

## MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Revised 9/15

**DEPARTMENT: MUSIC**

**COURSE PREFIX: MUS COURSE NUMBER: 610**

**CREDIT HOURS: 3**

**I. TITLE:** Advanced Music Theory and Analysis

**II. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITE(S):** Selected composers from the Common Practice period to the present will be studied in depth. Complete movements of works will be studied, and proper analytical procedures and systems will be determined and implemented. A comprehensive look at a variety and genres will be of particular importance, and emphasis will be placed on understanding 20<sup>th</sup>-century music.

**Prerequisite(s):** None.

**III. COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

After taking the course, you will be able to identify and write all of the traditional harmonies (diatonic and chromatic) in the Common Practice vocabulary (ca. 1650-1900). Through various partwriting and analysis exercises, you will demonstrate your understanding of those harmonies and will learn how composers manipulated traditional tonal relationships to take their music to new and unexpected places. You will be able to approach a complete piece of music and analyze its formal and harmonic elements. By the end of the semester, you will also have a general understanding of how music changed in the twentieth century and will have expanded your analytical toolbox to include materials and compositional techniques used in more recent music.

**IV. CONTENT OUTLINE:**

This course will be divided into thirds. The first third will be an undergraduate review including teaching strategies for those preparing to teach a high school theory class. The second third will focus on formal analysis and will include analyses of complete pieces. The last third will cover a wide variety of topics encountered in music from the twentieth century including modes, synthetic scales, parallelism/planning, symmetry, set theory, serialism, and minimalism.

**V. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

**Homework Assignments** - there will be approximately 11 homework assignments during the semester. An assignment is considered "late" when it is not submitted when collected in class on the day it is due. The instructor will assess a 5% penalty for each weekday the assignment is turned in late. While faxes will not be accepted (under most circumstances), high-quality scanned pdf's can be emailed to the professor. If turning in a late assignment in person, please slide it under my office door – you do not need to hand it to me directly. *No assignments will be accepted after they become 8 weekdays late.*

**Exams** - there will be two exams during the semester and a final exam at the end. Make-up exams are only given for illnesses or extenuating circumstances (which almost always includes timely communication with the instructor via email or telephone). Any illness will have to be documented by a doctor or health services.

**Textbook Comparison Paper** – students will research a specific theory topic using a minimum of three textbooks, then analyze and compare the different approaches.

**Teaching Presentation** – students will present a beginning theory topic to the class for fifteen minutes, followed by class discussion and peer evaluation.

**Analysis Project** - students will analyze a complete piece and write one substantial analytical paper during the semester.

**VI. FIELD, CLINICAL, AND/OR LABORATORY EXPERIENCES:**

For a music student, musical events outside of class are no less important than what is learned in the classroom. Go to concerts! Listen to music intently (not as background) and always try to expose yourself to new things. Do your best to actively engage your ears in whatever musical activity you are involved in. Doing so will help you make solid connections between what your ears hear and the theoretical concepts you learn in class.

**VII. TEXT(S) AND RESOURCES:**

*MUS 610, Advanced Music Theory and Analysis* custom course packet is available at the University Readers website. Students are expected to bring their course packet, staff paper, folder (or binder), and a pencil to each class session. All required listening will be available online at:

- NAXOS (<http://murraystate.naxosmusiclibrary.com/>)
  - through the Murray State Libraries Website
  - select “Playlists”, then “Current MurrayStatePS”, then “D’Ambrosio.”
- YouTube
- [www.mikedambrosio.net](http://www.mikedambrosio.net)

**VIII. EVALUATION AND GRADING PROCEDURES:**

The final grade will consist of:

Homework	30%
Exams (2 x 15%)	30%
Final Exam	15%
Textbook Comparison Paper	5%
Teaching Presentation	5%
Analysis Project	15%

Grading scale: A (90–100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), E (0-59).

**IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

There are only 15 class sessions after today! Therefore you are expected to attend every class session unless prohibited by extraordinary circumstances. The cumulative nature of the content along with the extremely fast pace of the course makes each class session crucial to your overall success. Though there is no official attendance policy, you are expected to notify the instructor when you cannot attend a future class. Without advanced notice or an official letter from a health care professional, assignments not turned in on that

day will be counted as late. *It is the student's responsibility to make up any missed work in a timely manner.*

\*Note #1: A third absence during the semester may prompt the instructor to recommend the student drop the course.

\*Note #2: Make-up exams will only be given in very special circumstances (at the instructor's discretion).

For more information, consult P.14 of the MSU Graduate Bulletin.

## **X. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:**

Murray State University takes seriously its moral and educational obligation to maintain high standards of academic honesty and ethical behavior. Instructors are expected to evaluate students' academic achievements accurately, as well as ascertain that work submitted by students is authentic and the result of their own efforts, and consistent with established academic standards. Students are obligated to respect and abide by the basic standards of personal and professional integrity.

### **Violations of Academic Honesty include:**

**Cheating** - Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized information such as books, notes, study aids, or other electronic, online, or digital devices in any academic exercise; as well as unauthorized communication of information by any means to or from others during any academic exercise.

**Fabrication and Falsification** - Intentional alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification involves changing information whereas fabrication involves inventing or counterfeiting information.

**Multiple Submission** - The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work, including oral reports, for credit more than once without authorization from the instructor.

**Plagiarism** - Intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas, creative work, or data of someone else as one's own in any academic exercise, without due and proper acknowledgement.

Instructors should outline their expectations that may go beyond the scope of this policy at the beginning of each course and identify such expectations and restrictions in the course syllabus. When an instructor receives evidence, either directly or indirectly, of academic dishonesty, he or she should investigate the instance. The faculty member should then take appropriate disciplinary action.

Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to the following:

- 1) Requiring the student(s) to repeat the exercise or do additional related exercise(s).
- 2) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) on the particular exercise(s) involved.
- 3) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) in the course.

**If the disciplinary action results in the awarding of a grade of E in the course, the student(s) may not drop the course.**

Faculty reserve the right to invalidate any exercise or other evaluative measures if substantial evidence exists that the integrity of the exercise has been compromised. Faculty also reserve the right to document in the course syllabi further academic honesty policy elements related to the individual disciplines.

A student may appeal the decision of the faculty member with the department chair in writing within five working days. Note: If, at any point in this process, the student alleges that actions have taken place that may be in violation of the Murray State University Non-Discrimination Statement, this process must be suspended and the matter be directed to the Office of Institutional Diversity (IDEA), Equity and Access. Any appeal will be forwarded to the appropriate university committee as determined by the Provost.

## **XI. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

### Policy Statement

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact the Executive Director of the Office of Institutional Diversity (IDEA), Equity and Access, 103 Wells Hall, (270) 809-3155 (voice), (270) 809-3361 (TDD).

### Students with Disabilities

Students requiring special assistance due to a disability should visit the Office of Student Disability Services immediately for assistance with accommodations. For more information, students should contact the Office of Student Disability Services, 423 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071. 270-809-2018 (voice) 270-809-5889 (TDD).