

Sul Ross State University
SYLLABUS

MUS 2311: Music Theory III
10:00-10:50 MWF

Fall, 2025
FAB 200

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Office Hours: MWF 11-12; TT 1-2; or by appointment

Course Description:

This course is the third in a systematic study of music of the common practice period. Emphasis will be placed on greater understanding of the elements of tonal music through analysis, written exercises in harmony and counterpoint, and examination of basic formal structures, with a particular emphasis on chromatic music.

Required Materials:

Stefan Kostka and Byron Almén, *Tonal Harmony*. 9th edition. New York: McGraw Hill.

Stefan Kostka and Byron Almén, *Workbook for Tonal Harmony*. 9th edition. New York: McGraw Hill.

Manuscript paper and pencil (required for every class)

Primary Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- 1) Identify and analyze secondary dominant and leading tone chords in root position and inversion in major and minor keys
- 2) Identify and analyze short passages employing modulation
- 3) Develop greater proficiency in writing four-part harmony using chromatic root-position and inverted major, minor, and diminished triads
- 4) Be able to analyze larger elements of form, including examples of binary and ternary form
- 5) Analyze examples of chromatic music from representative literature

Student Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Students will demonstrate the ability to integrate appropriate musical expression and knowledge into performance, using theoretical skills
- 2) Students will demonstrate the ability to research and prepare appropriate program notes using analytical and theoretical skills
- 3) Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate and critique a musical performance using analytical and theoretical skills

Attendance:

Regular, punctual attendance is essential for the educational objectives of this course to be achieved. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class.

In accordance with the *Sul Ross State University Student Handbook*, any student who accumulates more than nine (9) absences per semester may be dropped from a course at the instructor's discretion.

Students are responsible for all materials, activities, and announcements made when absent from class.

University-excused absences will allow students to make up or complete assignments incurred by absence without penalty. The following instances constitute a university-excused absence: 1) documented illness with note from a medical provider; 2) family emergency; 3) university-approved activity.

Major tests will be rescheduled in the case of a university-excused absence.

An unexcused absence shall result in a grade of zero for any quiz, daily assignment, or homework grade taken that day.

Two tardies shall equal one absence.

Students may not bring food or drink into the classroom, with the exception of bottled water.

Assignments:

Written homework assignments will be given at the end of most class meetings.

All assignments are due at the beginning of the next class unless otherwise announced.

Unexcused late assignments will be penalized 10 points per class meeting. No work will be accepted more than one week past its due date.

No penalty will be assessed for work completed upon return from a university-excused absence, provided such work is submitted in a timely manner.

Quizzes will be unannounced, and no rescheduling of quizzes will be allowed as a result. The lowest quiz grade (or grades) at the end of the semester, however, will be dropped. Quizzes given at the beginning of class may not be made up if a student arrives late, nor may any portion thereof be completed for credit.

All assignments must be submitted in pencil.

Redo Policy:

Unless otherwise specified, any graded homework assignment may be resubmitted *once* for a higher grade, provided such corrections are turned in on the day of the next class session following return of the original assignment. Corrections must be done on a separate sheet of paper attached to the original assignment. The grade for the corrected version will be averaged with the original grade. Unexcused late papers may not be resubmitted for a higher grade.

Missed Assignments, Quizzes, or Exams:

In the event of an unforeseen absence, extensions of time to take and/or complete daily assignments and/or exams may be granted on a case-by-case basis. The circumstances surrounding such extensions must be documented and advance notice given where possible.

Grading:

Homework	40%
Quizzes	10%
Tests	30%
Final Examination	20%

Letter grades will be based on the following percentages:

A+	100 -- 98	C+	79 -- 78
A	97 -- 93	C	77 -- 73
A-	92 -- 90	C-	72 -- 70
B+	89 -- 88	D+	69 -- 68
B	87 -- 83	D	67 -- 63
B-	82 -- 80	D-	62 -- 60
		F	Below 60

Course Credit:

To receive credit toward completion of degree requirements as a music major, a final grade of D or better is required for this course.

Academic Integrity:

Sul Ross State University expects all students to engage in academic pursuits with honesty and integrity both in and out of the classroom. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in any form (cheating, copying homework, looking at another student's test, etc.), and violations will be considered in light of policies stated in the *Sul Ross State University Student Handbook*. All academic dishonesty cases shall be considered initially by the faculty member and reviewed subsequently by both the academic department chair and the dean of the college.

Electronics:

Use of cell phones and other electronic devices (computers, MP3 players, recording devices, etc.) for non-emergency purposes during class is prohibited.

Disability:

Sul Ross State University is committed to providing equal access for all students, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class in which accommodations are needed. Students seeking accessibility services for this course should contact the ADA Coordinator for Program Accessibility, Mary Schwartze Grisham, M.Ed., LPC, SRSU Accessibility Services Coordinator, 112 Ferguson Hall. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832, or call (432) 837-8203 for more information about specific services available at Sul Ross State University.

Revisions to the Syllabus:

Every effort will be made to follow the course outline given below. Nonetheless, circumstances, events, or other unforeseen conditions may alter dates and/or topics listed, resulting in revisions to this document as the semester progresses.

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1	8/25	Introduction and Review
	8/27	Review
	8/29	Chromaticism and Altered Chords (Chapter 16)
Week 2	9/01	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
	9/03	Secondary Functions
	9/05	Secondary Dominant Chords
Week 3	9/08	Secondary Dominant Chords
	9/10	Secondary Dominant Chords
	9/12	Analyzing Secondary Dominant Chords
Week 4	9/15	Secondary Leading Tone Chords (Chapter 17)
	9/17	Secondary Leading Tone Chords
	9/19	Sequences with Secondary Leading Tone Chords
Week 5	9/22	Analyzing Secondary Leading Tone Chords
	9/24	Review
	9/26	TEST I (Chapters 16 and 17)
Week 6	9/29	Modulation with Diatonic Chords (Chapter 18)
	10/01	Common-Chord Modulation
	10/03	Common-Chord Modulation
Week 7	10/06	Analyzing Common-Chord Modulation
	10/08	Analyzing Common-Chord Modulation
	10/10	Other Modulatory Techniques (Chapter 19)
Week 8	10/13	Other Modulatory Techniques
	10/15	Review
	10/17	TEST II (Chapters 18 and 19)

Week 9	10/20	Larger Forms (Chapter 20)
	10/22	Binary and Ternary Form
	10/24	Binary and Ternary Form
Week 10	10/27	Rounded Binary Form
	10/29	Rounded Binary Form
	10/31	Sonata Form
Week 11	11/03	Sonata Form
	11/05	Rondo Form
	11/07	Rondo Form
Week 12	11/10	Mode Mixture; The Neapolitan Chord (Chapter 21)
	11/12	Mode Mixture; The Neapolitan Chord (Chapter 21)
	11/14	Review
Week 13	11/17	Test III (Chapters 20 and 21)
	11/19	The Augmented Sixth Chord (Chapter 22)
	11/21	The Augmented Sixth Chord
Week 14	11/24	The Augmented Sixth Chord
	11/26	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
	11/28	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
Week 15	12/01	Review for Final Exam
	12/03	Review for Final Exam

FINAL EXAMINATION: Friday, December 5, 10:15 A.M. – 12:15 P.M.