Post-Tonal Analysis
Syllabus
Spring, 2024

COURSE:
MUTC 5364 – Post-Tonal Analysis
three semester hours
online delivery

INSTRUCTOR:
Dr. Stephen Lias
McKibben 404A – 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 (2nd Edition) by Miguel A. Roig-Francoli
Anthology of Post-Tonal Music (2nd Edition) 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

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 INTEGRITY:**

The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy. Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the Faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one's self, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities.

Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one’s own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one’s own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements.

Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.

Misrepresentation is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.

**Withheld Grades & Semester Grades Policy:**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the coursework because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course to compute the grade point average. For additional information, go to [https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf](https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf).

**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 promptly may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).

**Student Wellness and Well-Being:**

SFA values students’ overall well-being, mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, emotional well-being, alcohol and other drugs, identities, finances, etc.

If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help, SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

**On-campus Resources:**

**The Dean of Students Office** (Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby)

[www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents](http://www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents)

936.468.7249
dos@sfasu.edu

**SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic** Human Services, Room 202

[www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp)

936.468.1041

**The Health and Wellness Hub** “The Hub”
To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person—mind, body and spirit. Services include:

- Health Services
- Counseling Services
- Student Outreach and Support
- Food Pantry
- Wellness Coaching
- Alcohol and Other Drug Education

www.sfasu.edu/thehub
936.468.4008
thehub@sfasu.edu

Crisis Resources:

- Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
- National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
- johCrisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741