

MUS 501: Compositional Skills in Tonal Music
Instructor: Daniel Weymouth | Tuesday, 3:30pm – 6:20pm

An intensive study in tonal progression and the balancing of vertical and horizontal musical structures, otherwise known as “counterpoint.” Our focus will be on Western tonal music, as it has a vocabulary with which I am intimately familiar. However, the principles learned, and the skills acquired, could be useful in many compositional languages. This is very much a hands-on course; there will be a *lot* of music writing. Primarily intended (and required) for composers, but suitable for anyone with a keen interest in the nuts-and-bolts workings of tonal gravity and motion. Students other than those in the Composition MA and PhD should check with me before registering for the course.

This course is intended primarily for composers, but suitable for anyone with a keen interest in the nuts-and-bolts workings of tonal gravity and motion. Any student interested in taking 501 should contact Prof. Weymouth. For MA students in Composition, MUS 501 is a required course unless otherwise advised. For MM students, MUS 501 does not count towards the required 30 credits. For DMA students, this course does not fulfill the Elective Group 2 Requirement, but may be taken as your free elective, with instructor permission.

3 credits