MUTH 2500 Spring 2023: Theory IV

- Instructor: Dr. David Bard-Schwarz
- Office: MU 104
- E-mail: http://"david.schwarz@unt.edu"

Course Description

In this course we will listen to music of the 20th Century and up to the present. Our goal--to respond to the music emotionally and then to use music theory to delve as deeply as we can into what in the text makes us feel that way. There are four modules each culminating in an in-class midterm exam:

- Module #1: 1/18 to 2/8: At the Threshold between tonality and (a)tonality
- Module #2: 2/13 to 3/6: Music composed between roughly 1905 and 1923 that is "atonal"
- Module #3: 3/8 to 4/17: Music composed after 1923 with is serial
- Module #4: 4/19 to 5/3: Music composed after 1945 that is very loosely called "postmodern"

Course Structure

Within each module, each day’s work will involve a piece of music that is provided in pdf format as well as a YouTube clip performance. You will be expected to listen to the work, to study the score, and to come to class prepared to ask questions about its musical language.

In class I will present to you the analytical techniques necessary for you to master to understand the musical language at hand.

At the end of each of the four modules, you will write an in-class midterm exam on a piece of music not covered in class; the work, however, will exhibit many of the characteristics of the works we discussed.
Here is a very brief overview of the music(s) we will discuss and their cultural significance:

Module #1: At the Threshold of the 20th Century: Systems of understanding traditional thought about people, culture, history, art begin to show signs of strain

Module #2: Atonality: Artists, Composers, Philosophers, Scientists search for what lies beneath appearances

Module #3: Serialism: The horrors of WWI and its aftermath bring a renewed sense of order to all areas of life, including music and art

Module #4: Postmodernism: the urge to move forward in ever more arcane approaches to music yield to a return to tonality, embracing quotation and citation as compositional devices, and reduction of surface complexity (new minimalism)

Grading

Grades will be determined as follows:

- Midterm #1 = 25%
- Midterm #2 = 25%
- Midterm #3 = 25%
- Midterm #4 = 25%

Course Prerequisites or Other Restrictions

Completion of MUTH 2400 and MUTH 2410 with a grade of C or better In order to be successful in this course you must:

- Devote at least 2 hours of work to the course each day not counting our class meetings.
- Use a robust internet connection and computer to communicate with colleagues as well as study and upload assignments.

Course Objectives

Having mastered the techniques in Module #1 you will demonstrate in your midterm exam an understanding of the following elements of music at the Thresholds of Modernism

- how traditional tonality functions in this music
- how extended chromatic techniques function in this music
- how whole tone scales function in this music
- how the octatonic collection functions in this music
- how the pentatonic collection functions in this music
- how paratactic fragmentation functions in this music
- how pitch centricity functions in this music

Having mastered the techniques in Module #2 you will demonstrate in your midterm exam an understanding of the following elements of atonal music written roughly between 1905 and 1923
• how traces of traditional tonality continue to mark this music
• how atonal pitch class theory reveals elements of cohesion in this music
• how ordered and unordered pitch intervals, ordered and unordered pitch class intervals function in this music
• how pitch class sets in normal and prime form function in this music
• how principles of segmentation effect analytic outcomes

Having mastered the techniques in Module #3 you will demonstrate in your midterm exam an understanding of the following elements of serial music written after 1945

• the structure of ordered pitch class elements of a 12-tone row
• the structure of trichordal, tetrachordal, and hexachordal partitions of a given row
• the structure of a 12-tone matrix
• the four permutations of a row (prime, inversion, retrograde, and retrograde inversion)
• the potential of a row to embody tonal principles
• how parameters of music other than pitch and pitch class effect the natural of serial musical language

Having mastered the techniques in Module #4 you will demonstrate in your midterm exam an understanding of the various techniques of postmodern music including:

• a return to tonality
• minimal textures
• quotation and citation as compositional devices
• an incorporation of silence and noise as musical materials
• the use of digital technology in music composition and performance

Materials


Teaching Philosophy

I believe in making this course interesting, relevant, culturally sensitive to equity and diversity, and thorough in terms of teaching you professional level mastery of the techniques of music analysis.

It is my responsibility to provide you with clear, concise, and competent materials for each day’s work within each module; these include pdf scores (where appropriate), videos (that are single shots with no internal editing, perfect audio and visual assets, and captioning), audio and video assets of the relevant works, and perfectly clear written assignments that I will return via Canvas graded with comments within one week of submission.

It is your responsibility to do each day’s work thoroughly, to communicate concerns that you have via the Canvas email feature, to participate actively in discussion boards, to submit assignments on time, to consider my written comments on papers, and to respond to them following the return of each written assignment.

Course Technology & Skills
To successfully engage with the materials of this course you will need to have basic Ms-Word skills in addition to music notation software

**Computer Skills and Digital Literacy**

You will also need to be familiar and comfortable with:
- Using Canvas
- Using email with attachments
- Downloading and installing software
- Using presentation and graphics programs

**Technical Assistance**

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu
Phone: 940-565-2324
In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130 Walk-In Availability: 8am-9pm Telephone Availability:
- Sunday: noon-midnight
- Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight
- Friday: 8am-8pm
- Saturday: 9am-5pm
Laptop Checkout: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit Canvas Technical Help [https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)

**Rules of Engagement**

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
- Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
- Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
- Avoid using “text-talk” unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
- Proofread and fact-check your sources.
- Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

**Course Requirements**
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm #1</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm #2</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm #3</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm #4</td>
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<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Points</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Grading Criteria for Exams**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Point/Percentage Range</th>
<th>Descriptive Criteria</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Clear, precise, and correct responses to questions applied to music appropriately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>An occasional mistake within an exam that is characterized by clear, precise, and correct responses to questions applied to music appropriately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>There are several mistakes and an only vague sense of appropriate application to the music at hand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Mostly major errors on the exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;19</td>
<td>No Exam</td>
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</tbody>
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Course Evaluation

Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT) is the student evaluation system for UNT and allows students the ability to confidentially provide constructive feedback to their instructor and department to improve the quality of student experiences in the course.

Course Policies Attendance

(UNT policy) Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is important that you communicate with the professor and the instructional team prior to being absent, so you, the professor, and the instructional team can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor and instructional team if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.
(Our policy) each unexcused absence will lower your final grade 2 points

Late Work

I will not accept late work in this course. All work turned in after the deadline will receive a grade of zero unless the student has an excused absence and provides documentation with 48 hours of the missed deadline.

Assignment Policy

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and contact the UNT Student Help Desk: helpdesk@unt.edu or 940.565.2324 and obtain a ticket number. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Instructor Responsibilities and Feedback

UNT Policies

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students (Office of Academic Integrity), who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term “cheating” includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The
term “plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.
See: Academic Integrity
LINK: https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003

STUDENT BEHAVIOR
Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.
See: Student Code of Conduct
Link: https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT
Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at my.unt.edu. All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect.
See: Eagle Connect
LINK: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ODA STATEMENT
The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter. You can now request your Letters of Accommodation ONLINE and ODA will mail your Letters of Accommodation to your instructors. You may wish to begin a private discussion with your professors regarding your specific needs in a course. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access.
See: ODA
LINK: disability.unt.edu. (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

UNT Policy Statement on Diversity
UNT values diversity and individuality as part of advancing ideals of human worth, dignity and academic excellence. Diverse viewpoints enrich open discussion, foster the examination of values and exposure of biases, help educate people in rational conflict resolution and responsive leadership, and prepare us for the complexities of a pluralistic society. As such, UNT is committed to maintaining an open, welcoming atmosphere that attracts qualified students, staff, and faculty from all groups to support their success. UNT does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, or
veteran status in its application and admission process, educational programs and activities, employment policies and use of university facilities. See: Diversity and Inclusion Link: https://idea.unt.edu/diversity-inclusion

Health and Safety Information
Students can access information about health and safety at: https://music.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness

Registration Information for Students
See: Registration Information Link: https://registrar.unt.edu/students

Academic Calendar, Spring 2023
See: Spring 2023 Academic Calendar Link: https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-registration-guide

Final Exam Schedule, Spring 2023
See: Spring 2023 Final Exam Schedule Link: https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/spring

Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress

Undergraduates
A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total hours registered. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

Students holding music scholarships must maintain a minimum 2.5 overall cumulative GPA and 3.0 cumulative GPA in music courses.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended that you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course before doing so.
See: Financial Aid LINK: http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap

Graduates
A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Music scholarships require a 3.5 cumulative GPA. Students cannot exceed maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose
their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended you schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college, an advisor in UNT-International or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course.

See: Financial Aid
LINK: http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap

RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS
Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university’s policy in accordance with those mandates.

See: FERPA
Link: http://ferpa.unt.edu/

COUNSELING AND TESTING
UNT’s Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor whose position includes 16 hours per week of dedicated service to students in the College of Music and the College of Visual Arts and Design. Please visit the Center’s website for further information:

See: Counseling and Testing
Link: http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services.

For more information on mental health issues, please visit:
See: Mental Health Issues
Link: https://speakout.unt.edu.

The counselor for music students is:
Myriam Reynolds
Chestnut Hall, Suite 311
(940) 565-2741
Myriam.reynolds@unt.edu

ADD/DROP POLICY
Please be reminded that dropping classes or failing to complete and pass registered hours may make you ineligible for financial aid. In addition, if you drop below half-time enrollment you may be required to begin paying back your student loans. After the 12th class day, students may drop a class up until the deadline through their my.unt portal. The last day for a student to drop a class in Spring 2023 is April 7. See Academic Calendar (listed above) for additional add/drop Information.
Svensson: 

**STUDENT RESOURCES**
The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to:
See: Student Resources
Link: [https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources](https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources)
(Note: A printer-friendly PDF version is available by clicking the green button on the home page)

**CARE TEAM**
The Care Team is a collaborative interdisciplinary committee of university