University of South Carolina
School of Music

BAIN MUSC 529
Eighteenth-Century Counterpoint

SYLLABUS

Instructor
Dr. Reginald Bain, Professor
Composition and Theory

Contact Information
E-mail: rbain@mozart.sc.edu
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Office: Music Building, R227
Office Hours: MW 1:00-2:00 pm, and by appointment

Course Information
Term: Fall 2023
Location: Music Building, R214
Format: MW 10:50-11:40 pm; B3WEB[1]
Blackboard Page: https://blackboard.sc.edu
Website: https://reginaldbain.com

COURSE MODULES

1. Introduction (Ch. 1-3)

2. Two-Voice Analysis & Writing (Ch. 4-8)

3. Imitation & Canon (Ch. 9-10)

4. Three-Voice Analysis & Writing (Ch. 11-14)

5. Fugue (Ch. 17-18 & 20)

6. Special Topics

Prerequisite
Undergraduate tonal harmony and voice leading

Description
Analysis and writing in contrapuntal forms with emphasis on the style of J.S. Bach

Learning Objectives
Students will learn how to:
- Read musical scores in a wide variety of formats and textures
- Critically interpret a diverse array of contrapuntal Western art music from the 16th-18th centuries
- Analyze eighteenth-century tonal counterpoint
- Write (compose/transcribe/arrange/improvise) music based on tonal counterpoint
- Analyze contrapuntal devices, techniques, schemas, forms, etc.

Required Textbook
Robert Gauldin, *A Practical Approach to 18th Century Counterpoint* (Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press, 2013/1995).

Course Requirements
Daily use of the course Blackboard page and website to access course materials. Weekly reading, homework, score study, listening, and analysis. There will be two exams (50 min.) and two projects (*Analysis Project* and *Writing Project*). See the *Reading and Assessment Schedule* for due dates.

Technical Requirements
A computer, Web access, and a university-provided Blackboard account are required to access the digital course materials and to submit work in Blackboard. If necessary, the computer-based work for this course may be completed in the School of Music's *Music Technology Center* (R209). If you run into technical difficulties at any point in the course, please let me know as soon as possible via e-mail so that I may assist you. For complete technical requirements, see the following page on the course website: *Links for Students > Blended Courses*.

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[1] Blended/Hybrid Up to 49% web. Course that is taught both face-to-face and online with 49% or less of the course offered online. Course meets in-person on Monday/Wednesday and activities/assignments are completed asynchronously online by students in lieu of a Friday meeting.

I am always happy to help you. Please don't hesitate to ask for help. The earlier you ask for assistance the better.

Homework Policies
All handwritten work must be done in pencil (pen is NOT acceptable). All homework must be turned in on time. Assignment/activity due dates are available in the running *Daily Schedule*. Late work cannot be accepted – except in the case of a documented *excused absence*. Work that is not submitted is averaged into the student's grade using a score of zero.

Attendance Policy
This course will follow the university *Attendance Policy* that is available online at:

https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/policies-regulations/undergraduate-academic-regulations/

Unexcused absences in excess of "The 5% Rule" will be decremented from the Homework/Attendance grade at 2% per day.

University Policies and Student Services
Information about the university's **academic integrity** policy, **Student Disability Resource Center** (SDRC), and **other student services** is available on the course website (see *Links for Students*). If you are registered with the SDRC, please be sure that I receive a copy of your accommodation letter during the first week of class so I may work with you (and SDRC as necessary) to make sure your accommodations are met. The SDRC is located in Close-Hipp, Suite 102. You may reach the SDRC via e-mail sadrc@mailbox.sc.edu or phone 777-6142. More information is available online at:

<https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/student_disability_resource_center/index.php>.

Health and Wellness
The School of Music cares about the health, safety and wellbeing of its students, faculty, and staff. This site provides information on a variety of wellness topics to encourage our Gamecock Music Community to embrace and promote self-care:

https://sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/music/spark_laboratory/music_wellness/index.php

Classroom Policies
I am committed to making each day we meet a safe, active, focused, positive, and distraction-free learning environment for everyone in the class. I expect all students to follow the university guidelines for classroom *safety* and *acceptable conduct*, as well as the *classroom etiquette* guidelines below:

- Please do not enter the classroom while music is playing. You may enter the classroom (as quietly as possible) when the when the music stops playing.
- Cell phones should be put in silent mode before the class begins and should typically be out of plain sight.
- The use of laptops and tablets can be a significant distraction to others. Please be sensitive to this fact and limit their potential for distraction by using your electronic devices only for classroom-related activities.
- During certain *active learning activities*, electronic devices will need to be stowed away.

Grading Scale & Distribution

100-90 **A**	89-85 **B+**	84-80 **B**	79-75 **C+**	74-70 **C**	69-65 **D+**	64-60 **D**	59-0 **F**

20% – Homework/Attendance
50% – Two exams (25% ea.)
15% – Analysis Project
15% – Writing Project

Minimum Grade Requirement
- A minimum grade of 'C' is required for any course submitted for fulfillment of music major requirements.