

# Music Theory Graduate Diagnostic Exam Review

The music theory examination consists of four parts: Aural Skills Form, 19th Century Analytical Skills and 20th Century Analytical Skills. Descriptions and review suggestions are listed below.

## Aural Skills

1. Melodic Dictation
2. Chord recognition (identification of triad types and inversions and of seventh-chord types).
3. Choral dictation (notation of soprano and bass together with Roman numeral analysis).

### Suggestions for Preparation or Review

ASU call numbers are given for books in the Music Library. Many other books, workbooks, tapes, cassettes, and records cover the same materials and may profitably be used.

#### Sight-Singing

- Benward, Bruce and Carr, Maureen. *Sightsinging Complete*, 5th ed. (Dubuque, Iowa: Wm. C. Brown Publishers). MT870 .B483 S5 1991.
- Ottman, Robert W. *Music for Sight Singing*, 3rd ed. (Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall). 1986. MT870 .086 1967.
- Berkowitz, Sol, et al. *A New Approach to Sight Singing*, 3rd ed. (New York: W. W. Norton, 1986). MT870 .B485 N5.

#### Dictation

- Benward, Bruce. *Ear Training, A Technique for Listening*, 3rd ed. (Dubuque, Iowa: Wm. C. Brown, 1987).
- Benward, Bruce. *Advanced Ear Training and Sight Singing*, 1969.
- Blombach, Ann K. *MacGamut™*, a software program for Apple® Macintosh™ 512 Ke, Plus, and SE, by Mayfield Publishing.

Audit undergraduate classes with ear training, especially MTC 221, 222, 223.

## Form

The emphasis of the Form Examination is on the recognition of traditional forms. Given a notated example, you should be able to identify its overall form, locate its structurally

significant sections, recognize its key plan, and identify such entities as the phrase, period, and double period. The Examination covers the large forms off rondo, sonata, and sonata-rondo. You can find brief descriptions of these forms in the music dictionaries listed below. Because the Examination entails score analysis, you might find it helpful to study the examples analyzed (or even just cited) in various books on form.

### **Suggestions for preparation or review**

ASU call numbers are given for books in the Music Library.

- *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, ed. Stanley Sadie. MLI00 .N48 2001.
- *The New Harvard Dictionary of Music*, ed. Don M. Randel. MLI00 .N485 2001.
- Spencer, Peter, and Temko. *Practical Approach to the Study of Form in Music*. (Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1988). MT58 .S68 1988.
- Berry, Wallace. *Form in Music*. 2nd ed. (Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1986). MT58 .B34.
- Green, Douglass M. *Form in Tonal Music: an introduction to analysis*, 2nd ed. (New York: Holt Rinehart Winston, 1979). MT58 .G75.

Audit MTC 327 (Form and Analysis I).

## **Analytical Skills 19<sup>th</sup> Century**

1. Four-part writing.
2. Harmonic analysis of 19th-century examples.

## **Analytical Skills 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

1. Analysis of excerpts in tonal idioms: identification of tonal centers, scale types, and chord types.
2. Twelve-tone analysis.

### **Suggestions for preparation or review**

- Kostka, Stefan and Payne, Dorothy. *Tonal Harmony, with an Introduction to Twentieth-Century Music*, 6th ed. (New York: Knopf, 2009). MT50 .K85 2009.
- Kostka, Stefan. *Materials and Techniques of Twentieth-Century Music*. (Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2006). MT40 .K8 2006.
- Dallin, Leon. *Techniques of 20th-Century Composition*. 3rd ed. (Dubuque, Iowa: Wm. Brown, 1974). MT40 .D22 1964.
- DeLone, and others. *Aspects of Twentieth-Century Music*. (Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1975).

Audit MTC 222 and/or 223.