



**Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Department of Music**

**Music Theory I**

**MUS 1311 Section 03E – Fall 2020**

MWF, 09:00 - 09:50 AM, Room: MUS 158

Instructor: Dr. Navid Bargrizan

Office: Music Bldg. 220 – Email: Navid.Bargrizan@tamuc.edu

Office Hours: Virtual office hours on Zoom (no office hours in the Music Bldg.), TRF 11:00 - 11:50 AM, and by appointment

**Class Format**

Blended (hybrid) – combination of online asynchronous video lectures plus face-to-face (F2F) and virtual workshops – class divided into two groups (A and B)

	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
	A F2F B Virtual	B F2F A Virtual	<i>Asynchronous Video Presentation</i>

**Co-Requisite**

Ear Training I

**Required Materials**

- Clendinning/ Marvin, *The Musician's Guide to Theory and Analysis* (3rd Edition) published by Norton:  
<https://www.norton.com/books/9780393263053>
  - both textbook and workbook – available to purchase at TAMUC Bookstore:  
<http://www.amcbookstore.com/Home>
  - Norton Digital Resources:
    - How to register for InQuizitive: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HFNI\\_ZWfh04](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HFNI_ZWfh04)
    - InQuizitive Tech Support for students: <https://www.wwnorton.com/tech-support>
- Access to TAMUC's e-learning platform D2L (MyLeo and Brightspace Pulse app from app store) and your TAMUC email address
- Staff Paper (or computer notation software, e.g. Sibelius and Finale)
- Pencils and eraser

**Course Description**

Theory I is the first in a four-semester sequence which examines the notational, harmonic, and compositional practices of the Western art- music tradition. Beginning with a review of music fundamentals, the course will also include the study of part-writing, triad construction, and melodic structure, with an emphasis on compositional and analytical skills.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to accomplish the following in each category:

- Melody
  - Construct and identify the major scale and all forms of the minor scale
  - Construct and identify diatonic modes
  - Construct and identify all intervals within the octave Harmony
  - Construct and identify all types of diatonic triads in all inversions
  - Construct and identify all types of seventh chords Rhythm
  - Demonstrate, through composition and analysis, an understanding of basic rhythmic notation, and simple and compound meters
  
- Composition
  - Compose short pieces in strict counterpoint

**Course Requirements**

There will be frequent homework assignments utilizing both analytical and compositional skills. All work should be done with either staff paper or computer notation software (Sibelius or Finale). Handwritten assignments must be completed in pencil. The student may not receive credit for homework assignments completed in pen. Homework is to be turned in during class on the day (and time) it is due. Late assignments will not be accepted for credit unless by previous arrangement with the instructor.

Often it may be helpful for students to work on homework assignments with a partner, or in groups. When done correctly, this can serve as a proven method for success for students who may be struggling with a particular concept in class. However, take care that the completed assignment reflects your own understanding of the material, and is not merely a copy of a classmate or colleague’s work. Doing so will help to ensure that your efforts are both fruitful (reflecting the very purpose of homework) and academically honest.

**Three examinations will be given during the semester.** Specific information as to exam content will be provided at least a week before the exam is administered. In addition, there will be frequent quizzes of varying scope and length, both announced *and unannounced*.

In addition to the Homework and Exams, there will be a Final Project for which the student will compose a short work in strict counterpoint. Specific details as to timing and content will be provided during the semester. If time permits, compositions may be performed in class.

**Evaluation**

- Homework: 30%
- Exams: 30%
- Quizzes: 20%
- Final Project: 10%
- Class Participation: 10%

A=90-100	C=70-79	F=0-59
B=80-89	D=60-69	

**Attendance Policy**

The University Catalog states, “Students are expected to be present for all class meetings of any course for which they are enrolled.” Sporadic attendance is a waste of your intellectual and financial resources. Unless they are the result of a medical or family emergency, excused absences (as defined by the Catalog) need to be arranged beforehand with the instructor. Each student is allowed up to three unexcused absences over the course of the semester. Each additional unexcused absence results in 1% deduction from the participation points and will continue until 0.

**CellPhone/Laptop Policy**

During class, all cell phones should be turned off or silenced. Reading and/or responding to text messages or tweets is both rude and distracting to both your instructor and your classmates. Repeated use of cell phones in class will result in a

reduction in the student's Class Participation grade. Unless there's an obvious reason to be using one, laptops are not needed during class time and should not be used.

### **Tutoring Schedule**

Tutoring is available at no charge for all theory courses at Texas A&M University-Commerce through the Academic Success Center. Information as to specific times and locations will be provided early in the semester. All tutoring sessions are held in the Music Building.

### **Nota Bene**

The study of music theory is an essential and important component of the developing musician's education. Far from being just another "required course," music theory forms the foundation of nearly all higher-ed courses in music, which is the primary reason for its placement at the very start of collegiate music studies. This is also a subject where the concepts are presented sequentially, each one leading to the next. As such, it is imperative that the student speak up if they are having issues with a particular topic. Do not wait in frustration, seek me out before or after class, or e-mail me to set up a time to meet individually.

*The following statements are required by either University policy, state, or federal law:*

### **University Mission Statement**

Texas A&M University-Commerce nurtures and educates for success through access to academic research, and service programs of high quality.

### **Music Department Mission Statement**

The Music Department of Texas A&M University-Commerce promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

### **Disability Resources Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

- Office of Student Disability Resources and Services Texas A&M University-Commerce, Gee Library, Room 132, 908.886.5150, or 903.886.5835, phone; 903.468.8148, fax, [StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)
- Non-Discrimination Statement:
- A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online
- courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

### **Behavioral Statement**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.

### **Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please

refer to:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf> and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

### Policy Regarding University's Pandemic response

*“A&M-Commerce requires the use of face-coverings in all instructional and research classrooms/laboratories. Exceptions may be made by faculty where warranted. Faculty have management over their classrooms. Students not using face-coverings can be required to leave class. Repetitive refusal to comply can be reported to the Office of Students’ Rights and Responsibilities as a violation of the student Code of Conduct. “*

*“Students should not attend class when ill or after exposure to anyone with a communicable illness. Communicate such instances directly with your instructor. Faculty will work to support the student getting access to missed content or completing missed assignments.*

**Note:** Syllabus and the following Tentative Course Schedule are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

### TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Week I (Aug. 24-28)	Course Introduction, Fundamentals [notation, pitch, division of the beat]	Chapter 1 & 2
Week II (Aug. 31-Sep. 4)	Simple Meter [notation, conducting, counting, metric & beat hierarchy]	Chapter 2
Week III (Sep. 7-11)	Pitch Collections, Scales, Major Keys [ordered collections, keys, pentatonicism] <b>No class on Monday, Sep. 7 (Labor Day)</b>	Chapter 3
Week IV (Sep. 14-18)	Compound Meter [notation, syncopation, duplets]	Chapter 3 & 4
Week V (Sep. 21-25)	<b>Review and Exam I</b>	
Week VI (Sep. 28-Oct. 2)	Minor keys [relative, parallel, harmonic, melodic and natural]	Chapter 5
Week VII (Oct. 5-9)	Intervals [quality and quantity, consonance and dissonance]	Chapter 6
Week VIII (Oct. 12-16)	Triads [types, spelling, inversion, figured bass]	Chapter 7
Week IX (Oct. 19-23)	Triads continued <b>Review for Midterm Exam</b> <b>Midterm Exam</b>	
Week X (Oct. 26-30)	Seventh Chords [types, spelling and inversion]	Chapter 8
Week XI (Nov. 2-6)	Seventh Chords continued	Chapter 8
Week XII (Nov. 9-13)	Introduction to Counterpoint [species counterpoint, connecting intervals]	Chapter 9
Week XIII (Nov. 16-20)	Species Counterpoint [melodic embellishment, third species]	Chapter 10
Week XIV (Nov. 23)	Species Counterpoint [fourth and fifth species] <b>No class on Nov. 25-27, (Thanksgiving Break)</b>	Chapter 10
Week XV (Nov. 30-Dec. 4)	<b>Final Project Composition Due</b> <b>Review for Final Exam</b>	
	<b>Final Exam during the designated time in Finals Week</b>	