

Music Theory I (Fall 2010)

September 1 – December 15

**“Persevere, do not only practice your art, but endeavor also to fathom its inner meanings;
it deserves this effort.”
Beethoven, July 17, 1812; letter to Emilie H.**

Instructor: Dr. Eric B. Chernov
Office Hours: by appointment

website: <http://www.ursatz.com>
email: chernove@ursatz.com

class open forum address: DowTheory1@lists.ursatz.com

Supplies (bring with you to all classes)

Textbook:

Harmony and Voice Leading (3rd Edition). Edward Aldwell & Carl Schachter. (ISBN: 0-1550-6242-5).

Other:

music paper, note paper, pencil with eraser.

You may not use writing implements other than pencils.

Homework, quizzes or exams done in ink will not be marked and will receive a failing grade.

Grading

Homework assignments and quizzes: 55%

Midterm exam: 20%

Final exam: 25%

As a matter of policy, I drop the lowest quiz *or* homework grade.

Final letter grades are assigned according to the following scale (see Undergraduate Handbook, pg. 44):

A+ = 97-100	A = 93-96	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	
F = 0-59	WF	I	W

The college requires all teachers to submit midterm "grades" during the middle of each semester. These are to give an indication to the student (and any pertinent counselors) of how one is doing in class. These "grades" have **NO EFFECT** on your transcript, GPA, etc. I will take the gross average of the work done thus far to determine the grade. Thus, it is merely a rough guideline and nothing more.

Course material is presented in three forms: textbook readings, handouts/downloads, and lectures. You are responsible for all material, regardless of the medium of presentation. It is of utmost importance that you bring note paper and music paper to class and take notes. In the event that you are absent for a lecture, be sure to get the notes for that class from a classmate.

Please note that homework assignments will be posted on my website in the "courses" section. I do not accept late homework if the assignment is available to the student (e.g., from the textbook or via download) - even if the student was absent when the assignment was given.

Please see "Homework Policy," below, for additional information.

FAILURE TO APPEAR FOR YOUR MIDTERM or FINAL EXAMINATIONS WILL RESULT IN A FAILURE OF MUSIC THEORY I (regardless of your average).

Material Covered

Theory I is an introductory course in Harmony, Counterpoint and related skills. Procedures of four-part writing are introduced and students learn the basic elaborations of the tonic-dominant relationship. Work is done in un/figured bass realization, chorale settings, Roman numeral and formal analysis, and species counterpoint.

As this course is dependant on mastery of fundamentals of theory material, I reserve the right to give regular fundamentals quiz. These quizzes are timed and cover basic material which should have been mastered previously. This material includes, but is not limited to, identifying and writing: key signatures, intervals, triads, 7th chords and scale degrees.

Quiz/Test Policy

A student who is absent when a quiz is given must schedule a time to take an *equivalent* quiz within one week of the original quiz date. *It is the responsibility of the student to make this appointment.* Failure to take a quiz will result in a grade of "0" being entered for the quiz.

ALL non-exam material (notebooks, textbooks, etc.) will be put away during quizzes and tests.

Any academic dishonesty will be reported to administrative authorities *immediately* and action recommended. (See Undergraduate handout, pg. 48).

Attendance Policy

Attendance will be taken at each class.

Students will be allowed 4 absences for the semester (this class does not differentiate between "excused" and "unexcused" absences). Any additional absences will result in a five-point deduction from the final course grade for each absence. Absences in excess of four beyond the four permitted will result in a failing grade.

Students are expected to show up to class on time. A 2-point reduction on the student's final grade will result for every 2 instances of tardiness.

Notable Dates

FIRST DAY: September 1

LAST DAY: December 13

NO CLASS:

Sept 6 (Labor Day)
Nov 24 (Thanksgiving Break)

EXAMS:

Oct 20
Dec 13

MIDTERM
FINAL EXAM

In-Class Technology Policy

Students are expected to have pagers, cell phones, digital cameras, etc. put away during class time (though they may be kept on).

During quizzes and exams, these devices are to be put away and *turned off*.

Email

Students are *strongly* encouraged to enter my email address and the class open forum address into their email address book and/or on their "safe list." This is particularly true of those with AOL accounts. Notifications from ISPs that legitimate emails sent from me or the class open forum have been tagged as spam will result in the removal of the student's address from the open forum list. This could result in missing important class announcements, for which I take no responsibility.

Texting

Texting in class (with cell phone or laptop) is strictly prohibited. The consequences of doing this follow a three-strikes rule:

- 1st Offence: Student asked to desist.
- 2nd Offence: Student dismissed from class for the day.
- 3rd Offence: Student dismissed from class for remainder of semester.
A grade of "F" for the semester will be entered.

Homework Policy

If the student is PRESENT when the assignment is due and fails to hand in the homework, it will NOT be accepted late.

If a student is ABSENT on the day the assignment is due, the student MAY hand in the assignment at the next class. If the student is absent at the next class s/he should do their best to make arrangements to have the homework handed in (for example, give it to a friend to hand in; you may also scan it into a computer and send it, or make special arrangements with me).

Regardless of absence or presence, **no homework will be accepted three or more class days after the due date.**