



**POINT LOMA**  
NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

## **MUT 301 – Counterpoint**

**Benjamin Mason, Instructor [Fall '15]**

Tuesday | 2:25 pm - 5:10 pm

3 credits

Office Hours – By appointment

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### **Course Description**

This course studies the compositional techniques of the Renaissance and Baroque periods beginning with a basic survey of species counterpoint and moving to other compositional techniques such as the motet. Following this, we will move to the study of Baroque counterpoint. We will study the forms of this period and learn to construct compositions using techniques from this period including the invention and fugue.

### **Course Objectives**

- A. To develop an understanding of how Renaissance and Baroque compositions were composed.
- B. To compose music using techniques from both the Renaissance and Baroque periods.
- C. To study outstanding musical literature that uses these techniques and be able to identify them.
- D. To compose a short motet, invention, fugue, and composition using 20<sup>th</sup> century techniques.

### **Course Requirements**

- A. Complete weekly readings, writing, and listening assignments.
- B. Complete counterpoint projects.
- C. Class participation.

## Course Evaluation

- A. Students will be evaluated on their tests, various projects, and attendance.
- B. Students will have weekly quizzes that will account for 15% of their grade.
- C. The midterm exam will count for 5% of their grade.
- D. The final exam will count for 10% of their grade.
- E. Projects will count for 50% of their grade. There will be three projects, which include composing a short motet and fugue.
- F. Homework, Attendance, and Class Participation will count for 20% of their grade.

15% Quizzes

5% Midterm Exam

10% Final Exam

50% Projects

20% Homework, Attendance, and Class Participation

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100% TOTAL

## Grading Scale

94-100% = A

89-93 = A-

86-88 = B+

83-85 = B

79-82 = B-

76-78 = C+

73-75 = C

69-72 = C-

66-68 = D+

63-65 = D

59-62 = D-

## **Assignment and Attendance Policy**

Regular and punctual attendance in all courses in which a student is registered is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. Therefore, regular attendance and participation at each class are minimum requirements to be met. These policies will be strictly enforced by the instructor.

Two times arriving late or leaving early will equal one absence. If you arrive after roll is taken, it is your responsibility to verify that I have recorded your attendance at an appropriate time after class.

School policy states that whenever the number of accumulated absences in a class, for any cause, exceeds ten percent of the total number of class meetings, the faculty member has the option of filing a written report to the Vice Provost for Academic Administration which may result in de-enrollment, pending any resolution of the excessive absences between the faculty member and the student. If more than 20 percent of the total number of class meetings is reported as missed (three weeks or longer in a semester-long course), the faculty member or Vice Provost for Academic Administration may initiate the student's de-enrollment from the course without advance notice to the student. If the date of de-enrollment is past the last date to withdraw from a class, the student will be assigned a grade of W or WF consistent with university policy in the Grading section of the catalog. There are no refunds for courses where a de-enrollment was processed.

Absences are counted from the first official meeting of the class regardless of the date of the student's enrollment. Consequently, a student who registers late must monitor carefully regular attendance during the remainder of the semester. Registered students who neither attend the first class session nor inform the faculty of their desire to remain in the class may, at the request of the instructor, be dropped from the class.

At the discretion of the instructor, *an absence may be excused* in the event of an unavoidable illness or family emergency. You are required to inform me that you will be absent BEFORE CLASS in order to receive an excused absence.

Absence as the result of illness will be excused upon receipt of a doctor's excuse.

## **Honor Code**

The Point Loma Nazarene University community holds the highest standards of honesty and integrity in all aspects of university life. Academic honesty and integrity are strong values among faculty and students alike. Any violation of the university's commitment is a serious affront to the very nature of Point Loma's mission and purpose.

Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts, as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. Such acts include plagiarism, copying of class assignments, and copying or other fraudulent behavior on examinations.

A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for (a) that particular assignment or examination, and/or (b) the course. The faculty member files with the appropriate dean and the department chair a written report of the incident and the action taken. The college dean, after an examination of the event, submits a report to the Provost and the Vice Provost for Academic Administration. If either of these administrators believe other action should be taken, consultation between the faculty member, student, and the administrators determines the appropriate action.

The student or students involved in the academic dishonesty may appeal the action by talking first to the program director or academic advisor, then, if necessary, to the college dean, and finally to a committee of the following: the appropriate college dean, the Vice Provost for Academic Administration, the Provost, and full-time faculty member of the student's choice. The appeal decision reached by this committee is final. If a grade of "F" is received in a course due to academic dishonesty, the student may not withdraw from the course nor can the course be dropped to remove the "F" grade.

## **Accommodation of Disabilities**

This policy assists the university in its commitment to full compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Act of 1990, and ADA Amendments Act of 2008, all of which prohibit discrimination against students with special needs and guarantees all qualified students equal access to the benefits of PLNU programs and activities.

All students are expected to meet the standards for this course as set by the instructor. However, students with learning disabilities who may need accommodations should discuss options with the Academic Support Center during the first two weeks of class. The ASC will contact professors with suggested classroom needs and accommodations. Approved documentation must be on file in the ASC prior to the start of the semester.