MUTH 5420/3420 Spring 2023: 18th Century Counterpoint

Name of Instructor: Dr. David Bard-Schwarz  
Pronouns: he / him  
Office Location: MU 104  
Office Hours: MWF 1 to 2 p.m.  
Email: David.Schwarz@unt.edu

Course Description

In this class we will study the extraordinary art of 18th Century Music with an emphasis on the music of J. S. Bach (see portrait above). Our study will lead to composition and analysis; you will write very short daily pieces and short analytical studies that embody the general principles under discussion.

In Module #1: 1/18 to 1/25: you will do analytic work on the Bach Prelude no. 1 in C major from the Well Tempered Clavier that represents several basic analytical tools you shall be using throughout the course.

In Module #2: 2/10 to 2/8: you will apply the techniques introduced in Module #1 to Bach Suites for Solo Cell
In Module #3: 2/10 to 2/27: you will compose melodies based on some of the techniques you will have studied from Module #2.

In Module #4: 2/20 to 3/24: you will compose two-voice counterpoint based on the principles of 18th Century counterpoint.

In Module #5: 3/27 to 4/3: you will compose three-voice counterpoint based on the principles of 18th Century counterpoint.

In Module #6: 4/5 to 5/3: you will analyze the structure of selected fugues from the Well-Tempered Clavier. Your final project will incorporate material from all the modules above into your composition of a three-voice fugal exposition.

Communication Expectations

Please communicate with me via the Canvas email feature; I’ll check email several times each teaching day (and often as well on days during the week when I don’t teach); on the weekends I shall check email Sunday evenings after 6 p.m.

Course Structure

You will do short, written work for 29 of our classes (each worth two points if perfect) = 58 points in addition to a final composition project (a three-voice fugal exposition for piano worth 42 points) = 100. Written work for each class day is due at the beginning of class on the day the assignment is due. I ask that all work be written in clear, dark pencil on staff paper. Submit all compositions as pdfs of hand-written, very clear work. All work must contain all elements of music (clefs, meter signature; key signature; tempo / character markings); all work must have your name in the upper-right hand corner and all components of the assignment must be present to receive credit. I can accept no late work unless excused due to UNT / COM official activities or illness.

You may ask a fellow member of class what they think about your work before you hand it in; that person must not write anything on your work but communicate their impressions aurally. Such consultations need not be disclosed. Any other assistance or taking material from a published source constitutes plagiarism; if found and documented, I will initiate disciplinary action.

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 3 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

Upon successful completion of the course, you will have mastered the musical style of 18th Century music (represented through the work of J. S. Bach) through daily analytical and compositional written
work in single-voice, two-voice and three-voice strict and free counterpoint. You will do analytical work in Modules 1 and 2; you will do compositional work in Modules 3, 4, and 5; and then analytical work in the final module 6 leading to your final fugal exposition composition assignment due on the last day of class. There is no final exam.
Having mastered the techniques in Module #1 you will demonstrate understanding of the following elements of Bach's Prelude no. 1 in C major from book I of the Well-Tempered Clavier:

- harmony (both roman numeral / scale step as well as functional)
- consonance and dissonance, with an emphasis on resolutions of the leading tone, all chord member sevenths and tritones (both as augmented fourths and diminished fifths).
- sequences (with an emphasis on marking beginning and ending delimiters; the technique of transposition; and (if broken) both where and the musical effect of, the "jumping off" point.
- dominant and tonic complexes (understood as supported by simple, underlying prolongation by means of a single bass not (scale degree 5 for the dominant; scale degree 1 for the tonic) supporting more complex surface motions.

Having mastered the techniques in Module #2 you will write concise analyses of selected Suites for Solo Cello by Bach that exemplify:

- the principles of the Baroque melody as described by Robert Gauldin
- how Bach implies harmony in the single voice
- how Bach composes sequences in the single voice
- how Bach composes compound melody in the single voice
- how Bach composes dominant and tonic complexes in the single voice

Having mastered the techniques in Module #3 you will write stylistically appropriate and correct short that exemplify in two-voice counterpoint:

- stylistically appropriate features of Baroque melody
- stylistically appropriate harmonic intervals
- stylistically appropriate melodic motion
- stylistically appropriate harmonic implications
- stylistically appropriate voice-leading

Having mastered the techniques in Module #4 you will write stylistically appropriate and correct short pieces that exemplify in two-voice counterpoint:

- note against note techniques
- diminution techniques in 2:1 contexts
- diminution techniques in 3:1 contexts
- diminution techniques in 4:1 contexts
- real imitation
- tonal imitation
- double counterpoint at the octave
- double counterpoint at the twelfth
- double counterpoint at the tenth

Having mastered the techniques in Module #5 you will write stylistically appropriate and correct short pieces that exemplify in three-voice counterpoint:
- note against note techniques
• counterpoint with elaborations (consonant)
• counterpoint with elaborations (dissonant)
• the fugue (history and background of)
• the fugal exposition
• the fugal answer and episode
• the fugal re-entry of the subject
• the fugal redundant subject entry

Having mastered the techniques in Module #6 you will write stylistically appropriate and correct short analyses that exemplify:

• mastery of the musical language of Bach's Fugue in C minor from WTC book I
• mastery of the musical language of Bach's Fugue in C-sharp minor from WTC book I
• mastery of the musical language of Bach's Fugue in D minor from WTC book I

Having composed a three-voice fugal exposition for piano you will have demonstrated to yourself and others mastery of one of the most beautiful procedures for the generation and transformation of musical materials according to the aesthetics and techniques of the 18th Century.

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:

• Computer
• Reliable internet access
• Speakers
• Microphone
Computer Skills & 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

UIT Help Desk: [UIT Student Help Desk site](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)
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)

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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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily Assignments 29 @ 2 points each</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Composition Project</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Points Possible</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
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Grading Criteria for daily 2 point work

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Point/Percentage Range</th>
<th>Descriptive Criteria</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Work that reflects a secure grasp of general principles of the assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Work flawed by errors that suggest a basic lack of knowledge of general principles of the assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Work either not handed in or so seriously flawed it contains no information pertaining to general principles</td>
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Grading Criteria for final composition project (three-voice fugal exposition for piano) 20 points

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Point/Percentage Range</th>
<th>Descriptive Criteria</th>
</tr>
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A | 42 | 1) The subject is well composed;
2) the answer is perfect (either tonal or real);
3) the counterpoint to the answer has a viable deep structure;
4) the episode is a skillful example of free, three-voice counterpoint leading to a cadence that is stylistically appropriate in both form and content.

B | 38 | There is a flaw of one of the above criteria

C | 34 | There is a flaw in two of the above criteria

D | 31 | There is a flaw in three of the above

F | 0 | There is a flaw in all four of the above criteria

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

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.

If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Team at COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure.

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 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 that 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.

Drop Instructions: https://registrar.unt.edu/dropping-courses

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
(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