This course is the first of the four-quarter music theory sequence required for the music major at UC-Irvine. This quarter emphasizes fundamentals, but will cover topics as diverse as meter, harmony, voice-leading, counterpoint and phrase-structural principles relevant to “common practice” Western classical music of the late 17th through early-20th century. The quarter will culminate in the performance of original compositions based on all concepts covered to date. Concepts introduced in lecture will be reinforced in Friday labs have a choice of labs meeting at either 9 or 10. You must co-register for the Music 16A Aural Skills lab taught by Stephen Tucker, which build aural and musicianship skills through sight-singing, harmonic, melodic and rhythmic dictation (stucker@uci.edu).

(Available in the UCI bookstore, and at most online merchants. CDs are not necessary, although recommended.)

**Exams:** Midterm: Tuesday, **Nov. 6** (during class) Final: Thursday **Dec. 13**, 8-10 am

**Assignments:**

There will be weekly assignments and quizzes, as scheduled on the website. Read all assigned materials **before** class, do preparatory analysis, and most importantly **listen** to the pieces we study (I have ordered the CDs that accompany the textbook). Class participation is of the utmost importance, as we will do a great deal of the work together in class, including partial homework assignments. There will be regular spot quizzes on textbook topics (I drop the lowest grade at the end of the course in case you miss one). The quarter will culminate in a short composition, which will be performed during the final week of the quarter class. Please contact the TAs or myself if you have any questions; we will gladly make an appointment, or arranging for additional tutoring.

**Grade breakdown:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly assignments and quizzes</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Composition and class participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total grade</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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**Attendance and conduct:**
Attendance is expected at every class, as you will be learning skills by progressively building on previous knowledge. You are responsible for material you miss. After 3 unexcused absences, any further absence will result in the drop of one full letter grade.

**Late homework will not be accepted.** If for some external reason you cannot complete an assignment by the due date please make arrangements with me. If there is no prior approval I reserve the right to lower your grade accordingly, usually ½ grade for each late day. If you need special arrangements for an exam, please provide the appropriate paperwork to me 10 days prior to the scheduled exam.

**Tentative Schedule**

NB: The definitive schedule will be posted and updated on the website, along with review materials.

Week 1) Introduction to course, text, policies and building a musical vocabulary: pitch, intervals and rhythmic notation (CHs 1-2). Homework Workbook Chapter 1, pp. 1-8, due Mon. 10/8.

Week 2) Scales, Meter, Keys, Intervals, Triads (CHs 3-4); Workbook Chapter 3, pp. 17-22 (#1-7), due Mon. 10/15.

Week 3) Triads and Seventh chords, musical texture and spacing (CH 4-5); Workbook Chapter 4, pp. 27-32, Chapter 5, pp. 35-36; due Mon. 10/22.

Week 4) Part-writing in four voices; Melodic Figuration and Dissonance I: Categories of Embellishing tones (CHs 6-7); Workbook Chapter 6, pp. 43-45, #1-2; due Mon. 10/29.

Week 5) Midterm Review and Midterm exam (Oct. 31).

Week 6) More on Embellishing tones; Introduction to Diatonic Harmony (CHs 8-9); begin work on final compositions. Homework Workbook Chapter 7, pp. 47-52, #1-4; due Wed. 11/14.

Week 7) The Primary Triads: Tonic, Dominant and Subdominant Chords; the Dominant Seventh (CHs 9-10); Homework Workbook Chapter 9, pp. 57-62, #1-6; due Mon. 11/19.

Week 8) First Inversion Tonic and Subdominant (CH 11); hand in draft of final composition. Homework Workbook Chapter 10, pp. 65-70, #1-5; due Mon. 11/26.

Week 9) Introduction to phrase structure (CH 12); Homework Workbook Chapter 11, pp. 77-80, #1-4; due Mon. 12/3.

Week 10) Composition recital; review for final.