

THEORY IV (MUSI 2214) | PROFESSOR: ANDREW DAVIS | SPRING 2011 SYLLABUS

[A copy of this file is available online at <http://www.uh.edu/~adavis5/2214>;
in the event of a conflict the file online supersedes any printed copy.]

COURSE INFORMATION: MUSI 2214: Theory IV | time: M W 9:00–9:50am | location: MSM 108, 110, 112, 116 | web site: <http://www.uh.edu/~adavis5/musi2214>. 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. | Note on rooms and class logistics: class will meet with Professor Davis in room 108 as marked on the course schedule online; on all other days class will meet in small sections with the graduate teaching assistants in the assigned rooms (see the class rosters for your TA and room assignments).

PROFESSOR INFORMATION: Andrew Davis, Associate Professor of Music Theory and Director of Graduate Studies | office: MSM 152 | office phone: 713 743 3294 | email: adavis@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: by appointment on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. 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: Carlos Gaviria (carangavir@gmail.com) | Jaemi Loeb (jaemiloeb@gmail.com) | David Mosher (dmosheruh@gmail.com)

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND LEARNING OUTCOMES: This is a course in the music theory and literature of the post-common-practice era. Topics include: music normally considered on the margins of tonality; alternative scale formations, alternative chord formations, non-traditional voice leading, non-traditional means of establishing tonality (i.e., various forms of pitch centricity), non-traditional approaches to rhythm and meter, non-serial atonality (with an introduction to the fundamentals of pitch-class set theory), and classical serialism. Students will be fluent in the analysis of post-common-practice procedures and fluent (and able to identify, in score or recording) with representative examples of such procedures from the standard repertoire.

PREREQUISITES: You must have received a grade of C- or better in Music Theory III (MUSI 2210). | You must be enrolled concurrently in Aural Skills IV (MUSI 2170).

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

All are available from any online bookseller:

- 1) Stefan Kostka. *Materials and Techniques of Twentieth-Century Music*. Any recent edition is fine, but the page numbers may not match those posted online.

Also: pencils, erasers, and music manuscript paper. 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: 30% (I will drop one homework grade from your final grade computation) | Quizzes: 20% | Midterm exam: 25% | Final exam: 25%

Grade distribution will be according to the standard scale of percentages, as follows: A: 92.5–100 | A-: 90.0–92.5 | B+: 87.5–90.0 | B: 82.5–87.5 | B-: 80.0–82.5 | C+: 77.5–80.0 | C: 72.5–77.5 | C-: 70.0–72.5 | D+ 67.5–70.0 | D: 62.5–67.5 | D-: 60.0–62.5 | F: below 60.0

ASSIGNMENTS, QUIZZES, AND EXAMS:

Expectations for the course include keeping up with the assigned daily work. In that spirit: Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date indicated, and the due dates are not negotiable. Late assignments will be accepted for full credit only with a written, valid excuse. Late assignments will be accepted for partial credit only through the start of the next class meeting, and with a penalty of one letter grade for each day the assignment is late. Note that you are responsible for the work assigned in class even if you are absent from class, and that the assignment is still due on the date 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 that your lowest assignment grade will be dropped.

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 occupy only part of the 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 comprehensive final exam will be given on the scheduled final exam date for this course (see the schedule online). 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 please plan to be at the exam for all three scheduled hours.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: You are expected to do your own work on all assignments, quizzes, and exams unless instructed differently; any work you hand in at any time should be your own unless you are assigned to do otherwise. Problems with academic dishonesty will be handled according to the procedures outlined in the undergraduate student handbook and in the undergraduate course catalog. 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 cell phones: turn them off.

Last day to drop or withdraw without a grade: Wednesday 02/02.

Last day to drop or withdraw with a W grade: Tuesday 04/05. Course enrollment status cannot be changed after this date.