.

Tardiness: Late students will be marked tardy. Three tardies will equal one unexcused absence. If the student is more than 15 minutes late to class, the student will be marked absent for the day.

Excused Absences: An excused absence is defined as an absence due to illness, an official trip or activity authorized by the college, or family emergency. The student must notify the instructor of the absence prior to the start of class and must provide documentation in the form of a doctor's note or release form from the college. In the case of illness, if no doctor's note is presented and the instructor is not notified before class, the absence will be unexcused.

Please see statement on Covid-19

If a student stops coming to class, the instructor will report it to the Office of Student Services as specified above. After 6 unexcused absences, the student risks being dropped from the class. It is the student's responsibility to drop the class if the need arises.

The student is responsible for obtaining any notes or assignments missed due to absence or tardiness from other classmates or from Blackboard, except in the case of an excused absence. Do not email the instructor asking what was missed in class. The instructor will not answer these emails.

Grading Standards

Homework

- Written homework assignments are due by the *beginning* of the next class meeting after they are assigned.
- Written homework may be changed to online submission via Blackboard at the discretion of the instructor. Students will need access to a printer and scanner. Uploaded pictures of written homework will be accepted ONLY if the picture is high quality and all notation is legible.
- Assignments must be completed in PENCIL.
- Any assignment submitted with unreadable manuscript will be returned to the student to be completed again and will be counted as a late assignment.
- Late assignments that are incomplete will not be accepted.
- Students will not attempt to complete due homework during class, nor will they work on assignments for other classes.
- The single lowest homework grade will be dropped when figuring the student's average at the end of the semester.

Homework Deductions

- 5 for assignments completed in PEN
 - 10 for assignments submitted after the start of class or later in the day on due date
 - 25 for late assignments up to a week late
- Automatic 0 for assignments not submitted within a week

Exams

- Exams will be administered face-to-face or online via Blackboard. If the exam is administered through Blackboard, it will contain written and online portions.
- There will be **three** exams scheduled during the semester, and a **comprehensive final exam** at the end of the semester.
- Exams *may not* be taken late or early except in the case of a legitimate emergency. The instructor must be notified *in advance* and for which documentation is provided upon the student's return to class.
- If administered online, both written and online portions of the exam must be submitted before the exam deadline via Blackboard.
- The final exam will follow the same format of the three previous exams and will be taken at the time specified in the college finals schedule. Under no circumstances will any student be allowed to take the final exam early.

Grade Book

The course grade book is maintained at <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/webapps/login/>. Class assignments will also be posted to Blackboard. You are encouraged to log in regularly, to keep track of your personal records. If you have questions about using this website, please do not hesitate to ask the instructor. Tutoring is provided for this course. Please listen to announcements given in class regarding tutoring, and please do not hesitate to ask the instructor for further information.

Final Grade Calculation

The Final grade will be calculated as follows:

- Written homework assignments 20%
- Three regular exams 40%
- Final Exam 20%
- Quizzes and Class Participation 10%
- Attendance 10%

The Final Grade will be determined as follows:

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

It is the student's responsibility to access a reliable computer and internet connection.

“Computer/Internet problems” will not be an acceptable excuse for failing to submit an exam prior to the deadline or for submitting an incomplete exam.

For Fine Arts Music Majors

Although the grade of a “D” is considered passing, it is highly recommended that the student earns a grade of at least a “C” to show competency in the subject before moving on to the next level of Music Theory. Students who earn a “D” will be encouraged to retake the course.

Covid-19 Statement

If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, please do not attend class and either seek medical attention or get tested for COVID-19.

- Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
- Fever or chills
- Muscles or body aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste and smell

Please also notify DeEttE Edens, BSN, RN, Associate Director of Health & Wellness, at dedens@southplainscollege.edu or 806-716-2376.

Mask Policy

Masks are not required on campus, however, if you attend face-to-face office hours or are in close proximity to the instructor, please wear a mask. Otherwise, we will communicate virtually or by phone.

Plagiarism and Cheating

Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
- Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
- Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
- Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
- Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
- Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
- Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
- Taking an examination for another;
- Altering grade records;
- Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
- Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
- Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

Student Code of Conduct Policy

Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating,

aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

Diversity Statement

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

Disability Statement

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

Nondiscrimination Policy

South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement

If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To [activate](#) accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or [email cqilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cqilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at: (http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php) Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.