Post-Tonal Analysis
Syllabus
Spring, 2020

COURSE:
MTC 564 – Post-Tonal Analysis
three semester hours
online delivery

INSTRUCTOR:
Dr. Stephen Lias
Music 252 – 936-468-4056
Office Hours: by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
A thorough investigation of the theories and processes of post-tonal analysis techniques as applied to works by composers from Debussy to the present. Analysis and compositional techniques will include (but are not limited to) non-functional pitch centricity, atonality, serialism, indeterminacy, sound mass, and minimalism.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK/MATERIALS:
Understanding Post-Tonal Music by Miguel A. Roig-Francoli
Anthology of Post-Tonal Music by Miguel A. Roig-Francoli

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Successfully identify mechanisms through which tonal centers can be established in the absence of functional relationships.
- Determine the pitch-class set (prime form) of any group of pitches expressed melodically or harmonically.
- Identify connections (z-relationships, subsets and supersets, etc.) between pitch-class sets that occur within a piece of music.
- Identify a serial row in a piece and correctly generate a matrix showing all possible permutations of that row.
- Perform serial analysis on musical compositions, including row usage, and any relationships that are present (combinatoriality, rotation, etc.).
- Assess, given a printed score, which post-tonal analysis tools would be likely to be applicable.
- Develop original analysis tools that would reveal specific things about pieces that defy most traditional analysis (chance, sound-mass, etc.).

POLICY ON DEADLINES:
Because the information in this class is (to a certain degree) cumulative, and because we have regular interactions through graded discussion group posts, it is important that the entire class be progressing at the same rate as much as possible. For this reason, due dates should be followed carefully. Work up to 5 days late will be docked 15 points, and after 5 days it will not be counted. In cases of scheduling emergencies, please contact the professor to make arrangements as quickly as possible.

GRADING:
60% Analysis Projects
20% Discussion Group and Quizzes
10% Midterm Exam
10% Final Exam

Students who are taking this class for 2 credits (those who began their degree prior to Fall, 2019), will be exempt from three of the analysis assignments.
ATTENDANCE:
Attendance policy as listed in the University Policies and Procedures Manual

Regular and punctual attendance is expected at all classes, laboratories, and other activities for which a student is registered. For those classes where attendance is a factor in the course grade, the instructor shall make his/her class policy known in writing at the beginning of each term and shall maintain an accurate record of attendance.

It is University policy to excuse students from attendance for certain reasons. Among these are absences related to health, family emergencies, and student participation in certain University-sponsored events.

Students are responsible for providing documentation satisfactory to the instructor for each class missed. Students with acceptable excuses will be permitted to make up work for absences to a maximum of three weeks of a semester or one week of a six-week summer term when the nature of the work missed permits.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:
As with all classes, it is imperative that you do all your work yourself. Do not participate in cheating or plagiarism of any type. If you are confused about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism, consult your professor. Please familiarize yourself with the academic honesty policy as listed in the University Policies and Procedures Manual.

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

OTHER IMPORTANT POLICY MATTERS:
Adding/Dropping: Students can add up until the 4th class day. Movement into and out of classes after the 4th class day requires approval of the Department Chair. Students can drop until mid-semester with a W. Drops after mid-semester require the approval of the Dean and will be assigned a WP or a WF. You are responsible for your own enrollment status with the college.

Students with Disabilities: To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.