



**DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS**  
**COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2016**

**MU1550 (A2): MUSIC THEORY I – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Geoffrey Whittall                      **PHONE:** 780-539-2823  
**OFFICE:** L-119    **E-MAIL:** gwhittall@gprc.ab.ca  
**OFFICE HOURS:** As posted on my office door and by appointment

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** This is a study of Common Practice harmony, including elementary analysis with discussion of elements of formal contrapuntal writing, chord progressions, and chorale textures.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** MU1000 or successful completion of a Music Theory Placement Exam, or Grade 2 Royal Conservatory Theory Exam and aural skills exam.

**REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

- Benward and Saker: Music in Theory and Practice, 9<sup>th</sup> ed., vol. 1, McGraw Hill
- Benward and Saker: Music in Theory and Practice Workbook, 9<sup>th</sup> ed., vol. 1
- Bring to each class session: Manuscript Paper, Pencil, Eraser
  
- **WEBSITE:** <http://people.gprc.ab.ca/gwhittall>
  
- **MOODLE:** You will need to access our Moodle page at <https://moodle.gprc.ab.ca/>

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** Lecture

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** This course will cover the first half of the textbook; the remainder will be covered in MU1560. Students will solidify their understanding of notation, scales, modes, and chords. Counterpoint will be introduced, leading to a discussion of writing and analyzing diatonic harmony in four parts.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to work with scales and modes, write basic counterpoint, and demonstrate basic competency in writing and analysing diatonic harmony, including figured bass, cadences, non-harmonic devices, and voice leading.

**TRANSFERABILITY:** UA, UC, UL, AU, AF, CU, KUC, GMU

**\*Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca> or, if you do not want to navigate through few links, at <http://alis.alberta.ca/ps/tsp/ta/tbi/onlinesearch.html?SearchMode=S&step=2>

\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. **Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**EVALUATIONS:**

Assignments	40%
Quizzes	10%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class for which they are assigned, and will not be accepted late without prior negotiation.

**GRADING CRITERIA:** Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than a C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

**COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:**

Chapters 1-4 will be partly review and partly new material; they will go quickly. The midterm may cover as much as Chapter 7. Chapter 8 will go quickly, and the remainder of the semester will be spent on Chapter 9 which will form the basis of the majority of the final exam.

There will be at least one homework assignment a week, and there will be several quizzes throughout the semester.

The final exam will take place during the examination period at the end of the semester.

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Attendance is mandatory.
- More than 20% absenteeism may constitute a failure except for medical or extenuating circumstances in which case a doctor's letter may be required.
- Students will receive a warning 'Notice Of Absenteeism' at 15% absenteeism.
- After 20% absenteeism, you may be required to withdraw from the course.
- *Refer to Student Conduct, Attendance, on page 42 of the College Calendar. You should become familiar with pages 34-44 of the GPRC 2016-2017 Calendar, along with College policies about academics and student responsibilities.*

## **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>

\*\*Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.