

## DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

### COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2022

#### MU1550 (A2): Music Theory I – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Geoffrey Whittall                      **PHONE:** 780-539-2823  
**OFFICE:** L-119    **E-MAIL:** [gwhittall@nwpolytech.ca](mailto:gwhittall@nwpolytech.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:

- Three 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 (2021) at <https://milneopentextbooks.org/fundamentals-function-and-form/> This resource is available to read online with embedded audio examples, and also as a PDF download (without the audio).
  - 2) *Music Theory for the 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Classroom* by Robert Hutchinson (2017) at <http://musictheory.pugetsound.edu/mt21c/EnharmonicNotes.html>
  - 3) *Open Music Theory Version 2* by Mark Gotham, Kyle Gullings, Chelsey Hamm, et al. (2021) at <https://viva.pressbooks.pub/openmusictheory/> . Available online and as a download.
- **MYCLASS:** You will need to visit our MYCLASS page at <https://myclass.gprc.ab.ca> where you will be able to access a variety of necessary resources.
- Bring to each class session: Manuscript Paper, Pencil, Eraser

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** Lecture. Note: NWP 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 an average of 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 NWP Polytechnic Calendar.
- You should become familiar with pages 36-47 of the *NWP 2022-2023 Calendar*, along with Polytechnic 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 Northwestern Polytechnic Calendar at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/programs/calendar/> or the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy which can be found at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html>.

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