

MUTH 2500: Theory IV
Fall 2017

Dr. Gillian Robertson

Office: MU260B

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Office Hours: Tues/Thurs: 9:00–10:00 am, Fri: 2:00–3:00 pm, and by appointment.

Section 002 (MW 10:00 am – 10:50 am: MU2006)

Section 003 (MW 11:00 pm – 11:50 am: MU2006)

Course Description: This course focuses primarily on common compositional techniques and the harmonic vocabulary of twentieth-century musical practice. We will focus first on diatonic modes and symmetrical scales, symmetry, before moving into atonal set theory and twelve-tone techniques.

Pre-Requisites: MUTH 2400 (Theory III) and MUTH 2410 (Aural Skills III), both with a grade of C or better.

Co-Requisite: MUTH 2510 (Aural Skills IV)

Required Course Materials:

1. Materials posted on Blackboard
2. Binder, notebook, or folder
3. Staff paper, pencil and eraser
4. Access to music notation software (e.g. MuseScore, Finale, Sibelius)

Course Objectives: In this course, students will develop music literacy necessary for the appreciation of the vast musical ideas and styles of the twentieth century. Students will develop appropriate analytical tools that will allow them to understand, appreciate, and communicate critically about the many of the underlying structures and compositional processes of twentieth century art music.

Attendance: Gaining fluency in music takes consistent practice so I expect you to attend every class. If you do miss class for any reason, you are responsible for knowing the material covered that day and for submitting all assignments on time. Besides failing to show up, unexcused absences include sleeping in class and leaving class early without a good reason. Three tardy arrivals (more than 5 minutes late) are equivalent to one unexcused absence. Unexcused absences are monitored according to the following schedule:

- 0–3 absences: no questions asked
- 4–5 absences: final grade lowered by 10% (e.g. 92% drops to 82%)
- 6 absences: withdrawn (WF) automatically

Excused absences include official University or College of Music activities, medical emergencies and illnesses, religious observances (including travel for that purpose), active military duty (including travel for that purpose), pregnancy and parenting under Title IX, and other extenuating circumstances on a case-by-case basis (e.g. death of immediate family member).

Excused absences do not count against your attendance or lower your grade and accommodations will be made for you to complete or turn in any missed work or assessment within a reasonable amount of time after the absence. You are responsible for requesting an excused absence in writing and for providing satisfactory evidence for the absence. Please contact me ASAP by email (prior to the absence whenever possible) with the reason and documentation. If you expect to be absent for several days or weeks, please contact the Dean of Students Office. If you have a chronic medical condition that might affect your class attendance or performance, please see the Office of Disability Accommodations.

Due to a variety of class sizes throughout the core, attendance may be checked in a variety of ways, such as calling roll, assigned seating, scanning IDs, impromptu quizzes, turning in homework, etc.

Grading:

Course Assessments		Grade Percentages
Homework Assignments	35%	A (90–100%)
Quizzes	10%	B (80–89%)
Midterm Exam	20%	C (70–79%)
Composition Project	10%	D (60–69%)
Analytical Paper and Presentation	25%	F (0–59%)

*A grade of C or higher is required to pass the course

Homework: Homework assignments can be found listed on Blackboard (please check our Blackboard site on a regular basis, <https://learn.unt.edu>). Assignments are due at the beginning of class (usually on Mondays) and must be completed neatly **in pencil** or typed in a word processor (when applicable) and stapled together.

Late Policy: assignments turned in after the beginning of class on the day they are due are considered late. Late assignments will be penalized a 10% deduction. Homework assignments will not be accepted more than one class late.

Excused Absence Policy: if you have an excused absence, turn in your homework before the day you miss, if possible (e.g. College of Music activity), or within a reasonable amount of time following the absence as determined in consultation with me.

Since we all have an off-day from time to time, your lowest homework assignment grade will be dropped at the end of the semester.

You are expected to complete course assessments independently. Please ask me for clarification if you are unsure about the instructions or direction of an assignment before it is due. **Do not** collaborate with other students on assignments or online quizzes (see the Academic Integrity section for more details).

Quizzes: there will be a number of in-class quizzes throughout the semester that will test new skills such as mode/collection construction and identification, integer notation, and matrix construction etc.

Midterm Exam: there will be an in-class midterm exam at the end of week 8 (Wed. Oct. 18).

Composition Project: you will be composing a short twelve-tone piece for your instrument and if time permits, we will have in-class performances. Projects turned in after the beginning of class on the day they are due are considered late and will be penalized a 10% deduction. Projects will not be accepted more than one class late.

Short Analytical Paper and Presentation: at the end of the semester you will be completing a short analytical paper on a twentieth-century piece of your choice (with instructor approval) as well as an in-class presentation on this piece.

Technology: cell phones and other electronic devices (e.g. laptops) **are not** to be used during class time. You will need access to music notation software (available in the computer lab) for one of the projects and possibly some homework assignments. Here is the link to download a free software program called MuseScore, if you would like it on your own personal computer:
<https://musescore.org>

Access To Information – Eagle Connect: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

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.

Academic Integrity: <http://facultysuccess.unt.edu/academic-integrity>

Students caught cheating, plagiarizing, copying another student's work, or willingly allowing another student to copy his/her own work will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students, 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.

Student Behavior: <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

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 classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

ODA: Phone: (940) 565-4323 or Email: disability.unt.edu

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation.

Financial Aid And Satisfactory Academic Progress: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>
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 registered hours per term. 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 being doing so.

Retention Of Student Records: <http://ferpa.unt.edu/>

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 Blackboard 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.

Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT): www.spot.unt.edu

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The SPOT survey will be made available November 20 – December 7 to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. For the fall 2017 semester you will receive an email on November 20 (12:01 a.m.) from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystemNotification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Please look for the email in your UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete your survey. Once you complete the survey you will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website or email spot@unt.edu.

Other Important Links

- **2017–2018 Semester Academic Schedule:** <http://catalog.unt.edu/content.php?catoid=17&navoid=1737>
- **Academic Calendar (2017–2018):** <https://www.unt.edu/catalogs/2017-18/calendar>
- **Final Exam Schedule:** <http://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/fall>

Tentative Course Schedule: subject to change with advance notice. Please check Blackboard for the most up-to-date information.

Week	Date	Topics
1	M: Aug. 28	Introduction to Course, Diatonic Modes
	W: Aug. 30	Diatonic Modes; Pentatonic, Whole Tone, and Octatonic Collections; Integer Notation
2	M: Sept. 4	Labor Day (no class)
	W: Sept. 6	Pentatonic, Whole Tone, Octatonic, and other collections
3	M: Sept. 11	Octave and Enharmonic Equivalence, Pitch vs. Pitch Class
	W: Sept. 13	Quiz 1 Tonality vs. Atonality; Set Theory (intervals)
4	M: Sept. 18	Set theory: intervals
	W: Sept. 20	Set theory: pc sets and normal order
5	M: Sept. 25	Set theory: normal order
	W: Sept. 27	Quiz 2 Set theory: transposition
6	M: Oct. 2	Set theory: transposition and inversion
	W: Oct. 4	Set theory: inversion
7	M: Oct. 9	Set theory: prime form, set class
	W: Oct. 11	Quiz 3 Set theory: characteristic set classes, subsets/supersets
8	M: Oct. 16	Review
	W: Oct. 18	Midterm Exam
9	M: Oct. 23	Ordered Segments, Operations on pitch classes
	W: Oct. 25	Twelve-tone: row recognition, matrix
10	M: Oct. 30	Twelve-tone: row recognition, matrix
	W: Nov. 1	Twelve-tone: derived rows
11	M: Nov. 6	Twelve-tone: hexachordal combinatoriality
	W: Nov. 8	Quiz 4 Twelve-tone: other techniques
12	M: Nov. 13	Integral serialism
	W: Nov. 15	Rhythm, centricity, form
13	M: Nov. 20	Rhythm, centricity, form
	W: Nov. 22	Compositions due (Performances?)

Week	Date	Topics
14	M: Nov. 27	Continue performances? Other styles, trends
	W: Nov. 29	Other styles trends
15	M: Dec. 4	Student Presentation
	W: Dec. 6	Student Presentations
<u>Analytical Paper Due:</u> during exam week (TBA)		

*Syllabus subject to change with fair notice