**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**Counterpoint I (235)**

**Mondays 6-7:50pm, Room MUS 303**

**Professor Mark Weiser**

Email: markweis@usc.edu

Telephone: Music Office (213) 740-7416 where you can leave a message. Also, my mailbox is in MUS Room 317.

Office: is MUS 316

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 4-5pm, or by appointment.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS**

* Staff Paper and Pencils or computer notation software

There is no text is required for this course. There are, however, text recommendations on blackboard, should you want to investigate them for further study. Scores and other materials will be posted on Blackboard\*.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A comprehensive study of Baroque style tonal counterpoint, with an emphasis on the music of J. S. Bach.

**HOMEWORK**

There will be regular homework assignments to reinforce material covered in class. These will include written assignments, analysis, and listening to repertoire.

No late work will be accepted. If you are away for a professional engagement, you must notify me ahead of time and turn in assignments upon your return. You are responsible for all assignments given during your absence.

**All homework assignments will be due the following Friday before class**. This way they can be graded and returned for the next Monday class.

**NOTATION OF ASSIGNMENTS**

All assignments should be submitted on Blackboard\* in PDF format. If notated by hand, please scan your assignment. You may use notation software. I have Sibelius (vs. 7.5) and Finale (vs. 26). You may include the software file along with the PDF score, but be sure you save it in a version I can open.

**TESTS AND QUIZZES**

Given the highly practical nature of this course, there will rarely be tests or quizzes, and there will be no Midterm or Final Exam.

**MIDTERM AND FINAL PROJECTS**

In addition to the regular assignments, there will be two larger scale projects, the first being a 2-voice invention, and the second a 3-voice fugue.

**GRADING**

Class participation, written assignments, tests, and quizzes: 50%

Midterm project (2-voice invention): 25%

Final project (3-voice fugue): 25%

**ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is mandatory. If you have to be away for a professional engagement, you must let me know in advance and turn in any assignments before you leave. If you have an emergency, please make every effort to let me know that you will not be attending before class meets.

**\*BLACKBOARD**

Blackboard is a USC on-line resource where you can see your grades from the class, check for assignments, and find this syllabus as well as other class-related materials. The URL is: **blackboard.usc.edu**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

Aside from the beginning of the semester, this course is being offered in an in-person modality. Online alternatives will not be considered unless I am presented with a directive from the offices of Student Health or Student Affairs. However, if on any day you are ill or otherwise cannot complete Trojan Check to produce a valid Campus Day Pass, stay home. In that case, contact me to make up work or otherwise maintain contact with the class.

**Technological Proficiency and Hardware/Software Required\***

It is expected that students will have access to a desktop or laptop computer that can send and receive PDFs. Class may be attended via a tablet, or, worst-case scenario, a smart phone. That said, a computer is by far the best medium for class.

**\*USC technology rental program**  
We realize that attending classes online and completing coursework remotely requires access to technology that not all students possess. If you need resources to successfully participate in your classes, such as a laptop or internet hotspot, you may be eligible for the university’s equipment rental program. To apply, please [submit an application.](https://studentbasicneeds.usc.edu/resources/technology-assistance/) The Student Basic Needs team will contact all applicants in early August and distribute equipment to eligible applicants prior to the start of the fall semester.

**USC Technology Support Links**

[Zoom information for students](https://keepteaching.usc.edu/start-learning/)

[Blackboard help for students](https://studentblackboardhelp.usc.edu/)

[Software available to USC Campus](https://software.usc.edu/)

**Academic Conduct**

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” [policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b](https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/). Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, [policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct](http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct).

**Support Systems**

*Counseling and Mental Health - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call*

[studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling](https://studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling/)

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

*National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call*

[suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/)

Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

*Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-9355(WELL), press “0” after hours – 24/7 on call*

[studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault](https://studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault/)

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

*Office of Equity and Diversity (OED) - (213) 740-5086 | Title IX – (213) 821-8298*

[equity.usc.edu](https://equity.usc.edu/), [titleix.usc.edu](http://titleix.usc.edu)

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants.

*Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298*

[usc-advocate.symplicity.com/care\_report](https://usc-advocate.symplicity.com/care_report/)

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office of Equity and Diversity |Title IX for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

*The Office of Disability Services and Programs - (213) 740-0776*

[dsp.usc.edu](http://dsp.usc.edu/)

Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

*USC Campus Support and Intervention - (213) 821-4710*

[campussupport.usc.edu](https://campussupport.usc.edu/)

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

*Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101*

[diversity.usc.edu](https://diversity.usc.edu/)

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost’s Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

*USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call*

[dps.usc.edu](http://dps.usc.edu/), [emergency.usc.edu](http://emergency.usc.edu/)

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

*USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call*

[dps.usc.edu](http://dps.usc.edu/)

Non-emergency assistance or information.