



DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2021

MU1550 (A2): MUSIC THEORY I – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

Grande Prairie Regional College respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 8 territory, the traditional homeland and gathering place for many diverse Indigenous peoples. We are honoured to be on the ancestral lands of the Cree, Dene/Beaver and Métis, whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our vibrant community. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work, learn, and live on this land.

INSTRUCTOR: Geoffrey Whittall **PHONE:** 780-539-2823
OFFICE: L-119 **E-MAIL:** gwhittall@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS: As posted on my office door and by appointment

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This is a study of Common Practice harmony, including elementary analysis with discussion of elements of formal contrapuntal writing, chord progressions, and chorale textures.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: MU1000 or successful completion of a Music Theory Placement Exam, or Royal Conservatory Level 8 Theory, or Conservatory Canada Gr. 4 Theory Exam.

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

- Two free-to-access online text resources are the ‘required texts’ for this course.
 - 1) *Fundamentals, Function, and Form: Theory and Analysis of Tonal Western Art Music* by Andre Mount and Lee Rothfarb (2009-2021) at <https://milneopentextbooks.org/fundamentals-function-and-form/> This resource is available to read online with embedded audio examples, and as a PDF download (without the audio).
 - 2) *Open Music Theory* by Kris Shaffer, Bryn Hughes, and Brian Moseley (2014-) at <http://openmusictheory.com> .
- Have the following on hand for each class session: manuscript paper, pencil, and eraser.
- **MYCLASS:** You will need to access our MYCLASS page at <https://myclass.gprc.ab.ca> where you will be able to access a variety of necessary resources.
- Also recommended as an alternate source of information: *Music Theory for the 21st-Century Classroom* at <http://musictheory.pugetsound.edu/mt21c/EnharmonicNotes.html>

DELIVERY MODE(S): Lecture. Note: GPRC reserves the right to change the course delivery.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course will briefly review materials that you already know. Students will solidify their understanding of notation, meter, scales, modes, intervals, and chords. Counterpoint will be introduced, leading to the main discussion of writing and analyzing diatonic harmony in four parts. Students will become familiar with chord motions, cadences, and non-harmonic devices.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to work with scales and modes, write basic counterpoint, and demonstrate basic competency in writing and analysing diatonic harmony, including figured bass, cadences, non-harmonic devices, and voice leading.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca>.

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:

Student grades will be assigned by the following weighting:

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Assignments | 40% |
| Quizzes | 10% |
| Midterm Exam | 20% |
| Final Exam | 30% |

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class for which they are assigned, and will not be accepted late without prior negotiation.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

| Alpha Grade | 4-point Equivalent | Percentage Guidelines | | Alpha Grade | 4-point Equivalent | Percentage Guidelines |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| A+ | 4.0 | 90-100 | | C+ | 2.3 | 67-69 |
| A | 4.0 | 85-89 | | C | 2.0 | 63-66 |
| A- | 3.7 | 80-84 | | C- | 1.7 | 60-62 |
| B+ | 3.3 | 77-79 | | D+ | 1.3 | 55-59 |
| B | 3.0 | 73-76 | | D | 1.0 | 50-54 |
| B- | 2.7 | 70-72 | | F | 0.0 | 00-49 |

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

There will be at least one homework assignment a week, and there will be several quizzes throughout the semester. The midterm exam will take place in the second half of October, and the final exam will take place during the examination period at the end of the semester.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Attendance at all class sessions is highly recommended. *Refer to Student Conduct, Attendance, on pages 47-48 of the College Calendar.*
- More than 20% absenteeism may constitute a failure except for medical or extenuating circumstances in which case a doctor's letter may be required.
- Students may receive a warning 'Notice Of Absenteeism' at 15% absenteeism.
- After 20% absenteeism, you may be required to withdraw from the course.
- You should become familiar with pages 38-49 of the *GPRC 2021-2022 Calendar*, along with College policies about academics and student responsibilities.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.