

Counterpoint 2 / Advanced Counterpoint

Advanced Counterpoint, MUT 6445

Counterpoint 2, MUT 4402

University of Florida

School of Music

Spring 2026

Room and time: M W F 2, MUB 142

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Course Description: An advanced study of contrapuntal practice from the Renaissance to the present through score study and practical exercises. Complex topics in 16th and 18th century counterpoint are explored in more detail than in the counterpoint 1 course, including multiple voices, canon, invertible counterpoint, and fugal writing. Finally, contrapuntal practices of the 19th and 20th centuries are explored, all with the goals of a) increasing the students understanding of the music under consideration, and b) adding to the compositional facility gained through previous contrapuntal study.

Prerequisites: Two years of undergraduate music theory, counterpoint 1 or the equivalent undergraduate counterpoint course. For Advanced Counterpoint, graduate status with no remedial work required in theory, and undergraduate or graduate experience in counterpoint coursework.

Course Requirements: Reading, analysis, and composition assignments will be given every class session, due the following class session in most cases. Some assignments will be discussed in class, while most will be turned in for a grade. Successful completion of the course requires that all assignments be completed on time. Strict penalties will be given for all late work. As counterpoint is a skill acquired in stages, it is imperative that all assignments not only be completed, they must be accurate. Work needing corrections will be returned to the student, with corrections due at the following class session. The student may redo the same assignment several times until it is accurate, and this is a normal part of the learning process in contrapuntal study. In addition to

regular assignments, two larger composition projects and one analytical paper and presentation will be assigned, and there will be quizzes if deemed necessary. Students will be required to meet individually with the instructor at mutually agreed-upon times at several points during the semester to review their individual work and projects. The course website on Canvas will be populated with specific deadlines for assignments throughout the semester.

Canvas course: Course materials, grades, and announcements will be posted in the Canvas page for this course: <http://elearning.ufl.edu>

Attendance: Regular attendance is absolutely essential. Missing more than three classes will result in the lowering of the grade by one full letter unless excused by the professor.

Materials: Bring textbook, staff paper, and pencils to every class.

Required Text:

Owen, Harold. *Modal and Tonal Counterpoint from Josquin to Stravinsky*. New York: Schirmer Books, 1992.

Course Schedule: *The following is tentative and subject to change.*

Week	Subject	Book Chapter(s)	Project/Test
1	Introduction, review of species	1, 2	
2	“	3, 4	
3	Renaissance Counterpoint	5, 6, 7	
4	Advanced Issues in Renaissance Counterpoint	8, 9	
5	“	10	Motet
6	Early Baroque	11, 12, 13, 14	
7	Bach Style	15, 16, 17, 18, 19	
8	Fugue	20, 21, 22	

9	“	23, 24	Fugue
10	Classical Counterpoint	25	
11	Romantic Counterpoint	26	
12	“	“	
13	Atonal Counterpoint	27	
14	Neo-classical Counterpoint	28	
15	“	“	Final project

Grading: Based on the following scale and formula -

93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-67	D
60-62	D-
0-59	E

Weekly assignments 65%

Motet	10%
Fugue	10%
Final Project	10%
In-class participation; quizzes	5%

Information about university wide policies and resources can be found here:
<https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>