

**South Plains College**  
**Course Syllabus: MUSI 1311.001**  
**Fall 2023**

**Department:** Fine Arts

**Discipline:** Music / **Course Title:** Music Theory I

**Meeting Time/Location:** M/W 9:30am-10:45am; TA 220

**Instructor:** Dr. Sessa Wallace

**Office:** FA 114C / **Office Phone:** (806) 716-2265 / **Email:** swallace@southplainscollege.edu

**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**

Access to Artusi

Notebook paper

Five-line staff paper

Pencil

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

**Helpful Websites**

<http://www.musictheory.net>

<http://www.teoria.com>

**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 grade is calculated daily in Blackboard as follows:

Present 100%

Late 75%

Unexcused absence 0%

**Tardiness:** Late students will be marked tardy. 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\***

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.

**Withdrawal Policy:** The last day to withdraw/drop with a grade of "W" is November 30. It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from this course. Otherwise, students will be assigned their earned letter grade at the end of the course. Course averages will be updated weekly, and guidance will be provided throughout the term to help students decide whether they need to drop the class or not. For more information regarding drops/withdrawals, please visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/admission-aid/apply/schedulechanges.php>.

If the student does not communicate with the professor or attend class for 3 consecutive weeks, the student will be advised to drop the course.

## **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

### **Homework Corrections**

- The student will be given the opportunity to make corrections to written homework assignments
- Corrections are due the next class day after the student has received the graded assignment
- Corrections may be made to late assignments but will still incur late assignment point deductions

## **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/Quizzes 50%

Three regular exams 30%

Final Exam 10%

Attendance/Class Participation 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

## **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 test 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](mailto:dedens@southplainscollege.edu) or 806-716-2376. Proof of a positive test is required. A home test is sufficient but students must submit a photo of the positive result. The date of test must be written on the test result and an ID included in the photo. If tested elsewhere (clinic, pharmacy, etc.), please submit a copy of the doctor's note or email notification. Results may be emailed to DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN at [dedens@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dedens@southplainscollege.edu).

A student is clear to return to class without further assessment from DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN if they have completed the 5-day isolation period, symptoms have improved, and they are without fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

Students must communicate with DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN prior to their return date if still symptomatic at the end of the 5-day isolation.

For information and resources about COVID-19, please visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/emergency/covid19-faq.php>.

### **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 difference 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.

### **Disabilities 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, Lubbock Centers (located at the Lubbock Downtown Center) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

### **Non-Discrimination Statement**

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 Health and Wellness Center. 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 Health and Wellness Center at 806-716-2529 or email [dburleson@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dburleson@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

### **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

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 and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.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.

### **Syllabus Extra Credit**

For 2 points added to your final grade at the end of the semester, find an image of a camel and email it to me at [swallace@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:swallace@southplainscollege.edu). Make sure you email from your student email account and include your name and class section number.