Course: Counterpoint 318
Instructor: Dr. John Burkett
Office: Music 230
Phone: (903)-886-5304 (Music Office) Leave message or have secretary route your call to my office phone.
Email: John.Burkett@tamu.edu
Textbooks: (1) Baroque Counterpoint by Peter Schubert & Christoph Neidhöfer

Probable Course Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week #</th>
<th>Chap. # (Topic)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1-2 (Intro.; canon)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>3 (Harmonizing in 2-voice cpt.)</td>
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<td>3-5</td>
<td>4 (Techniques of melodic embellishment)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>TEST #1</td>
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<td>6-7</td>
<td>5 (Variation technique; chorale prelude)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>6 (Imitation at the unison or octave)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>7 (Imitation at the fifth)</td>
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<td>10-11</td>
<td>8 (Remodulation and a third entry)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>TEST #2</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>9 (Fugal exposition)</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>10 (Tonal answer)</td>
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<td>TEST #3</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>12 (Sequences &amp; episodes)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>13 (Overall design of fugue)</td>
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</table>

16 FINAL PROJECT due on scheduled day of final exam. We will not, however, meet as a class on that day.

CLASS OBJECTIVES

After successfully completing this course, the student should be able to:

1. Write brief passages of music in strict or free counterpoint, employing traditional imitative procedures such as canon.
2. Identify various contrapuntal techniques associated with baroque music such as real or tonal answers, invertible counterpoint, stretto, etc.
3. Compose imitative structures such as chorale preludes, trio sonatas, 2-voice inventions and fugues.
4. Analyze contrapuntal procedures and structures employed in polyphonic compositions by baroque composers.

Special note:
To get free manuscript paper go to the following websites:
http://people.virginia.edu/~pdr4h/musicpaper
Under “General,” choose “instrumental trio” (PDF) or “duet” for use in counterpoint exercises.
http://songseek.com/paper/manuscript.html
Unlike the first website, you can print 12-stave paper here. This is a handy format for 2-, 3-, or 4-stave systems.
**Attendance:** The University attendance policy states that students "are expected to be present for all class meetings." The catalog goes on to list valid reasons for an absence. Frequent absences are commonly accompanied by infrequent study. Thus, while absences per se for this class will not lower your grade, they can nonetheless negatively impact your test grades. Remember, classes are held for your benefit. They provide the opportunity for you to hear explanations of difficult concepts, to see solutions to homework problems, and to ask questions.

**Dropping:** If you drop a class after the 12th class day, you will automatically receive a grade of “Q.”

**Homework:** Homework will be assigned at the end of virtually every class meeting and will be gone over in detail, either during the next class, or when graded homework is returned and additional explanation seems necessary. It will be much more meaningful to you when you listen to my analytical suggestions if you have already made a serious effort to do your homework on your own. Once a week (day unannounced), I will take up homework at the beginning of class, grade it and return it to you. LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. If you do not turn in homework that is taken up, you will receive a grade of zero. In an effort to help you, I will, however, drop your lowest grade. I encourage you to do all of the assigned homework and to do so in a largely independent fashion. There is nothing wrong with occasionally comparing your work with a friend’s, but remember that you must rely upon your own knowledge when taking an exam. Failure to do your homework could negatively affect your test grades because of a lack of familiarity with the material.

**Tests:** Make-up tests will not be given. If you have a valid, excusable reason for missing an exam, your grade on the succeeding test will be used twice. This procedure, however, can be applied only once. If you miss another exam, you will have to take a grade of zero for it. While not specifically designed as such, all tests will be comprehensive; that is, any concepts covered in previous exams might appear in later ones. This is because of the inherent nature of music itself. For instance, writing a fugal exposition requires knowledge of the various techniques of imitation.

**Grading Procedure:**

I. TESTS (60%)
   The average of your 3 test grades (as scheduled above) will be weighted as 60% of your final grade.

II. HOMEWORK (20%)
   The average of your graded homework assignments will be weighted as 20% of your final grade.

III. FINAL PROJECT (20%)
   The final will be weighted as 20% of your final grade.

IV. GRADING SCALE:

   A: 90-100%  B: 80-89%  C: 70-79%  D: 60-69%  F: 0-59%

   **Example:**
   \[
   0.60 \left( \frac{72 + 58 + 82}{3} \right) + 0.20 \left( \frac{78 + 64 + 0 + 53 + 75 + 83 + 87 + 74 + 88 + 90 + 87 + 92 + 84 + 82}{14} \right) + 0.20 \left( 85 \right) = 74 = C \text{ for final grade.}
   \]

**PostScript:** I encourage you to attend class regularly, ask questions and see me early on if your are having difficulties. My job is to help you learn by structuring your learning experience and evaluating your performance. But remember-- you have to do the learning. I cannot do it for you.
The following statements are required either by university policy or state or federal laws:

**Music Department Mission Statement**

The Music Department of Texas A&M University-Commerce promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

**Students with Disabilities**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services  
Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Gee Library  
Room 132  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  
Fax (903) 468-8148  
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu

**Student Behavior**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (*Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct.*)