

Course Syllabus
MUS 465.01: Counterpoint and Analysis
Tuesday/Thursday 9:30-10:50 a.m., Fall 2004
Music Building, Room 219

Instructor: Thomas Couvillon, Ph. D.
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Office hours: MWF 11:00-12:00, TTH 1:00-2:00, or by appointment.

Required Materials

Benjamin, Thomas. *The Craft of Tonal Counterpoint*, 2nd. ed.
Pencils, staff paper, ect.

Course Description

This course is designed to be an intensive study of the music of J. S. Bach, the goal of which is to lead the students to a greater understanding of the principles of counterpoint that underlie much of Western Art Music. The class will include listening, analysis, performance, stylistic study and creative projects. During the course of the semester, students will write two-voice imitative (Canons, Inventions) and non-imitative (Dance Suite Movements) music in the style of J. S. Bach. As a part of their stylistic study, students are strongly encouraged to become familiar with the compositions on the reference list.

Course Objectives

1) to gain an understanding of the principles of voice leading, harmony and figured bass; 2) to better understand the techniques of counterpoint embodied in the works of J. S. Bach; 3) to have a knowledge of the stylistic and formal elements found in the contrapuntal music of the Baroque period.

Attendance

Regular and punctual attendance will be expected of you throughout the semester. University policy permits three (excused or unexcused) absences without penalty (except for announced tests). Reserve these for possible emergency or illness. For each additional unexcused absence, 3% will be deducted from your final grade. Valid excuses include official university functions, serious illness or family emergency with an acceptable explanation/note. You are responsible for making up all assignments and material covered on the days of your absence. **Attendance is one the most significant factors affecting your success in this course.**

Grading

Homework/Class Participation	35%
Quizzes: (2)	20%
Major Assignments: (3)	30%
Final Exam:	15%

Grading Scale

For the final grade, the following grading scale will be used:

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

Major Assignments

Assignment #1 - Binary Dance Movement (10% of course grade)

Compose a two-voice binary dance movement (16-24 measures) based on the models given in chapter four of the text. Provide a roman-numeral analysis, and label

modulations and non-chord tones. Your assignment may be scored for piano or a pair of appropriate instruments (high/low) and will be performed (live or computer aided) in class on **November 18th and 23rd**.

Assignment #2 - Canon for Voice (5% of course grade)

Compose a two-voice canon suitable for voices (words optional) using the procedures laid out in chapter six of the text. Your assignment should be 12-16 measures in length. Provide a roman-numeral analysis and label non-chord tones. These canons will be sung by the class on **November 16th**. Please bring enough copies of your assignment to facilitate the performance.

Assignment #3 - Two-Part Invention (15% of course grade)

Compose a two-part invention (approx. 32-48 measures) using the procedures outlined in chapter seven of the text. Provide a roman-numeral analysis, and label modulations and non-chord tones. These works may be written for piano or a pair of appropriate instruments (high/low) and will be performed (live or computer aided) in class on **December 7th and 9th**.

Quizzes (10% each) and Final Exam (15%)

Quiz #1 (September 23) - Chapter 1, Appendix 1, Assigned Pieces and Listening

Quiz #2 (October 21) - Chapters 2 & 3, Chromatic Chords, Assigned Pieces and Listening

Final Exam (Tues. Dec. 14, 8-10 a.m.) - Chapters 4 - 7, Assigned Pieces and Listening

Course Calendar

Dates	Materials Covered
8/26	Course Overview; Class Policies; Chapter 1
8/31-9/2	Chapter 1
9/7-9/9	Chapter 1
9/14-9/16	Chapter 1
9/21-9/23	Chapter 2; Quiz #1
9/28-9/30	Chapter 2
10/5-10/7	Chapter 3
10/12-10/14	Chapter 3
10/19-10/21	Chapter 4; Quiz #2
10/26-10/28	Chapter 4
11/2-11/4	Chapter 5
11/9-11/11	Chapter 6
11/16-11/18	Chapter 7; Canon Performances; Binary Movement Performances
11/23	Chapter 7; Binary Movement Performances
11/30-12/2	Chapter 7
12/7-12/9	Invention Project Performances; Final Exam Review

Reserve List

CD Recordings on Reserve (Music Listening Room)

French Suites (harpsichord) - M24.B115
French Suites (piano) - M24.B3 F7 1996
English Suites - M24.B3 E6 1997
Orchestral Suites - M1003.B32
Brandenburg Concertos - M1040.B22 no. 1-3 and 4-6 (2 CDs)
Inventions/Sinfonia - M202. B33 1993
Goldberg Variations (piano) - M27.B12 G65 1982
Goldberg Variations (harpsichord) - M27.B12 1980
Art of Fugue - M18.B1 K8 MORONEY
Well-Tempered Clavier (piano) - M25.B2 W4 1999
Well-Tempered Clavier (harpsichord) - M22.B11 W64 1989 v. 1-2 (2 CDs)
Cello Suites - M51.B15 1995

Scores on Reserve (Music Listening Room)

French Suites - M24.B115 F736 1984
English Suites - M24.B115 E54 1958
Orchestral Suites - - M1040.B22 C6
Brandenburg Concertos - M1040.B22 C6
Inventions/Sinfonia - M22. B11 I5 1973
Goldberg Variations - M27.B12 A8 1977
Art of Fugue - M25 B3 K8 1986
Well-Tempered Clavier - M22.B11 I5 1973
Cello Suites - M51.B15 I6

University Policies

University Policy on Academic Dishonesty:

The Faculty Handbook states that the University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Furthermore, the University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials

Proper Classroom Demeanor/Rules of Conduct:

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Please turn off or mute your cellular phone and/or pager before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking among each other at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a, minimally, a directive to leave class or being reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy:

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall resent to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examination are to be completed.