

Music 53A
(sec 002, class #33233)
Harmony I

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Office hours: write it in here! -----> _____

Meeting times

M, W, F: 9:10 am (unfortunately) - 10:00

Room 117

attendance and coffee are on you

Welcome to Music 53A: Harmony I

This course is designed for and required of first-year music majors, but you may take the course as long as you placed into it. You must at least place into Music 52A (musicianship). This class focuses on four-part chorale-style writing and 18th century diatonic harmony.

What this course is and what it is not

Take note: this is not a composition course to develop your own style of music. This is a course to study the language of composers like Bach, Mozart, and Beethoven. There is no tyranny in being “forced” to learn these rules. When you learn a language, you learn that language for what it is. This is absolutely not the only language or the way music ought to sound. It is the way 18th Century Western music sounds, so think of yourself as adopting the ears of Bach. If you want to break rules or if you have the urge to develop your own original musical thoughts, you absolutely need to! However, this course is not the place for it. You’ll need to get a composition teacher to develop in this way. Also, do not use chords you have not been taught yet. Reserve the rebellious parts of your brain for other hours of the day.

Practicing/hearing this material

Harmony is not a crossword puzzle - in this class you are learning principles that create actual sounds! What’s a music school if not to learn about actual sound? Though we won’t be directly testing your ear in this class, you are only selling yourself and your education short if you don’t practice the handouts I give you on the piano (or guitar or...). By the end of this class, you should know how all of these chords function, not only by sight but *by the actual sound too*.

Texts/materials

no text is required but I basically wrote you a text book

jonkulpa.weebly.com

> Music Theory materials

> Overview

> Harmony 1

Class schedule

I. Fundamentals Review

(2 weeks)

basic acoustics
1/2 steps/whole steps
chromatic scales
major scales (key signatures, circle of 5ths)
natural minor scales
intervals
consonance/dissonance
non-harmonic tones vs. chord tones
triads
roman numerals/diatonic triads
7th chords

II. Four-part writing

four-part writing concepts/procedures
I and V, cadences
 I^6 , V^6 , passing V_4^6 and vii^{o6}
 V^7 and its inversions

(~ 1 week)

III. Expanding the sentence / adding in further colors

predominant harmonies: ii, IV, and their inversions
cadential $\frac{6}{4}$
uses of vi
other 7th chords (ii^7 , vii^{o7} , and their inversions)
iii
Plagal IV
other passing $\frac{6}{4}$ chords
harmonizing the melodic minor scale

IV. Sequences

you'll see when we get there

V. Further topics

incorporating non-harmonic tones
introduction to the concepts of tonicization and modulation

Grading

~80% = homework

- first 2 weeks: fundamental quizzes
- thereafter: almost every day is a 4-part chorale assignment

**all HW is due at the very beginning of the next class
if it is late past the collection time...**

...you have til 5:00 pm that day to get it to my box without penalty

...you have til the very beginning of the next class,
or you lose a 1/2 letter grade

...thereafter, I cannot accept assignments

~20% = final chorale project

YAAAAY!!!: no in-class exams or having to write chorales on the spot
no surprise quizzes ever

Exceptions to late work

I do not take attendance, but everything we do in class is important. This is a cumulative skill you are building. If you plan on being absent (due to interviews, school trips, etc), please speak to me as early as possible. Also, illnesses unfortunately may happen. However, take note:

Being excused from class for a certain period of time does not mean you don't need to stay in touch with me given that you are physically able to; it also does not give you an open deadline to turn in your work whenever you happen to get around to it. Illnesses or psychological difficulties during the semester still must involve you staying in touch with me and setting realistic deadlines that must be approved by me (as long as you are physically able to).

Plagiarism

Do your own work. Copying someone else in the class = F.

University Resources

Disability-related accommodations:

If you are registered with the Disabled Students Program and need disability-related accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible so we can make appropriate arrangements. If you need accommodations but are not registered with DSP, please contact DSP by phone at 642-0518 or through their Web site at

<http://dsp.berkeley.edu>

If you need disability-related accommodations in this class, if you have emergency medical information you wish to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please inform me immediately. Please see me privately after class or in my office.

Tang Center Counseling and Psychological Services:

2222 Bancroft Way

642-9494

<http://uhs.berkeley.edu>

The UHS Counseling and Psychological Services staff provides confidential assistance to students managing problems that can emerge from financial, academic, legal, family concerns, and more. In the realm of sexual harassment, UHS coordinates education programs, crisis counseling, advocacy, and medical care for women and men who have been harassed or assaulted (Tang Center, 2222 Bancroft Way; Prevention, 642-7202; Victim Assistance and Counseling, 642-6074, Counseling Services, 642-9494, Medical Care, 642-3188)

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Your emergency evacuation assembly area is **the lawn just south of Hertz Hall**.

In the event of an emergency please follow instructions from your instructor and Music Department staff.

Take note of emergency procedures posted in your classroom. If the fire alarm is sounding, exit the building immediately. In the event of an earthquake, duck when possible and hold in place, covering your head with your arms, a binder or your laptop. Then exit the building when the shaking stops.

If you are in a wheelchair and on the second floor of Morrison, proceed to the Designated Waiting Area for evacuation. A Disabled Evacuation Chair is located in the first floor classroom hallway.

If you are in a wheelchair and in the basement area, exit through the long locker hallway and through the service area out the door to your right at the end of the hall. You may need assistance to open the outside door.

EMERGENCY SERVICES:

- UC Police and all emergencies number from campus phones: **911**
- UC Police and all emergencies number from cell phones: **(510) 642-3333**
- UC Police non-emergency number: **(510) 642-6760**

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