

## SYLLABUS: MUT 4401 Counterpoint 1

# Class Information

Meeting time and location: M/W/F, 11:45-12:35, MUB 144

Instructor: Dr. Paul Richards, MUB 303

Phone: 352-273-3180

E-mail: [prichards@arts.ufl.edu](mailto:prichards@arts.ufl.edu)

Office Hours: TBA

Required Texts: Schubert, Peter. *Modal Counterpoint, Renaissance Style*.

New York: Oxford University Press, 2008. ISBN: 019533194X

Required Materials: staff paper, pencil, eraser

Prerequisite: a passing grade of C in MUT 2126 Theory of Music 3

# Course Description

For hundreds of years, the study of counterpoint has been considered an essential component in the education of a serious student of Western classical music, the distinguishing feature of which is its accommodation of multiple strains of complimentary musical discourse simultaneously. If the study of harmony in previous theory coursework introduces the individual components, or words if you will, of our musical language, then counterpoint addresses its syntax and grammar, and the study of contrapuntal techniques is therefore an integral part of speaking Western music with advanced fluency. This course covers two-voice counterpoint as practiced in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, roughly using the work of Palestrina and Bach as models. Through analysis, readings, performance, listening, and, above all, guided composition, we will explore the stylistic features and polyphonic practices of these eras, toward the larger goal of understanding the role and function of counterpoint in musics of all periods and styles, Western and non-Western alike.

# Course Requirements

Students will complete all reading, listening, and composition assignments on time (approximately one written assignment to be turned in per week). Late work will be accepted for half-credit up to one week after the original due date. I will frequently ask that you correct an assignment and resubmit it in a timely manner. In addition to regular homework, there will be two composition projects, and there may be quizzes assessing grasp of foundational material.

## Canvas Course

Course materials, grades, and announcements will be posted in the Canvas page for this course: <http://elearning.ufl.edu>Links to an external site.

## Grading

The final grading formula for the class is as follows (tentative and subject to change):

Homework = 60%  
2 Composition Projects = 30%  
Class participation and quizzes = 10%

and

E < 60

D- = 60-62      D = 63-66      D+ = 67-69

C- = 70-72      C = 73-76      C+ = 77-79

B- = 80-82      B = 83-86      B+ = 87-89

A- = 90-92      A = 93-100

More information on UF grading policy may be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/#gradestextLinks to an external site.>

## Course Schedule (tentative and subject to change)

Week 1 Introduction, Syllabus, Modes

Intro and Chapter 1: Modes and Notation

Week 2 Chapter 2: Melody and Cantus Firmus

Chapter 3: First Species

Week 3 Chapter 3: First Species

Chapter 4: Second Species

Week 4 Chapter 4: Second Species

Chapter 5: Third Species

Week 5 Chapter 5: Third Species

Chapter 6: Fourth Species

Week 6 Chapter 6: Fourth Species

Week 7 Begin Composition Project 1

Week 8 Chapter 7: Mixed Values

Week 9 Chapter 8-9: Motives and Variation

Week 10 Chapter 8-9: Motives and Variation

COMPOSITION PROJECT 1 DUE

Week 11 Chapter 13: Invertible Counterpoint

Week 12 Tonality

Week 13 Canon

Week 14 Harmonic Planning

Week 15 COMPOSITION PROJECT 2 DUE

Week 16 Performances

## Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/Links to an external site.> It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

## Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at [gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/Links to an external site.](http://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/Links to an external site.) Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [ufl.bluera.com/ufl/](http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). [Links to an external site.](#) Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at [gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/Links to an external site.](http://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/Links to an external site.)

# University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

## Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

## Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: <http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html> [Links to an external site.](#)

## Campus Resources: Health and Wellness

### U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

**Counseling and Wellness Center:** <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>Links to an external site., and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

### **Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)**

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

**University Police Department** at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <http://www.police.ufl.edu/Links to an external site.>

## **Academic Resources**

**E-learning technical support**, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>Links to an external site..

**Career Resource Center**, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://www.crc.ufl.edu/Links to an external site.>

**Library Support**, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>Links to an external site.. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

**Teaching Center**, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/Links to an external site.>

**Writing Studio**, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/Links to an external site.>

### **Student Complaints**

**Campus:** [https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF\\_Complaints\\_policy.pdf](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf)Links to an external site..

**On-Line Students Complaints:** <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>Links to an external site..