

SYLLABUS: MUT 4401 Counterpoint 1

Class Information

Meeting time and location: M/W/F, 8:30-9:20am, MUB 142

Instructor: Dr. Paul Richards, MUB 303

Phone: 352-273-3180

E-mail: prichards@arts.ufl.edu

Office Hours: TBA

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

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

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 16th and 18th 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 your 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
69

D = 63-66 D+ = 67-

C- = 70-72

C = 73-76 C+ = 77-79

B- = 80-82

B = 83-86 B+ = 87-89

A- = 90-92 A = 93-100

Course Schedule (tentative and subject to change)

Week 1	Introduction, Syllabus, Modes Intro and Chapter 1: Modes and Notation
Week 2	Chapter 2: Melody and Cantus Firmus Chapter 3: First Species
Week 3	Chapter 3: First Species Chapter 4: Second Species
Week 4	Chapter 4: Second Species Chapter 5: Third Species
Week 5	Chapter 5: Third Species 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

Academic Policies:

- Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in the course are consistent with university policies. [See UF Academic Regulations and Policies for more information regarding the University Attendance Policies.](#)
- Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. [See the](#)

[“Get Started With the DRC” webpage on the Disability Resource Center site](#). 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.

- Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points. This may be achieved by including [a link to the University grades and grading policies](#).
- Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online. Students can complete evaluations in three ways:
 1. The email they receive from GatorEvals
 2. Their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals
 3. The central portal at <https://my-ufl.bluer.com>

Guidance on how to provide constructive feedback is available at <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

- The University's Honesty Policy regarding cheating, plagiarism, etc.:

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 Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. [See the UF Conduct Code website for more information](#). If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

- In-Class Recording:

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal education use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and deliver by an instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course.

A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentation such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or guest lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless, of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third-party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Academic Resources:

- E-learning technical support: Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at [352-392-4357](tel:352-392-4357) or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.
- [Career Connections Center](#): Reitz Union Suite 1300, [352-392-1601](tel:352-392-1601). Career assistance and counseling services.
- [Library Support](#): Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources. Call [866-281-6309](tel:866-281-6309) or email ask@ufl.libanswers.com for more information.
- [Academic Resources](#): 1317 Turlington Hall, Call [352-392-2010](tel:352-392-2010), or to make a private appointment: [352-392-6420](tel:352-392-6420). Email contact: teaching-center@ufl.edu. General study skills and tutoring.
- [Writing Studio](#): Daytime (9:30am-3:30pm): 2215 Turlington Hall, [352-846-1138](tel:352-846-1138) | Evening (5:00pm-7:00pm): 1545 W University Avenue (Library West, Rm. 339). Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
- Academic Complaints: Office of the Ombuds; [Visit the Complaint Portal webpage for more information.](#)
- Enrollment Management Complaints (Registrar, Financial Aid, Admissions): [View the Student Complaint Procedure webpage for more information.](#)
- UF Student Success Initiative: Visit <https://studentsuccess.ufl.edu/> for resources that support your success as a UF student.

Campus Health and Wellness Resources:

- UF Whole Gator Resources: Visit <https://one.ufl.edu/whole-gator/discover> for resources that are designed to help you thrive physically, mentally, and emotionally at UF.

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