

MUTH2500 Theory IV (Section 2500.004)

Spring 2026

Credit hours: 2.0

Course meeting time and place: Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:00-10:50am, MU322

Instructor Name: Pak Hei Leung

Email: pakheileung@my.unt.edu

Office: TBC

Office hour: TBC/by appointment

Course Objectives:

This course focuses primarily on common compositional techniques and the harmonic vocabulary of twentieth-century musical practice. We will primarily focus on diatonic modes, symmetrical scales, set theory and twelve-tone technique. Other topics include bitonality, rhythm and meter, as well as modernist and postmodernist traits and approaches after 1945.

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 Materials:

- Pencils, erasers, notebook, and staff paper
- Printed copies of all handouts, class materials, and homework

Recommended Reading:

- Introduction to Post-Tonal Theory (Fourth Edition). Joseph Straus. Norton, 2016.

Grading:

Homework (10 in total): 40% (@4% each)

Tests (3 in total): 30% (@10% each)

Final Project: 15%

Attendance and Participation: 15%

Grading scale:

A: >=90% B: 80%-89.9% C: 70%-79.9% D: 60%-69.9% F: <60%

Homework:

Ten homework will be assigned throughout the semester (please refer to Course Schedule for exact dates). Please submit printed hard copies to me in-person at the start of the class on the due dates. Please work independently on these assignments—please come up with your own answers instead of working together with your classmates. You are encouraged to reach out to me through email or schedule an appointment with me if you have any questions regarding the homework. I am happy to help!

If you have to submit the assignments late, please email me prior to the due dates (all of them are on Monday) and time (which is, the start of the class on that day). **If you have emailed me ahead of time**, I would usually be happy give you a 48-hour extension and ask you to submit it at the start of the class on Wednesday instead, given that these remain as occasional occurrences. Any further extensions will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Any **unexcused** late submissions (i.e., if you have not emailed me beforehand) will not be accepted, unless there is a compelling reason.

Tests:

Three Tests will be taken place in-person during the semester (please refer to Course Schedule for exact dates). If you cannot come to class on those days, please email me prior to the start of the tests to schedule a make-up exam.

Attendance and Participation:

Attendance, punctuality and active class participation are crucial to success in this course. Students are expected to actively participate in the course, including being prepared for class by completing all assigned reading and listening materials, as well as engaging in class activities and discussions. As stated by the University Policy (<https://policy.unt.edu/sites/policy.unt.edu/files/06.039%20Student%20Attendance%20and%20Authorized%20Absences.pdf>), students will be excused for religious holy day, participation in an official university function, required military service, pregnancy and parenting, as well as when the University is officially closed. Unexcused absences could affect not only the attendance, but also the participation portion of this part of the rubric. For anticipated absences with a valid reason, students should contact the instructor through email before class, notifying the instructor of the situation and explaining the reason(s) behind the absence. If you are feeling unwell, please send me a quick heads-up prior to class time (if possible), and send me a doctor's note afterwards. Students with six or more unexcused absences may receive a failing grade (F) at the instructor's discretion.

Final Project:

Students will work on a final composition project, which is due at the end of the day (23:59), on May 2 (Saturday), which is the final exam day for this course. Please submit this project electronically on Canvas. More details and a rubric will be provided later in the semester. Please note that unless there is an emergency or a compelling reason, late submissions will **NOT** be accepted for the Final Project.

Return of Student Works:

The instructor will aim to grade and return students' assignments in a week's time, with the exception of emergency situation, in which case students will be notified. For example, if an assignment is due on Monday, the instructor will have them graded and returned in class on the Monday after at the latest. Grades will be posted on Canvas around that time. If the student does not attend the class, the instructor will return the assignment to that student the class after. For final projects and exams, students can expect grades and comments to be posted on Canvas within 72 hours after deadline of submission.

Scheduling of End-of-semester Jury:

Students should not schedule their end-of-semester jury against a regularly scheduled class. Please refer to the course schedule for class meeting time and avoid scheduling end-of-semester jury during those dates and time.

Generative AI (Artificial Intelligence) Policy:

Throughout the semester, using Generative AI (GenAI) tools (mainly Large Language Models (LLMs) like ChatGPT) to generate (in particular, text) responses in your Homework and Final Project is not allowed. However, using AI tools for spelling and grammar checks (e.g., Grammarly) for correct errors from individual words and/or very short phrases (i.e., a few words) is allowed. I would not recommend using tools like Grammarly to paraphrase phrases and sentences, as they often do not give the most suitable results in the context of your writing. However, if you have a compelling reason to do so, please make sure you disclose that you have used it (and how) in the assignment. Please evaluate suggestions given from these tools very carefully.

In this course, I may use GenAI to enhance the visual aspect of course materials (e.g., PowerPoint slides), and/or occasionally to proofread (for spellings and grammar). I will always disclose how I use GenAI, and I expect the same from you. Outside of this course, as a composer, I have worked on music and visual art projects that involves the use of different AI tools, including GenAI.

In accordance with the UNT Honor Code, unauthorized use of GenAI tools is prohibited. Using GenAI content without proper credit or substituting your own work with GenAI undermines the learning process and violates UNT academic integrity policy. If you're unsure whether something is allowed, please seek clarification.

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; cheating or plagiarizing in the Final Project may lead to 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>