MUT 6936: Graduate Music Theory Seminar in Schenkerian Analysis

**Class Information:**
- Meeting time and location: M/W/F 11:45–12:35 in MUB 144
- 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.

**Contact Information:**
- Dr. Jennifer Smith
  - Office: MUB 355
  - Office phone: 352–273–3168
- E-mail: jennifersmith@ufl.edu
  - Office hours: M/T/W/R 9:35–10:25am or by appointment
  *Note: I make every effort to return e-mail correspondence within 24 hours.

**Required Texts:**

**Required Materials:**
- Staff paper (landscape orientation is recommended), notebook paper, sharp pencils, erasers, and a ruler.

**Course Description:**
This course explores tonal analysis using techniques developed by the famous twentieth-century theorist, pianist, music editor, and composer, Heinrich Schenker. Schenkerian analysis blends concepts of harmony and counterpoint/voice-leading to view tonal music as goal-directed motion within hierarchies of structural importance. Our primary goals will be to uncover the larger musical gestures that govern a musical work and to effectively communicate these analytical insights through Schenkerian sketches and through verbal and written descriptions of these sketches.

**Attendance Policy:**
Attendance and daily participation are essential to building a deeper understanding and mastery of the skills and concepts we will hone in this class. To that end, there will be no distinction between “excused” and “unexcused” absences. Attendance and participation are mandatory. Now, I know that everyone has a bad day now and then, so you will be allowed one absence without penalty. After that, every absence will lower your overall grade by 2%. Three tardy arrivals (by more than five minutes) are equal to one absence. Regardless of your attendance or absence, you are still responsible for the material covered in each class period.
Grading Components and Policies:

Analytical assignments: 60%
Class participation: 10%
“Schenker and _____” presentation: 10%
Final project: 20%

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

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Note: Most assignments will involve Schenkerian “sketching.” This is a proto-musical notation that highlights the most important (structural) events in a piece. It is extremely important that your work be well thought-out and easy to read. You should sketch using manuscript paper (the paper I prefer to use is posted on our course website), skipping at least one staff between systems, and using a sharp pencil and a ruler. Before you begin any sketch, you should always listen (!!), complete a harmonic analysis, and become familiar with the piece through careful score study.

You should expect reading and/or analytical assignments for every class. Since most assignments will be discussed the day that they are collected, I cannot accept late assignments, except under extraordinary circumstances. Furthermore, since analysis is such a personal and artistic endeavor (as Heinrich Schenker himself repeatedly asserted), you should formulate all your analyses independently.

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.

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.

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 grading policies.

MUT 6936 (Fall 2013)—Tentative Course Schedule

*Subject to change with advance notice*

Week 1 (8/21–23): Course Introduction; Review of Functional Harmony

Week 2 (8/26–30): Ch. 1 (“Introduction”) and Ch. 2 (“Melody and Counterpoint”)

Week 3 (9/2–6): Ch. 3 (“Bass Lines and Harmonic Structure”) [No class on 9/2 (Labor Day)]

Week 4 (9/9–13): Ch. 3 (continued) and Ch. 4 (“Linear Techniques”)

Week 5 (9/16–20): Ch. 4 (continued) and Ch. 5 (“Tonal Structure”)

Week 6 (9/23–27): Ch. 5 (continued)

Week 7 (9/30–10/4): Ch. 6 (“Techniques of Melodic Prolongation”)

Week 8 (10/7–11): Ch. 6 (continued)

Week 9 (10/14–18): Ch. 7 (“Some Basic Elaborations of Fundamental Structures”)

Week 10 (10/21–25): Ch. 7 (continued) and Ch. 8 (“One-Part Forms”)

Week 11 (10/28–11/1): Ch. 9 (“Binary Forms”) [No class on 11/1 (SMT National Conference)]

Week 12 (11/4–8): Ch. 9 (continued) [No class on 11/8 (Homecoming)]

Week 13 (11/11–15): Ch. 10 (“Ternary Forms and Rondo”) [No class on 11/11 (Veteran’s Day)]

Week 14 (11/18–22): Ch. 10 (continued) and Ch. 11 (“Sonata Principle”)

Week 15 (11/25–29): Ch. 11 (continued) [No class on 11/27 or 11/29 (Thanksgiving Break)]

Week 16 (12/2–4): Seminar Presentations: “Schenker and _____”

Final Project Due by 12pm on Wednesday, December 11