MUT 1121: Music Theory I

Class Information:
Meeting time and location:         M/W 8:30–9:20am, MUB 121 (class for all students)
                                   M/W 10:40–11:30am, MUB 146 (lab for section 7534)
                                   T/R  8:30–9:20am, MUB 144 (lab for section 7536)
                                   T/R  10:40–11:30am, MUB 144 (lab for section 7537)

Course website: Accessible through e-learning (https://lss.at.ufl.edu/)
*Note: all course communication will be sent to your ufl e-mail account. Please check this account daily. We will make every effort to return e-mail correspondence within 24 hours.

Contact Information:
Dr. Jennifer Smith          E-mail: jennifersmith@ufl.edu
Office hours: M/T/W/R 9:35–10:25am or by appointment

Graduate Assistant Information (lab section, e-mail, and office hour):
  7534: Luis Vieira Damiani (damiani@ufl.edu); office hour TBA (MUB 311)
  7536: Neal Facciuto (n_facciuto@yahoo.com); office hour TBA (MUB 311)
  7537: Alex Boostrom (aboostrom@ufl.edu); office hour T/W 12:50–1:40pm (MUB 311)

Required Texts:

Required Materials:
Staff paper, notebook paper, pencils, and erasers (no pens!). It is also highly recommended that you keep an organized notebook of all handouts, graded assignments, quizzes, etc.

Course Description:
This semester, we will master fundamentals and the conventions of notation, and we will become familiar with some important analytical terms and symbols through composition and analysis. Specifically, we will become fluent with pitch and rhythmic notation, scales and key signatures, intervals, triads, seventh chords, and non-harmonic tones. We will also delve into the principles of counterpoint and begin our study of functional harmony and four-part writing. In addition, we will develop our aural skills by putting the above concepts into practice through sight-singing, dictation, and improvisation. Our main goals will be to understand how tonal music works, to clearly and effectively communicate these ideas, and to apply them to our own musicianship.
Grading Components and Policies:

Grade components (written theory):

- Office hour requirement (see classroom policies): 1% (10 points)
- Written homework: 23% (230 points)
- Timed quizzes (8 @ 10 points each): 8% (80 points)
- Written Midterm: 10% (100 points)
- Written Final: 13% (130 points)

Grade components (aural skills):

- Signed attendance policy/classroom policies sheet: 1% (10 points)
- Office hour requirement (see classroom policies): 1% (10 points)
- Sight-singing homework (assessed by lab participation and individual in-class sight-singing appraisals): 10% (100 points)
- Sight-singing tests (2 outside of class @ 50 points each): 10% (100 points)
- Dictation homework: 10% (100 points)
- Dictation quizzes (4 @ 25 points each): 10% (100 points)
- Transcription project: 3% (30 points)

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

A = 93–100%  A- = 90–92%
B+ = 87–89%  B = 83–86%  B- = 80–82%
C+ = 77–79%  C = 73–76%  C- = 70–72%
D+ = 67–69%  D = 63–66%  D- = 60–62%
E = below 60%

Note: In order to pass MUT 1121, you must receive a passing grade of C (73%) or better in both the written theory and aural skills class components individually. If you do not achieve a grade of C in both of these areas, you will receive a maximum course grade of C-, regardless of average.

Assignment and Quiz Policies:

All written assignments and sight-singing exercises are due at the beginning of the lecture/lab. Dictation homework is due by noon on Tuesday/Thursday in Dr. Smith's mailbox and must be timestamped in the office. Any assignments submitted without a timestamp will not be accepted. Due to the rapid pace of this class, it is essential that you complete all homework on time. Therefore, unless prior arrangements have been made, late homework submitted the same day (after class has begun) will be graded for 75% credit, and homework submitted one day late will be graded for half credit. Homework submitted more than one day late will not be accepted.

Alternative versions of selected written theory assignments (announced in class) and of all dictation homework may be submitted for a higher grade up to one week after they are returned, provided that the original assignment was submitted on time.

At the end of the semester, I will drop your lowest grade for a written theory homework assignment and your lowest timed quiz grade.
**Attendance Policy:**

This is a very fast-paced, work-intensive course. Missing just one lecture or lab means that you have missed valuable explanations, discussions, and practice of skills and concepts that you will be responsible for in the very near future (and quite possibly an in-class quiz as well). It takes time and consistent effort (practice!) to become fluent in the theoretical and practical skills that we will be covering this semester. Therefore, attendance in both the lecture and lab classes is **required**. Now, I know that everyone has a bad day now and then, so you will be allowed two unexcused absences without penalty (though you must still turn in the assignment or else receive a 0). After that, for every unexcused absence or three tardy arrivals, your overall grade will drop by 2% (or 20 points by the grading scheme above). If you need to miss class for an academic or personal reason (as defined below), please e-mail Dr. Smith and your lab instructor before the day of the absence with the subject line **MUT 1121 Absence**, and we will work out alternative arrangements. Whether or not you choose to come to class, you are responsible for learning the material covered that day.

An excused absence is defined as:

1) A medical issue accompanied by a signed statement from your doctor.
2) A serious family emergency with a signed statement from parent or guardian.
3) An official University of Florida activity accompanied by a signed statement from an appropriate faculty representative with a two-week prior notification to instructor.
4) A religious holiday observance with a two-week prior notification to instructor.
5) Military service or court-imposed legal obligations accompanied by written proof two weeks prior to absence.

**Classroom Policies:**

1) Classes will begin on time; you are expected to turn in your homework and be in your seat before class begins. **If you arrive more than 5 minutes late to class, you will be marked tardy.**

2) All cell phones must be silenced and kept out of sight. Laptops and other electronic devices are permitted during the lecture (to access lecture notes only), but not during the lab. **If you are seen texting or surfing the web in class, you will be marked tardy.**

3) Please come prepared for class each day with a pencil and eraser (not a pen!), staff paper, notebook paper, and your textbook/workbook. **If you come to lab without your Ottman/Rogers textbook, you will lose participation points.**

4) Class ends when your instructor dismisses you; remember that packing up before class is dismissed is disrespectful and disruptive to other students.

5) Any homework not turned in during class must be timestamped. **Assignments will not be accepted without a timestamp, and late homework will not be accepted.**

6) Office hour requirement: you are required to attend Dr. Smith’s office hours twice during the semester (at least once before midterm). Extra credit will be given for attending a third and fourth office hour (1% extra credit each). Though you are also encouraged to attend your lab instructor’s office hours, they will not count toward this requirement.
Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:
This class complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. To request accommodations, contact the Assistant Dean of Students/Director of the Disability Resource Program at P202 Peabody Hall or call 392–1261 (V) or 398–3008 (TDD). Please provide me with a letter from the Student Disability Resource Center during the first week of class if you have a disability that requires some modification of print format, seating, testing, or other class requirements so that I can make the appropriate arrangements.

UF Counseling Services:
Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems that affect academic performance or having difficulty defining career and academic goals.
1 University Counseling Center, 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575: personal and career counseling.
2 Student Mental Health, Student Health Care Center, 392-1171: personal counseling.
3 Center for Sexual Assault/Abuse Recovery Services, Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.
4 Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601: career development assistance and counseling.

Academic Honesty:
You are expected to adhere to the following terms stated in the student honor code:

On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

In this class, all homework should be completed independently; collaborative effort will not receive credit and will be dealt with in compliance with university policy.

Agreement:
By remaining in this class beyond the add/drop deadline, you acknowledge and accept the terms of this syllabus, especially including the attendance and homework policies.

Dates you will want to remember:

Sight-Singing Midterm: week of September 30–October 4
Sight-Singing Final: week of December 2–4

Written Midterm: Wednesday, October 2 during our regularly scheduled lecture time
Written Final: Thursday, December 12 at 3:00–5:00pm in MUB 121