

PALOMAR COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR
A.A. DEGREE CREDIT COURSE

Transfer course A.A. degree applicable course
(check all that apply)

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: Music 211 Counterpoint

UNIT VALUE: 3

MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS: 80

BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS:

Appropriate language skills.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS:

PREREQUISITE: MUS210 and

COREQUISITE: MUS216

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION: None

SCOPE OF COURSE:

Analysis and written work in two and three-voice counterpoint in the 18th century style (invention and fugue). Required concert attendance.

SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of course student will:

1. Identify errors and weaknesses in two and three-voice counterpoint, and be able to rewrite such errors into proper two and three-voice counterpoint;
2. Analyze and write two-voice counterpoint in all five species;
3. Analyze a Bach Fugue, in order to delineate the structure of the composition, and to write a clear and convincing exposition of the structure.

CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:

- I. The single melodic line
 - A. melodic contour and shape
 - B. harmonic implications of melodies
 - C. instrumental range
- II. Principles of two-voice counterpoint
 - A. consonance vs. dissonance

- B. 1x1, 2x1, 3x1, 4x1
- C. chromaticism
- D. rhythmic activity divided between voices
- E. invertible counterpoint
- III. Two-voice combinations
 - A. canon
 - B. two-voice preludes and dances
 - C. two part inventions
- IV. Three-voice counterpoint
 - A. rhythmic relationships
 - B. species in three voices
 - D. imitation in three voices, real and tonal
- V. Three-voice compositions
 - A. preludes and dances
 - B. inventions
 - C. fugues

REQUIRED READING:

Trythall, Gilbert. Eighteenth Century Counterpoint. New York: WC Brown & Benchmark, 1992.

SUGGESTED READING:

None.

REQUIRED WRITING:

1. Short compositions in two and three-voices, a minimum of one composition, or class assigned exercise (to be completed out of class) per week. Each exercise or composition should require a minimum of three hours to complete, three to five pages long.
2. Analyses of two and three part compositions by existing composers, principally those of J.S. Bach. These analyses may consist of adding analytical symbols onto a pre-existing score, or they may consist of short papers describing a composition of words (two to five pages), with an accompanying illustrative score.

OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:

Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per unit per week in class and on outside assignments, prorated for short term classes.

Assignments are made from the text. These include detailed reading of chapters dealing with the techniques of counterpoint, completion of workbook assignments, and listening and analysis of examples from recordings. The previous may be completed by the student's performing the example, should he or she have the instrumental skills to do so. This is not a requirement for the course, however.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:

Check all that apply:

- lecture
 laboratory
 lecture-laboratory combination
 directed study

1. Lecture - Lectures are given, principally to set the historical perspective and the general background for the specific type of counterpoint being studied.
2. Demonstration - The instructor plays various examples of counterpoint, and writes them on the board, in order to illustrate in detail some aspect of contrapuntal technique.
3. Student examples - Examples from student compositions are put on the board, and are analyzed, critiqued in a group discussion moderated by the instructor.
4. In class assignments - Students compose contrapuntal examples in front of the class on the board, and the process of composition is observed, and critiqued, both by students and by the instructor.
5. Score reading/following - Students either perform/sing examples of counterpoint or follow a performance demonstration of a composition using their own copies of a written score.
6. Performance - The instructor performs contrapuntal examples on the keyboard from his repertory of such compositions.
7. Recordings - The students listen to examples of counterpoint for instruments, and/or vocal ensembles, wherever possible, following a score.

This course may be offered as a distance education course and meets Title 5 regulations 55370, 55372, 55374, 55376, 55378, and 55380.

Yes No

If yes, check all that apply. (See guidelines for preparation for definitions.)

telecourse (Course is taught by televised lessons not under direct supervision of an instructor. Usually some on campus lecture/discussion sessions are required.)

mediated instruction (Instruction is by audio-visual means in various combinations. Usually conducted in a learning resources center not under immediate supervision of a qualified instructor.)

computer assisted instruction (A specialized form of mediated instruction relying primarily on student access to information and prepared lessons or teaching materials through a computer terminal, but not under immediate supervision of a qualified instructor.)

GRADING POLICY AND STANDARDS (include methods for determining whether the stated objectives have been met by students):

- 25% Completion of weekly written assignments
- 25% Completion of two exams, a mid-term and a final
- 25% Completion of assignments dealing with the analysis of compositions, this sometimes takes the form of an analytical term paper of approximately 5-6 pages in length which studies in detail the contrapuntal form and structure of an 18th century composition, for example a Bach fugue.
- 25% Completion of a composition in the 18th century style. This may be one of the typical genres of the period: a prelude, fugue, two or three part invention. The composition is usually considered a final project, and is expected to go through several revisions before it is finally accepted by the instructor. Fulfillment of the above four items constitutes the work required to pass the course.

These items are weighted as roughly equal, i.e. each is one quarter of the course grade.

IS COURSE REPEATABLE FOR REASON(S) OTHER THAN DEFICIENT GRADE?

YES NO X Number of times course may be taken for credit 1.

If yes, identify specific provision of Division 2 section(s) 55761-55763 and 58161 which qualifies course as repeatable.

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