

Theory III (MUTH 2400)

Fall 2025

Dr. Justin Lavacek

Syllabus

MW 8:00-8:50am

room MU 258

Prerequisite: MUTH 1500 and 1510, both with a grade of C or better.

Corequisite: MUTH 2410 (Aural Skills III)

Email: Justin.Lavacek@unt.edu

Office: MU 212

Office Hours: MW 11-12 or by appt. on Zoom

Zoom: <https://unt.zoom.us/j/7852149382>

No required text- or workbook, although the Laitz *Complete Musician* textbook used in Theory 1-2 may be a valuable source of review notes (also in library). Everything used in class (e.g. musical scores for analysis and class notes) and all graded assignments will be provided on Canvas. You may use a digital device like an iPad in class only if you can write/take notes on the PDF scores. I will bring handouts for those who prefer paper.

Broad Course Goals:

Continue developing musical literacy through analysis, as important to informed and rewarding listening and performance of music in the Western music tradition. Theory III focuses on 19th-century Romantic chromatic harmony, voice leading, phrase structure, and form, with some forays into popular music and analytical techniques of the 20th century.

Specific Course Goals:

Adding to the analytical toolbox of Theory 1-2 through study of: chromatic harmony & voice leading, expanded and even exceeded tonality, complex phrase types and phrase rhythms, form, chromatic transformations and modulation by third, music and text relations, and highly complex surface progressions expressive of the usual 18th-century functional progressions.

Grading (subject to change)

8 HWs	20 pts x 8	160 pts
3 tests	100 pts x 3	300 pts
<u>1 final exam</u>	100 pts	<u>100 pts</u>
total		560 points for the semester, grade as a percentage of this

A: 90-100%, B: 80-89%, C: 70-79%, D: 60-69%, F: less than 60%

The penalty for late work is 10% per school day.

Attendance

Arriving more than 5 minutes late to class three times will result in one recorded absence. Arriving more than 25 minutes late (half the class) is an absence. Four unexcused absences can result in the final grade dropping by one letter grade. Six unexcused absences can result in being dropped from the course with a WF (withdraw failing). If you miss a class, you are responsible for the assigned homework and for knowing what was covered in class (see the daily schedule on Canvas). Please come for extra help at office hours.

Excused absences include official University or College of Music activities, medical emergencies, and illnesses. Excused absences do not count against your attendance or lower your grade. Absences to work a job are not excused absences. If you have a situation that might affect your class attendance or performance, please see the Office of Disability Accommodations for assistance.

Exams and Homeworks

Homeworks are found on Canvas, submitted through Canvas, and graded on Canvas. All graded work you submit must be your own work. Do not work with anyone else on a graded assignment, as described in the Academic Integrity section below.

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)

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, Fall 2025

See: [Fall 2025 Registration Information](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

Final Exam Schedule, Fall 2025

See above

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>

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 for students in need. 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 resources, please visit:

See: [Mental Health Resources](#)

Link: <https://disparities.unt.edu/mental-health-resources>

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. See Academic Calendar (listed above) for additional add/drop Information.

Drop Information: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

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>

CARE TEAM

The Care Team is a collaborative interdisciplinary committee of university officials that meets regularly to provide a response to student, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others.

See: [Care Team](#)

Link: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team>

Theory III				Fall 2025
MUTH 2400				MW 8-8:50am
Dr. Lavacek				room: MU 258
<u>Week</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Graded work due</u>
1	M	18-Aug	review Theory II: roman numeral & harmonic functions, NCTs, cadences	
	W	20-Aug	review: 6/4 chords, secondary dominants	
2	M	25-Aug	review: tonicization, modulation	HW 1: review (all HWs on Canvas)
	W	27-Aug	review: sequences	
3	M	1-Sep	LABOR DAY (no classes)	
	W	3-Sep	review: phrase types & phrase rhythm	HW 2: review (tonicization/modulation)
4	M	8-Sep	advanced phrase types & phrase rhythm II	
	W	10-Sep	<i>practice test 1</i>	HW 3: phrase types
5	M	15-Sep	Test 1: weeks 1-4 material	TEST 1
	W	17-Sep	lead sheet notation	
6	M	22-Sep	chromatic harmony: Neapolitan chord	HW 4: lead sheet notation
	W	24-Sep	chromatic harmony: aug6 chord(s)	
7	M	29-Sep	chromatic harmony: Neapolitan chord & aug6 chord(s)	
	W	1-Oct	chromatic harmony II: voice leading (N6 and aug6)	
8	M	6-Oct	chromatic harmony extra: omnibus progression, CTo7	HW 5: N6 & aug6
	W	8-Oct	<i>practice test 2</i>	
9	M	13-Oct	Test 2: weeks 5-8 material	TEST 2
	W	15-Oct	mode mixture	
10	M	20-Oct	mode mixture II: voice leading	
	W	22-Oct	mode mixture III	
11	M	27-Oct	harmonizing a melody	HW 6: mode mixture
	W	29-Oct	harmonizing a melody II	
12	M	3-Nov	binary & ternary form: review	HW 7: melody harmonization
	W	5-Nov	music and text (songs), including binary form	
13	M	10-Nov	3rd relations	HW 8: binary form
	W	12-Nov	3rd relations II: voice leading	
14	M	17-Nov	<i>practice test 3</i>	
	W	19-Nov	Test 3: weeks 9-12 material	TEST 3
	M	24-Nov	Thanksgiving Break (no classes)	
	W	26-Nov	Thanksgiving Break (no classes)	
15	M	1-Dec	review: Haydn Symphony 103 Minuet	
	W	3-Dec	<i>final exam cumulative review</i>	
		8-Dec	FINAL EXAM (8:00am - 10:00am, unmovable)	FINAL EXAM