

Music Theory I (MUSI 1310), Fall 2009

Professor: Andrew Davis ([email](#))

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CLASS ROSTERS: see what class you're in

Home page and syllabus

COURSE INFORMATION

course: MUSI 1310: Music Theory I
time: M W F 8:00–8:50am
location: MSM 108, 110, 112, 116

course web site: <http://www.uh.edu/~adavis5/musi1310> (this page). You are expected to monitor the web site regularly for assignments, updates to the course schedule, and announcements and other news items not communicated in class or through email. Details of assignments may or may not be posted in class—you are expected to obtain the assignment and any related instructions online.

I will communicate with you using your university-issued email account. You are expected to either read the account regularly or set the account to forward mail to another account you monitor regularly. You are responsible for communications issued via email; not reading your email is not an excuse for not knowing what was communicated.

Note on rooms and class logistics: unless instructed otherwise, class will meet with Professor Davis every Monday in room 108; class will meet Wednesdays and Fridays in small sections with the graduate teaching assistants in the assigned rooms (see the class rosters for your TA and room assignments).

PROFESSOR INFORMATION

professor: Andrew Davis, Associate Professor of Music Theory and Director of Graduate Studies
office: MSM 152
office phone: 713 743 3294
email: [adavis](#) at uh.edu. **This is the best way to contact me.
personal web page: <http://www.uh.edu/~adavis5> (links to courses and other useful information)

office hours: As I also serve as Director of Graduate Studies for the Moores School of Music, I am forced to limit the amount of time I am available for office hours. Unless notified otherwise, I will schedule office hours by appointment only and only on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9am and 5pm. Occasionally other times will be available on different days. Also occasionally other meetings or obligations on campus may interfere with these times, so you must make an appointment to see me. Most appointments will occupy a half-hour time slot. You may call me or (better) send me an email to make an appointment. TAs for the course are also available for office hours, if you need additional, or recurring, assistance with course material, or if I am

unavailable. Please contact the TAs directly.

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Timothy Duhr: timothy.duhr at gmail.com (room 112)
 Mauricio Oliveros: maomusik@hotmail.com (room 116)
 Chris Peters: chris_1778@hotmail.com (room 110)

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course surveys the rudiments of music (notation, intervals, scales, key signatures, triads, rhythm and meter, etc.) before proceeding to a study of the basic harmonic materials of diatonic tonal music. The basis for the course is the music of the Western classical tradition, in particular that of the tonal (common-practice) era—music from approximately 1700 to 1900. Students will develop fluency in constructing and recognizing basic structural materials of tonal music (intervals, scales, chords), writing diatonic tonal voice-leading and harmonic progressions in four-part SATB format; realizing basic figured and unfigured basses; harmonizing basic tonal melodies; analyzing (visually and aurally) basic tonal phrase designs; and harmonically analyzing excerpts from the tonal literature.

PREREQUISITES

You must have taken and passed the music theory placement exam
 You must be enrolled concurrently in Aural Skills I (MUSI 1170) unless granted permission to do otherwise

REQUIRED MATERIALS

All are available at the University Bookstore, 126 University Center (713 748 0923)

1. Benjamin, Horvit, and Nelson. *Techniques and Materials of Music: From the Common Practice Period Through the Twentieth Century*.
2. Benjamin, Horvit, and Nelson. *Music for Analysis*.

Also: pencils, erasers, and music manuscript paper. Sheets of manuscript paper will be needed for homework assignments. If you use a notebook for class notes, I usually suggest having a notebook of manuscript paper.

EVALUATION

assignments and quizzes: **	40%
exam 1:	20%
exam 2:	20%
exam 3:	20%

**I will drop your lowest two assignment grades when computing the final course grade

Grade distribution will be according to the standard scale of percentages, as follows:

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	A: 95	A-: 92.5
B+: 87.5	B: 85	B-: 82.5
C+: 77.5	C: 75	C-: 72.5
D+: 67.5	D: 65	D-: 62.5
	F: below 60	

NOTE WELL: School of Music policy is that a grade of at least C- is necessary to continue in the music theory and aural skills sequence. Any grade below C- will be considered non-continuing; students who earn below a C- will not be permitted to enroll in Music Theory II.

ASSIGNMENTS AND QUIZZES

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date indicated, and the due dates are not negotiable. Late assignments will be accepted only through the beginning of the next class meeting; late grades will be awarded at a penalty of one letter grade (i.e., 10%) for every day the assignment is late. That is: if a theory assignment is due at the beginning of class Monday and you turn it in Monday afternoon (or any time after the start of class Monday), the grade will be lowered one letter grade; if you turn in the assignment any time on Tuesday, the grade will be lowered by two letter grades; if you turn in the assignment at the beginning of class Wednesday the grade will be lowered three letter grades; the assignment will not be accepted after the start of class Wednesday. If you need to turn in an assignment outside the normal class meeting hours, please turn it in to your TA's mailbox (in the main office) or, for me, to the front desk staff (tell them the assignment is for me and they'll leave it in my box).

Note that you are responsible for work assigned in class even if you are absent from class, and that assignments are still due on the dates indicated. You should check the [schedule](#) online to see what material was assigned, and you should obtain notes on the relevant material from a classmate. Remember I will drop your lowest two assignment grades when I compute the final course grade. If you have multiple 0s, I will drop the grades in chronological order (i.e., I'll drop your first two 0s).

Quizzes provide a means for your instructor to test your comprehension of the material covered in class and are scheduled regularly. Quiz dates are posted on the [course schedule](#). Quizzes are normally short and do not occupy the entire class meeting.

Make-up quizzes will not be given: if you miss a quiz you must provide a written, valid excuse. If you cannot do so your quiz grade will be 0; if your absence is excused, the points for the quiz you missed will not be included when your final course grade is computed.

Exams also provide a means for your instructor to test your mastery of the material. Exam dates are posted on the [course schedule](#). **Make-up exams will only be given if you provide a written, valid excuse for why you missed the exam.** If you cannot do this, your grade for the missed exam will be 0.

The final exam (i.e., the non-comprehensive exam 3) will be given on the scheduled final exam date for this course (see the [schedule](#) for details). Please plan in advance—the exam cannot be given at alternate times for individual students, and make-up exams will not be given without a written, valid excuse for why you missed the exam. And unless instructed otherwise, please plan to be at the exam for all three scheduled hours.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

You are expected to submit your own work on assignments, quizzes, and exams unless instructed otherwise. Problems with academic dishonesty will be handled according to the university's published academic honesty policy, [which you can read here](#). Please note that the mere suspicion of academic dishonesty is enough to initiate official action; please do not put yourself in the position of having to deal with this kind of situation.

DISABILITIES

If you have a disability that affects your capacity to complete assignments, quizzes, or exams in a timely manner, please inform me at the beginning of the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made. You will need to document your disability with the UH [Center for Students with Disabilities \(CSD\)](#): 100 CSD Building ([click here to get a map](#)), 713 743 5400. The CSD will provide information on your disability to the instructor, and the instructor and student will work out a mutually agreeable arrangement (based on recommendations provided by the CSD) for how to accommodate the disability.

OTHER INFORMATION

It should be clear that in order to maintain a productive environment in class students are expected to behave with courtesy and respect toward their instructor and their classmates. Students will be dismissed from class if they are found to be creating excessive disruptions. **This includes disruptions from any use of cell phones (calling, texting, etc.): turn them off; if it's a problem I'll have to ask you to leave the class.**

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URL: <http://www.uh.edu/~adavis5/musi1310>
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