

**Basic Music Theory
MUSIC 073 (Fall 2023)**

Tuesdays and Thursdays

10:05 – 10:55

Room 310

**“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 M.

Instructor: Eric Chernov
Office: 211
website: <http://www.ursatz.com>

Office phone: N/A
email: eric.chernov@qc.cuny.edu

Office hours: Fridays, 10:00-11:00 and by appointment.
Information will be sent to the class with a back-up Zoom link and password soon after the first class of the semester.

class open forum address: 73@lists.ursatz.com

Supplies (bring with you to all classes)

Textbook:

Harmony and Voice Leading (4th Edition). Edward Aldwell & Carl Schachter.
(ISBN: 0-4951-8975-8). 3rd edition is also acceptable (ISBN: 0-1550-6242-5).

The textbook will be shown to the teacher in the second week of the class.

Other:

Music paper, pencil with eraser.

You may not use writing implements other than pencils.

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

Grading

The course will be graded in the following manner:

Homework assignments, quizzes, participation (see below): 50%

Midterm exam: 20%

Final exam: 30%

Participation: [see Attendance Policy, below]

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

Final letter grades are assigned according to the following scale:

A+ = 97-100	A = 93-96	A- = 90-92	D+ = 67-69	D = 63-66	D- = 60-62
B+ = 87-89	B = 83-86	B- = 80-82	F = 0-59		
C+ = 77-79	C = 73-76	C- = 70-72			

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 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., 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 MUS 73 (regardless of your average).

ACSM Policy mandates that a final grade of B- or better is required in order to continue to the next course in the sequence.

Calculations

All written work is graded mathematically. The following is a partial list of errors to be on the listen for in written work; more severe infractions are in *italics*.

Incorrect notation

including, but not limited to:

Incorrect stemming
wrong note values
misplaced accidentals

Doubled 7th or leading tone

Use of chord not in directions

Parallel perfect 1, 5, 8

Contrapuntal ending

Not starting/ending on tonic

Incorrect diss leaps or

extended bass embellishment (e.g., trill)

Syntactic error (e.g., $V^7 - V$)

Harmonic syncopation

Non-resolution of diss

Incorrect resolution of diss

Voice overlap

Voice crossing

Incorrect spacing

Misspelling

Intrusive similar motion to a 5th or 8ve

Intrusive antiparallel 8ves

Adding to the figure

Missing note required by figures

Note out of range

Missing a voice

Unless otherwise specified, all chords *must* be labeled with Roman Numerals and figures in chorale work.

Material Covered / Course Objectives

MUS 73 is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of music theory and to guide them to develop a mastery of this material. This material includes, but is not limited to: an understanding of fundamentals of notation, including the reading of clefs, and knowledge of rhythm, meter, and related concepts; the identifying and writing of: key signatures, intervals, triads, 7th chords, and scale degrees.

Quiz Policy

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

Participation / Attendance Policy

Class attendance is expected of all students.

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.

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to adhere to the college's academic integrity policies. A copy of those policies may be found here:

<https://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/legal-affairs/policies-resources/academic-integrity-policy/>

Americans with Disabilities Act

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should: (1) register with and provide documentation to the Special Services Office, Kiely 171; (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of classes.

For more information about services available to Queens College students, contact:

Mirian Detres-Hickey, Ph.D., Special Services Office; 171 Kiely Hall; 718-997-5870 (8:00am to 5:00pm); email: mirian.detresHickey@qc.cuny.edu

In-Class Technology Policy

Students are expected to have cell phones, digital cameras, laptops, 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*.

NO so-called “wearable” computers (e.g., Apple Watch™) are allowed to be used in the classroom.

Audio recordings of the class are permitted. Please inform the instructor if you are doing this.

NO videos may be taken during class. Videos taken in class will result in failure on all work for that day (first offence) or failure of the course (second offence).

Photographs of the material on the board may be taken *with the permission of the instructor*. This permission must be acquired for each instance. The taking of photographs without permission will result in failure on all work for that day (first offence) or failure of the course (second offence).

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. **STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO CHECK THEIR EMAIL REGULARLY.**

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, they must 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.

THIS HOMEWORK POLICY WILL BE *STRICTLY* ADHERED TO.

SOME IMPORTANT DATES

NO CLASS:

Oct 10 (T) Monday Schedule
Nov 23 (Th) Thanksgiving

LAST CLASS OF THE SEMESTER:

Dec 7 (Th)

MIDTERM EXAM:

Oct 19 (Th)

FINAL EXAM:

Dec 14-20 (exact date/time TBA)