**Introduction to the Analysis of Tonal Music (MUCO 501)**

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

**Mark Weiser, professor**

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**Office:** MUS 316

**Office hours**: Mondays & Wednesdays 4-5pm, or by appointment.

**Course Description**

A survey of common practice (1650-1900) approaches to phrase design, tonal organization and type-forms (i.e. binary, ternary, sonata, etc.) Additionally, we will explore how each individual historical period of the common practice (Baroque, Classical, and Romantic) approach these formal designs and tonal structures stylistically and aesthetically.

**Course Materials**

While there are no texts required for this course, there will be score excerpts, notes, and other materials distributed throughout the semester. I will post all of these as PDFs on BLACKBOARD\* for reference.

**Assignments**

Expect regular assignments given after each class. These will be discussed the following week. In addition, there will be midterm and a final analysis project analysis project as well as a midterm and final exam. No late work will be accepted. If you are away for a professional or personal 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.

NOTE: All assignments will be due the Monday after class. This is so they can be graded and discussed in the following class. Assignments should be uploaded to the Assignment page on Blackboard\*.

**Midterm and Final Analysis Projects**

There will be two analysis projects. These will include a detailed on-score analysis of a given musical composition with supplementary written notes as necessary. Details will be provided when these projects are assigned. Due dates are as follows:

**Midterm project**: Wednesday, February 23

**Final Project**: Wednesday, April 20

**Midterm and Final exam**

The midterm will be held during the second half of class on **Wednesday, March 2**. The final exam will be on **Wednesday, May 4, 7-9pm** in room MUS 303.

**Basis for Grade**

Class participation and weekly assignments: 30%

Analysis projects: 20% each

Midterm Exam: 15%

Final Exam: 15%

\*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**

**Semester Outline (details subject to change)**

* Class 1: Introduction and basic concepts
* Classes 2-4: Small forms
* Class 5: Harmonic devices of the common practice period
* Classes 6-7: Departure and return – Refrain, Ritornello, Rondo
* Classes 8-10: Sonata forms
* Class 11: Variations
* Class 12: Song forms and procedures
* Classes 13-14: Counterpoint and Fugue
* Class 15: Twilight of tonality

**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.