

MUSI2731: Chords, Harmonies and Progressions

Newcastle City Precinct

Semester 1 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

The School of Humanities, Creative Industries and Social Sciences is committed to providing an inclusive environment in which all cultures are accorded respect and all students and staff are expected to act with honesty, fairness, trustworthiness and accountability in dealings with others. The School recognises and respects the unique histories and cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their unbroken relationship with the lands and the waters of Australia over millennia, and the validity of Aboriginal ways of knowing. We are dedicated to reconciliation and to offering opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to access and succeed in higher education.

OVERVIEW

Course Description	This course provides the opportunity to creatively apply advanced harmonic techniques in any genre or era as defined by the interest of the student. Examples from a wide diversity of musical styles are presented, including western classical, popular, jazz and world music. This course particularly focuses on the applications of chromatic and extended harmonies that are common across these diverse styles. It also involves analysis and musical problem solving.
Academic Progress Requirements	Nil
Requisites	This course has similarities to MUSI2631. If you have successfully completed MUSI2631 you cannot enrol in this course.
Assumed Knowledge	A knowledge of basic harmonic procedures or MUSI1260.
Contact Hours	Newcastle City Precinct Lecture Face to Face On Campus 1 hour(s) per week(s) for 8 week(s) starting Week 1 Tutorial Face to Face On Campus 1 hour(s) per week(s) for 8 week(s) starting Week 1 Workshop Face to Face On Campus 2 hour(s) per week(s) for 5 week(s) starting Week 9
Unit Weighting	10
Workload	Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

COURSE OUTLINE

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	Newcastle City Precinct Mr Jeremy Borthwick Jeremy.Borthwick@newcastle.edu.au Consultation: by appointment.
School Office	School of Humanities Creative Industries and Social Sciences NU Space, Level 4 409 Hunter Street Newcastle HCISS@newcastle.edu.au +61 4985 4500

SYLLABUS

Course Content	Topics include:• Harmonic concepts. • Compositional procedures. • Expanded musical language and musical problem solving. • Music notation software.
Course Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this course, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Describe harmonic processes used in a variety of musical styles including classical, popular, jazz and world music.2. Analyse approaches to musical harmonic organisation.3. Create musical harmonic progressions.4. Solve musical harmony problems.

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Pop / Rock harmony	Introduction / Primary triads / secondary triads	
2	4 Mar	Pop / Rock harmony	Typical Harmonic devices / Melodic devices 1 / revision of basic chord theory Minor harmony /Descending devices	
3	11 Mar	Classical harmony	4 Part SATB vs. Keyboard writing	Assessment A due Friday week 3 30%
4	18 Mar	Classical harmony	4 Part writing cont.	
5	25 Mar	Classical harmony	Melodic devices 2	
6	1 Apr	Jazz Harmony	Riff based melody, call and response, Blues structures. li V's, AABA, Cycle tunes	Assessment 2 due Part A : Worksheet Friday 11:59PM 17.5%
7	8 Apr	Jazz Harmony	Walking basslines / voicings / Extensions in chords	
Mid-Semester Recess				
Mid-Semester Recess				
8	29 Apr	Jazz Harmony	Jazz Melodic lines / approach and target tones.	
9	6 May	Workshop	Recap of techniques covered.	Assessment 2 due Part B: Worksheet Friday 17.5%
10	13 May	Workshop	Constructing final assessment. Tips for creating balanced progressions and logical structures.	
11	20 May	Workshop	1st drafts of Final assignment	
12	27 May	Workshop	Completed draft of Final assignment with analysis	
13	3 Jun	Workshop	Review of Final assignment and analysis before submission	Assessment 3 due Friday 11:59PM 35%
Examination Period				
Examination Period				

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Concept-based Tasks Across Diverse Genres	Week 3 Fri March 15th 11:59PM	Individual	30%	1, 3, 4
2	Creative and Analytical Tasks	Part A : Classical Due Week 6. Fri April 5th. 11:59PM Part B : Jazz Due Week Week 9. Fri May 10th. 11:59PM	Individual	35% (2x17.5%)	3, 4
3	Written Analysis of Musical Works	Week 13. Fri June 7th. 11:59PM	Individual	35%	1, 2

Late Submissions

The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without

an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

Assessment 1 - Concept-based Tasks Across Diverse Genres

Assessment Type	Practical Demonstration
Purpose	To test application of preparatory concepts
Description	Submission via notation software of basic composition and basic analysis reflecting techniques presented from Week1 to Week 2
Weighting	30%
Length	1 min approx equivalent to 500 words
Due Date	Week 3. Fri March 15th. 11:59PM
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Number of techniques-Accurate use of techniques-Integration into setting-Quality of instrumentation and parts-Addresses and answers questions-Degree of sophistication of techniques-Confident, thorough use of technique"-Musical Coherence and Creativity-Logical and aesthetic connection of elements and structure-Technical and creative integration-Quality/clarity and creativity of relationships between sections-Overall coherence and stylistic completeness"-Accuracy of analysis-Correct description and identification of techniques-Degree completion/thoroughness-Descriptive vs Analytical approach-Clarity/Vagueness-Insight and Justification-Quality of Presentation
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online

Assessment 2 - Creative and Analytical Tasks

Assessment Type	Practical Demonstration
Purpose	To test understanding and application of concepts presented from wk 3-8 in short form examples.
Description	Submission of worksheets in 2 parts reflecting techniques presented from Weeks 3 to 8
Weighting	35% (2x17.5%)
Length	Equiv to 1000 words
Due Date	Part A : Classical Due Week 6. Fri April 5th. 11:59PM. Part B : Jazz Due Week Week 9. Fri May 10th. 11:59PM.
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Accuracy of notation analysis-Addresses and answers questions-Correct description and identification of techniques-Degree completion/thoroughness-Descriptive vs Analytical approach
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online

Assessment 3 - Written Analysis of Musical Works

Assessment Type	Written Assignment
Purpose	To test application of concepts introduced throughout the course in long form creative and analytical composition(s).
Description	Submission of composition(s) via notation software applying and analysing a range of selected techniques presented from entire semester.
Weighting	35%

Length	2-3mons equiv to 2000 words
Due Date	Week 13. Fri June 7th. 11:59PM
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Accurate use of techniques-Integration into setting-Quality of instrumentation and parts-Addresses and answers questions-Degree of sophistication of techniques-Confident, thorough use of technique"-Musical Coherence and Creativity-Logical and aesthetic connection of elements and structure-Technical and creative integration-Quality/clarity and creativity of relationships between sections-Overall coherence and stylistic completeness-Accuracy of analysis-Correct description and identification of techniques-Degree completion/thoroughness-Descriptive vs Analytical approach-Clarity/Vagueness-Insight and Justification-Quality of Presentation
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - .

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

- Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site.
- Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.
- Face to Face: Communication will be provided via face to face meetings or supervision.

Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.

Oral Interviews (Vivas)

As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#). In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).

Academic Misconduct

All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>.

**Adverse
Circumstances**

The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:

1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or
2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;
3. you are requesting a change of placement; or
4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement.

Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at:

<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>

**Important Policy
Information**

The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/respect-at-uni/policies-and-procedures> that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.

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