

Explorations in Music II

MUTH 1350

Spring 2026

Instructor: Jiaqi Sun

Email: jiaqisun2@my.unt.edu

Office hour: by appointment

Classroom: MU 258

Coordinator: Dr. David Heetderks (David.Heetderks@unt.edu)

Class meeting time: MWF 8:00-8:50am

Prerequisite: Tested out MUTH 1300 or got “C” or higher

Credits: 3 credit hours. These may not be applied to a music degree.

Required Materials

None. All the class materials will be posted on Canvas.

Pencil with eraser or electronic tablets, and manuscript paper.

<https://learnmusictheory.net/>

<https://www.teoria.com/>

If you would like additional practice, see this textbook:

The Musician’s Guide to Fundamentals, 3rd edition, by Jane Piper Clendinning, Elizabeth West Marvin, and Joel Phillips (W.W. Norton, 2018).

Course Goals

This semester, we will explore the formal and stylistic features of musical styles from around the world. We will review types of chords (including seventh chords and other types), diatonic and non-diatonic scales, different levels of metric cycles, rhythmic motives, tonal centricity, and the balance consonance and dissonance. We will learn how these elements are used for expressive or structural purposes in different types of music. In addition, we will learn about some important means of formal organization for instrumental and vocal music in different types of music.

Graded work

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| Homework: | 35 % |
| Unit 1 &2 Exams | 30 % |
| In-class Performance | 20 % |
| Final Exam | 15% |

Grading Scale

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| A | 89.50 % - 100 % |
| B | 80.00 % - 89.49 % |
| C | 70.00 % - 79.50 % |
| D | 60.00 % - 69.50 % |
| F | lower than 60 % |

*Note:

- The homework includes written and video submission assignments. All written assignments must be completed neatly **in pencil** or on electronic tablets (using apps like Goodnotes, Notability, etc.). The video submission assignments should be eligible to assess and in good qualities. All homework should be submitted **via Canvas** before the due time. **No late submissions will be accepted.** No other submission methods will be accepted unless approved by the instructor.

- There will be **three** in-person exams. No make-up exams will be given unless official documentation is provided.
- In-class performance includes participation, quizzes, and other related activities. Detailed instructions will be provided in class.

Attendance

Gaining fluency in music takes consistent practice, therefore attending **EVERY** class is highly expected. It is your responsibility to get missing handouts, assignments, etc. for days that you are absent.

According to UNT's policy, a student's absence may be excused for the following reasons: religious holy day observances, active military service, official University or College of Music functions, medical emergencies and illnesses, pregnancy and parenting under Title IX, official University closure by UNT's President, 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.

If you have a chronic medical condition that might affect your class attendance or performance, please see the Office of Disability Accommodations. Students who will miss class because of a religious observance should make arrangements to make up the material. Please contact the instructor prior to the event whenever possible with proper proof or documentation.

If you have traffic problems (including the unexpected accidents or hazardous road conditions, unexpected vehicle problems) or other family emergencies, please email me with proper proof or documentation. **Please note that excuses such as "living too far away" do not qualify as excused absences. Students are expected to manage their time and transportation effectively to ensure they can attend all classes punctually. It is essential to account for travel time and any potential delays to avoid being late or missing class.**

Arriving to class more than **5 minutes** late three times will result in one recorded absence.

Arriving more than **10 minutes** late is counted as an unexcused absence.

Unexcused absences are monitored according to the following schedule:

- 0–4 absences: no questions asked
- 5–7 absences: final grade reduction by 10%
- 8 absences: automatic fail

Due to the large class sizes of this class, attendance may be checked in a variety of ways, such as calling roll, assigned seating, scanning IDs, impromptu quizzes, turning in-class practices, etc. Besides failing to show up, unexcused absences include being non-responsive in class, being unwilling to participate in class activities, leaving class early without the permission by the instructor.

Leaving the classroom frequently can disrupt the instructor's teaching effectiveness and your classmates' learning experience. It is highly recommended that you use the bathroom before class begins. Frequently leaving the classroom during the class will lower your "in-class performance" grade. **Leaving the classroom for aggregately more than 10 minutes during the class will be**

counted as an unexcused absence. This policy is in place to address situations where students attend class but leave for extended periods. If you have medical conditions that require frequent leaving of the classroom, please contact the instructor with documentation.

Technology policy

All class materials, including notes, music recordings/videos, scores and grades will be posted on Canvas. You should have access on <https://canvas.unt.edu>.

You may use laptops and electronic tablets for notetaking and in-class practice. However, **phone use is prohibited during class.** Engaging other activities, such as doing assignments for other classes or browsing unrelated contents on your electronic devices, will lower your "in-class performance" grade.

NO electronic devices are permitted in any exam. Catching using electronic devices in exam is the violation of academic integrity rules. This will cause a "ZERO" for your exam and the behavior will be reported to the academic integrity department.

****updated for Spring 2026****

Course Syllabi Information

For complete information on course syllabi requirements, please see the [university's policy](#). (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-049>)

In addition to the information below, course syllabi should minimally include the following information:

- Course Title and Course Number
- Course Objectives
- Instructor Office Hours
- Attendance Expectations
- Grading Criteria
- Statement on timely return of student work, particularly final exams or final projects
- Statement that students should not schedule their end-of-semester jury against a regularly scheduled class
- For Faculty, Teaching Fellows and Adjuncts:
 - ✓ All undergraduate syllabi for lecture courses are required by law to be available to the public. **At UNT, undergraduate syllabi for lecture courses should be uploaded into the Faculty Information System by the 7th class day.**
 - To access the Faculty Information System, go to your my.unt home page. Under the Faculty Tab, click on Faculty Information System.
 - ✓ UNT requires that all graduate course syllabi to be uploaded into FIS.

Rather than including the text for the information below, it is also an option to include the links in course syllabi and review the information on the first day of class.

DEFIBRILLATORS IN THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC

- Music Building: Across from the west side of the Music Commons, directly across from the elevator
- Music Building: Third floor hallway, across from the staircase that comes up from the Copy Room. Next to Room 322
- Music Building: Across from the Copy Room next to Room 293
- Music Building: Voertman Lobby by the big double set of doors that lead out to the courtyard
- Music Building: Main Office (247) under the student worker's desk
- Music Annex: Next to room MA117, near the triple set of doors on the east side of the building
- Music Practice Building North: First floor on the Avenue C side
- Music Practice Building South: First floor on the Avenue C side
- Bain Hall: First floor by the restrooms
- Murchison Performing Arts Center: Located off the main lobby, beyond the grand staircase, across from the single occupancy restroom (next to the public water fountains)

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: [Spring Academic Calendar Information](#)

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

Semester Calendar, Spring 2026

See: [Spring Semester Calendar](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/sites/default/files/spring-2026-academic-calendar.pdf>

Final Exam Schedule, Spring 2026

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>

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 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/spring-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>