

Eastern Kentucky University
Department of Music
Syllabus for MUS 181-002, Beginning Theory I, CRN 10677
MWF 10:10-11:00
3 Credit Hours
Fall 2012

Professor: Dr. Richard Byrd

Office: Foster Building 202—office hours are posted outside office door

Office phone: (859) 622-1348—voice mail is available

E-mail: rich.byrd@eku.edu (best means of communication)

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:

MUS 181 Beginning Theory I. (4) I. Perception and understanding of music through an integrated study of relatively simple, short structures from the late Baroque to the early Romantic periods.

TEXTS:

- Kostka, Stefan and Dorothy Payne. *Tonal Harmony with an Introduction to Twentieth-Century Music*, 7th edition, 2013
- Kostka, Stefan and Dorothy Payne. *Workbook for Tonal Harmony with an Introduction to Twentieth-Century Music*, 7th edition, 2013

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

This course is an introduction to the study of music as an academic discipline. Music theory, along with music history, provides the foundation for all other studies in the field of music. In addition to fostering fluency in the fundamentals materials and structures of music, the course will cover the analysis and composition of diatonic music. Coursework will include reading assignments, exercises, part writing, analysis, composition projects, and class discussion.

Students should become fluent in the identification and correct notation of all key signatures, scales, meters, intervals, and roman numerals. They should understand basic concepts of tonality, tonal function, consonance, dissonance, counterpoint, and cadences. They should be able to recognize and compose cadences, and compose simple diatonic chord progressions in four-part vocal style.

EVALUATION METHODS:

- **Grading:**

40%—Daily Homework and Quizzes

30%—Exams

10%—Class Participation

20%—Comprehensive Final Exam

- **Grading Scale:**

A—90 to 100; B—80 to 89; C—70 to 79; D—60 to 69; F—below 60

- **Comprehensive Final Exam:** See ECU Final Exam Schedule

- **Class Participation:**

Class participation is expected of all students during each class. Students should be prepared to participate in discussions and other activities as requested (e.g. answering questions, group work, etc.). Taking notes during class will also be considered a part of class participation, especially when directed by the instructor, so it is imperative that each student brings a notebook daily for taking notes. Please note that the final grade (10%) reflects the student's degree of participation in class. All unexcused absences and all tardies that exceed 50% of the class time will affect the class participation grade as well. Students will incur a 2% reduction of their class participation grade for each of the following: 1) every absence, 2) every significant tardy, 3) every three tardies that do not exceed 50% of the class time, and 4) every two days without the use of their own class textbooks when used during class.

STUDENT PROGRESS:

Students are responsible for keeping track of their grades throughout the semester. All homework assignments, quizzes, and exams will have a grade marked on the paper, which the students should record for themselves. Students are encouraged to regularly calculate their grade throughout the semester to examine their progress and grade to date for the course.

NOTIFICATION FOR MID-TERM GRADES: Mid-term grades for all undergraduate students will be viewable online beginning October 15, 2012. The mid-term grade serves as a reflection of the student's progress during approximately the first half of the semester, and is calculated as follows: 50% = homework assigned and quizzes given, 50% = exams given.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

ATTENDANCE IS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT FACTOR AFFECTING THE STUDENT'S SUCCESS IN THIS COURSE! Regular and punctual attendance will be expected of all students throughout the semester. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class period. Any student with more than seven (7) absences, regardless of whether they are excused or unexcused, shall be automatically assigned the final grade of an F. All exceptions will be determined only by the class instructor on an individual case by case basis, and students must have provided the instructor written documentation of EVERY absence immediately as they occur to be considered as a potential exception. Student arriving after class has started will be considered "late", and students are responsible for what they missed before they arrived, which includes all announcements along with any lecture material. Students who are "late" to take a quiz or exam will miss that portion of the quiz or exam that was given while they were absent and will not be able to make it up. Students who miss more than 50% of class time will be considered absent.

- **Homework Policy:**

The student is responsible for all homework assignments. If a student is absent from class, it will be the student's responsibility to find out the homework assignment(s). All homework assignments are due at the beginning of class. LATE HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. However, if a student knows that they will be absent on a particular day due to a University-sponsored event, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor prior to that day, and arrange a time to turn in the homework assignment before the due date, otherwise a zero (0) grade will be assigned. Students should make arrangements to have their homework delivered to the instructor by the due date if an illness prevents them from attending class. All exceptions (e.g., severe illness, family emergencies, etc.) will be determined only by the class instructor on an individual case by case basis.

- **Exam Policy:**

The student is responsible for all scheduled quizzes and exams. If a student is absent from class, it will be the student's responsibility to find out when any quiz or exam is scheduled. THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES OR EXAMS GIVEN. However, if a student knows that they will be absent on a particular quiz or exam date due to a University-sponsored event, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor prior to that day, and discuss how alternative arrangements will be made in lieu of the missed quiz or exam, otherwise a zero (0) grade will be assigned. All exceptions (e.g., severe illness, family emergencies, etc.) will be determined only by the class instructor on an individual case by case basis.

LAST DAY TO DROP THE COURSE:

Please refer to the *Colonel's Compass* for the last day to drop this course.

DISABILITY STATEMENT:

If you are registered with the Office of Services for Individuals with Disabilities, please obtain your accommodation letters from OSID and present them to the course instructor to discuss any academic accommodations you need. If you believe you need accommodation and are not registered with the OSID, please contact the Office in the Student Services Building Room 361 by email at disserv@eku.edu or by telephone (859) 622-2933 V/TDD. Upon individual request, this syllabus can be made available in an alternative format.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT:

Students are advised that EKU's Academic Integrity policy will strictly be enforced in this course. The Academic Integrity policy is available at www.academicintegrity.eku.edu. Questions regarding the policy may be directed to the Office of Academic Integrity.

Copying and/or collaboration (working together) on homework assignments is considered cheating and will be dealt with seriously, which will include no credit for all papers involved and/or referral for disciplinary action.

OFFICIAL E-MAIL:

An official EKU e-mail is established for each registered student, each faculty member, and each staff member. All university communications sent via e-mail will be sent to this EKU e-mail address.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Each student must own their own copy of the following texts:

- Kostka *Tonal Harmony with an Introduction to Twentieth-Century Music*
- Kostka *Workbook for Tonal Harmony with an Introduction to Twentieth-Century Music*

Each student must bring to every class the following materials:

- Theory textbook AND workbook
- Sharpened pencils with erasers—**NO INK will be accepted for homework, quizzes, or exams**
- Music staff paper
- Notebook—either a 3-ring binder or a folder to hold handouts along with class notes

Each student must observe each of the following classroom policies:

- No cell phones are allowed to be on or even visible during class—students should purchase a separate timepiece if they wish to keep track of time during class (No texting is allowed)
- No earplug listening devices are allowed during class (ipods, mp3s, etc.)
- No getting up and leaving the classroom during class without permission
- No late arriving to class or early leaving before the class ends without permission
- No talking to each other while the instructor is talking
- No sleeping, lounging, or eye/head resting during class
- No gum chewing during class
- No working on other class-related materials or engaging in leisure-related activities
- No wearing caps, hoods, or hats of any kind during class
- **No complaining, arguing, dictates, inappropriate commenting, etc. during class**

All exceptions to the classroom policies will be determined only by the class instructor on an individual case by case basis. **The class instructor reserves the right to announce additional policies as the semester progresses that he deems disruptive to the classroom teaching environment.**

COURSE OUTLINE:

Each exam will be given after the material is covered in class. Each exam will be preceded by a class that will include a review session for that exam. Each exam is comprehensive in nature, so it is imperative that the student retain and review all the material learned from the beginning of the semester. Students will be given sufficient notice for the date of each exam. As each exam is comprehensive in nature, there will be no specific “mid-term” exam given during mid-terms.

Chapter 1 —Exam 1
Chapters 2 —Exam 2
Chapters 3, 4 —Exam 3
Chapters 5, 6 —Exam 4
Chapters 7, 8, 9—Exam 5

INDIVIDUAL TUTORIALS:

I am available to provide further explanations and/or extra help during my posted office hours or by appointment. If you are having any problems at all with your assignments, please seek help immediately from myself, another music instructor, or theory GA. Individual tutorial sessions with a theory GA are available, but must be arranged by the student.