

MUST 621: Analytical Technique
Ball State University
College of Fine Arts / School of Music
Music Theory and Composition

Class Meeting Times:

- MW 3:00 – 4:15

Web Site: blackboard.bsu.edu

(and teachingmusic.keithkothman.com)

Prerequisites: graduate graduate music major

Location: MU 313

Instructor Information:

- Instructor: Dr. Keith Kothman, MU 109B, kkothman@bsu.edu, 285-5503
 - office hours: by appointment

Materials:

Bring staff paper and blank or notebook paper to class each day. You should consider getting a binder to keep the handouts I give you, and your notes, organized.

You do not need to purchase a book for this course. I will provide you with readings and scores that we talk about in class.

Objectives:

Analytical Technique focuses on advanced analysis of primarily tonal and post-tonal works. For tonal works we will be developing reductive analysis techniques, also known as Schenkerian analysis. Analysis of post-tonal music will focus on set theory techniques.

The goals of this class are to provide you with the tools and knowledge necessary to analyze tonal and post-tonal music, and to have you demonstrate that knowledge through short assignments, presentations, and the writing of an analytical paper. Depending on your primary or secondary areas, these skills could also prove useful in your dissertation paper or lecture recital.

Disability/Medical Information:

If you need an adaptation or accommodation because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment to see me. My office location and hours are listed above.

Academic Integrity:

Students of the university must conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Academic dishonesty will be treated in accordance with the “Student Academic Ethics Policy.” Please see the student code in the Ball State University Calendar book. No form of academic misconduct such as plagiarism or cheating will be tolerated—be it in the context of an exam, a quiz or a homework assignment. Students are encouraged to help/consult with one another outside of class, but copying answers or collaborating on more than one or two sample problems constitutes cheating. Note that it is very easy for an instructor to detect cheating (especially last-minute “copying”) in this class, since answers are rarely uniform.

Email and Website Policies:

Students are expected to monitor their BSU email accounts on a regular basis. Periodically, I will need to send important information to you via email. BSU email can be configured to forward to an outside account if you so desire, but I am not responsible for keeping track of your personal (non-BSU) email addresses.

Information regarding course assignment, lectures, and other important notices will be communicated via the course website. It is the student's responsibility to check the website each day for additional explanations, updates on readings and other assignments, and alterations to course content.

Class Work and Grading:

I received this teaching assignment very late (less than 2 weeks ago), so I am still formulating a precise semester schedule. We will spend the first eight weeks, until spring break, focusing on post-tonal music. After spring break we will turn to tonal music.

Class work will include short analysis assignments, in-class presentations of assigned research articles, and a final paper.

Your final grade will be determined according to the following formula:

Short assignments	35%
In-class presentations	35%
Final Paper	40%