Midland College
MUSI 2311
Music Theory III

Course Description: First principles of chord progression and phrase harmonization. A study of more advanced chord structures and their placement within the phrase. The student receives a broad summary of classical harmony and then explores the techniques of the twentieth century. Written exercises, analysis, and correlated keyboard projects are required. Prerequisite: MUSI 1312.


Course Goals/Objectives: Upon successful completion of this instruction, students will:

A. be introduced to late Renaissance polyphony.
B. understand two-voice eighteenth-century counterpoint.
C. be introduced to the fugue.
D. understand borrowed chords.
E. employ the Neapolitan Sixth chord.
F. use the Augmented Sixth chord.
G. understand variation technique.
H. analyze movements in Sonata Form.
I. be able to demonstrate the objectives listed above on the keyboard. (Piano skills are not a prerequisite for keyboard theory.)
J. Learn to recognize intervals.

K. Recognize the various types of triads, major, minor, diminished and augmented.

L. Hear and recognize chords as they are played in simple harmonic progressions: harmonic dictation.

M. sing simple melodies at sight.
Student Responsibilities and Class Policies:

A. Class discussion: Assignments will be made each day for completion during class hours. Students may discuss these assignments among themselves as well as with the instructor.

B. Section assignments: Students will be required to turn in completed assignments which will cover each major section of the course as per the above course outline. These assignments will be graded (a percentage grade will be assigned.) These are due every other week.

C. Materials lab: A computer lab will be available outside of class hours so that students may work on their assignments on the computers. The instructor or a qualified lab assistant will be available for help with the computer programs and assignments. The computer lab will be available outside of class hours so that students may work on their ear-training assignments. Either the instructor or a qualified lab assistant will be available for help with the computer programs. The ear-training programs drill and evaluate students concerning ear-training skills.

D. Examinations: Examinations will be given after three major sections of the course as per the above course outline. Students will receive a percentage grade for each examination. A comprehensive final examination will be given during finals week at the end of the semester.

E. A weekly keyboard session will be held each Friday morning in the piano lab. A portion of the final semester grade will be based on your performance in the keyboard section of the course.
Evaluation of Students: Course Requirements

A. Attendance is extremely important to effective performance.
1. Three consecutive unexcused absences, or a total of six unexcused absences during the semester will have a detrimental effect on the student's grade in the course. Students who are excessively absent from class should talk with the instructor about the reasons for their absence.
2. It is sometimes advisable for students who are excessively absent from class to withdraw from the course. When a student is excessively absent from class, he/she will receive a warning letter from the Dean of Students. The student must then talk with the instructor regarding his absence from class or withdraw from the course. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO WITHDRAW FROM THE COURSE. Students with excessive unexcused absences who have not dropped the course will receive a failing grade for the term. This semester's withdrawal deadline is Nov 15.

B. Bi-weekly assignments will be assigned a percentage grade. A portion of the course final grade will be based on these bi-weekly assignments. The assignments must be legible. They must also be turned in on time. Five percentage points will be dropped from the grade for each day that the assignment is late.

C. Examinations will be given at the end of each major course section. Make-up exams will be considerably more difficult than the regular exams. If you have to miss an exam, it might be better to take it before the day that you have to be absent from class. Always inform the instructor when you must be absent from class. The final exam is comprehensive and will be based on the exams given during the semester. So keep your old exams and study them.

C. Bi-weekly Ear-Training meetings will be held with the instructor. During the meeting, the instructor will evaluate the student's progress in the following areas:

1. MacGamut-Students must complete MacGamut Ear-Training Exersizes to satisfy the ear-training requirement for the course.

2. Students must complete the Dannhäuser sight singing exercises in order to complete the course. Sight singing will be evaluated every two weeks. The assignments are listed in the course outline: For instance, the first Dannhäuser assignment will be one of the exercises from #1 to #21.

Evaluation Techniques

A. Attendance as outlined above

B. The keyboard portion of the grade will be as follows:

1. 50% of the keyboard grade will be based on the weekly graded
Class schedule: [Each instructor will make out a Class schedule. The schedule should include a outline of topics for the course - Which may be subject to change. There are sixteen weeks of instruction, including finals in long semesters - the length of summer and interim sessions vary]