

**SYLLABUS: MUT 4401 Counterpoint 1**

**Class Information**

Meeting time and location: M/W/F, 9:35-10:25 in Music Building room 144

Instructor: Dr. Paul Richards, 308 MUB

Phone: 352-273-3180

E-mail: [prichards@arts.ufl.edu](mailto:prichards@arts.ufl.edu)

Office Hours: M5 and by appointment

Required Texts: Schubert, Peter. *Modal Counterpoint, Renaissance Style*.

New York: Oxford University Press, 2008. ISBN: 019533194X

Bach, Johann Sebastian. *Two-Part Inventions*, Alfred Masterwork Edition.

New York: Alfred, 2006. ISBN: 0739007599

Required Materials: staff paper, pencil, eraser

Prerequisite: a passing grade of C in MUT 2126 Theory of Music 3

**Course Description**

For hundreds of years, the study of counterpoint has been considered an essential component in the education of a serious student of Western classical music, the distinguishing feature of which is its accommodation of multiple strains of complimentary musical discourse simultaneously. If the study of harmony in previous theory coursework introduces the individual components, or words if you will, of our musical language, then counterpoint addresses its syntax and grammar, and the study of contrapuntal techniques is therefore an integral part of speaking Western music with advanced fluency. This course covers two-voice counterpoint as practiced in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, roughly using the work of Palestrina and Bach as models. Through analysis, readings, performance, listening, and, above all, guided composition, we will explore the stylistic features and polyphonic practices of these eras, toward the larger goal of understanding the role and function of counterpoint in musics of all periods and styles, Western and non-Western alike.

**Course Requirements**

Students will complete all reading, listening, and composition assignments on time (approximately one written assignment to be turned in per week). Late work will be accepted for half-credit up to one week after the original due date. I will frequently ask that you correct an assignment and resubmit it in a timely manner. In addition to regular homework, there will be two composition projects, and there may be quizzes assessing grasp of foundational material.

## Canvas Course

Course materials, grades, and announcements will be posted in the Canvas page for this course:  
<http://elearning.ufl.edu>

## Grading

The final grading formula for the class is as follows (tentative and subject to change):

Homework	= 60%
2 Composition Projects	= 30%
Class participation and quizzes	= 10%

and

	E < 60
D- = 60-62	D = 63-66 D+ = 67-69
C- = 70-72	C = 73-76 C+ = 77-79
B- = 80-82	B = 83-86 B+ = 87-89
A- = 90-92	A = 93-100

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades>

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

## Course Schedule (tentative and subject to change)

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|--------|--|
| Week 1 | Introduction, Syllabus, Modes<br>Intro and Chapter 1: Modes and Notation |
| Week 2 | Chapter 2: Melody and Cantus Firmus<br>Chapter 3: First Species          |
| Week 3 | Chapter 3: First Species<br>Chapter 4: Second Species                    |
| Week 4 | Chapter 4: Second Species<br>Chapter 5: Third Species                    |
| Week 5 | Chapter 5: Third Species<br>Chapter 6: Fourth Species                    |

Week 6	Chapter 6: Fourth Species
Week 7	Begin Composition Project 1
Week 8	Chapter 7: Mixed Values
Week 9	Chapter 8-9: Motives and Variation
Week 10	Chapter 8-9: Motives and Variation COMPOSITION PROJECT 1 DUE
Week 11	Chapter 13: Invertible Counterpoint
Week 12	Tonality
Week 13	Canon
Week 14	Harmonic Planning
Week 15	COMPOSITION PROJECT 2 DUE
Week 16	Performances

### **Attendance**

Regular attendance is required. Missing more than two lessons will result in the lowering of the grade by one full letter. Excused absences are consistent with university policies in the undergraduate catalog: (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx> ).

### **Students Requiring Accommodations**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

### **Course Evaluation**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a

professional and respectful manner is available at [gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/](http://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [ufl.bluera.com/ufl/](http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at [gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/](http://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/).

## University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

## Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

## Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: <http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html>

## Campus Resources:

### Health and Wellness

#### **U Matter, We Care:**

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

**Counseling and Wellness Center:** <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

#### **Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)**

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

**University Police Department** at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.

## Academic Resources

**E-learning technical support**, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu.  
<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

**Career Resource Center**, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://www.crc.ufl.edu/>.

**Library Support**, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

**Teaching Center**, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.  
<https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.

**Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall**, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.  
<https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>.

**Student Complaints Campus**: [https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF\\_Complaints\\_policy.pdf](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf).

**On-Line Students Complaints**: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>.