

MUSIC V1002, SECTION I
FUNDAMENTALS OF WESTERN MUSIC
SPRING 2012

MON/WED 4:10 – 5:25, 622 DODGE

Instructor: Todd Tarantino

Email: tnt2002@columbia.edu

Office: 802 Dodge

Office Hour: Monday, 2:30-3:00 PM by appointment

In *Fundamentals of Western Music*, students study the basic elements of music with the aim of developing musicianship. Elements include notation, transposition, intervals, chords and harmonic identification as well as melodic function, phrase organization, cadence types, and simpler musical forms as well as basic harmonic functions and voice-leading. Throughout we study these elements within their natural contexts as well as in invented scenarios.

Text

Ralph Turek, *The Elements of Music*

I will assign readings from this text. You may also use the assignments found within it to supplement your practice.

Course Requirements and Grade Breakdown

- 1) Exams: (25%) There will be a final exam given during your final class, included in the final is a small take home portion due on the day scheduled for your final. Generally, **no makeup exams** are given.
- 2) Quizzes (30%) – Two announced quizzes taken during class
- 3) Homework (20%) – Each week you will be asked to complete an assignment. Assignments will be available on Wednesday evenings and are due on Monday. Assignments are graded on a yes-no basis. Late assignments will receive half-credit. Assignments can be found on my webpage: (<http://www.toddtarantino.com/fundamentals/index.html>)
- 4) Harmonization Projects (10%) – Harmonization/arranging assignments that will be performed in class.
- 5) Attendance and Class Participation (15%) – If you must miss a class (due to religious observance, illness, or family emergency) you should provide advance notification whenever possible, or contact me as soon as you can (i.e. in case of illness). More than **three** unexcused absences will negatively impact your grade.

The following schedule is provisional and may be revised based on our progress.

Schedule

W 18 Jan Meet and Greet

Week 1

M 23 Jan; W 25 Jan Sound, Pitch, Notation Turek Ch. 1
Assignment 1: Clefs and Notation (due 1/30)

Week 2

M 30 Jan; W 1 Feb Rhythm and Meter Turek Ch. 2
Assignment 2: Rhythm and Meter (due 2/6)

Week 3

M 6 Feb; W 8 Feb Scales and Modes Turek Ch. 3
Assignment 3: Scales and Keys (due 2/13)

Week 4

M 13 Feb; W 15 Feb Intervals Turek Ch. 3
 Basic Counterpoint
 Assignment 4: Interval (due 2/20)

Week 5

M 20 Feb; W 22 Feb M: Intervals Continued
 More Counterpoint Turek Ch. 4
 W: Triads and Chords
 Assignment 5: Triads (due 2/27)

Week 6

M 27 Feb; W 29 Feb M: Chords and Inversions
 W: **Quiz – Pitch, Rhythm; Meter; Intervals**
 Turek Ch. 4/ 5
 Assignment 6: Chords (due 3/5)

Week 7

M 5 Mar; W 7 Mar Chords and Inversions Turek Ch. 5
 Tonality and Roman Numeral
 Analysis
 Assignment 7: Roman Numeral (due 3/19)

SPRING BREAK (March 11-17)**Week 8**

M 19 Mar; W 21 Mar Cadences Turek Ch. 6
 Melodic Function – Harmonic
 and Nonharmonic tones
 Assignment 8: Melodic Function (due 3/26)

Week 9

M 26 Mar; W 28 Mar M: Catchup Turek Ch. 6
 W: **Quiz: Chords/ Roman Numerals/**
 Cadences

Week 10

M 2 Apr; W 4 Apr Chord Spacing; Voice Leading; Turek Ch. 7
 Connecting Chords
 Assignment 9: Chord Connection (due 4/9)

Week 11

M 9 Apr; W 11 Apr Melodic Organization Turek Ch. 12
 Phrase Structure Turek Ch. 17
 Form and Shape

Week 12

M 16 Apr; W 18 Apr Harmonic Progression;
 Elaboration of Basic Schemes
 Final Project (due 4/25)

Week 13

M 23 Apr; W 25 Apr More Harmony
 In-class Performances

Week 14

M 30 Apr **Quiz 3**