

MUS 231
Midterm Exam Study Guide

The exam will consist of three sections:

- short questions/answers: like those found on the reading sheets
- error detection: analyzing a species example and identifying errors
- starting or finishing a 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th species: writing the first or last few measures of an exercise

Specific things to review:

Cantus Firmus writing

1st species writing

2nd Species:

- subdivision
- "accented" direct and parallel perfects

3rd Species:

- figures like the double passing tone, double neighbor and nota cambiata
- ornamental leaps
- use of unisons
- "accented" parallel and direct perfects

4th Species:

- the three phases of a dissonant suspension (preparation, suspension, resolution) and the harmonic intervals that go with each phase, as well as the melodic requirements (down by step!)
- alternative resolutions for a consonant suspension
- breaking the species
- suspension chains
- acceptable upper counterpoint suspensions
- acceptable lower counterpoint suspensions
- penultimate measure suspensions
- suspensions prohibited in a series
- use of unisons