

## Theory I Counterpoint duet project (take home)

Write a duet part against both *cantus firmi* for your own instrument or voice.

- If you play a low instrument (or have a low voice), write your counterpoint below both exercises. Play your duet with a friend or with me.
- If you play a high instrument (or have a high voice), write your counterpoint above both exercises. Play your duet with a friend or with me.
- Pianists may choose to write either above or below and will play both parts.
- See me regarding all other circumstances.
- If you play a transposing instrument, you will need to compose your added melody in the key it is written and transpose it for the performance. Turn in the untransposed version.

This project asks you to synthesize your study of species counterpoint by combining different species within the same exercise. Review all relevant rules and guidelines. Here's a general overview:

- First species is note against note, and must use all harmonic consonances.
- Second species is two notes against one in the *cantus firmus*. Possible dissonances include unaccented passing and neighboring tones.
- Third species is four notes against one in the *cantus firmus*. Possible dissonances include passing tones (unaccented, accented, and double) and neighboring tones (unaccented, accented, and double).
- Fourth species is two notes against one in the *cantus firmus*, using suspensions.
- **Remember to label all vertical harmonic intervals. Circle and label the dissonances used.**

You are given a set of suggestions regarding which species to use against the changing rhythms of each *cantus firmus*. Choose from the following options. No matter which option you choose, your counterpoints will be graded based on their aesthetic beauty and freedom from errors.

Option 1: follow the suggestions.

Option 2: ignore or modify the suggestions and choose your own rhythmic values against the given line. However, all four species must be represented and there must be at least two suspensions (but if you want to use more, go for it!)

We will be workshopping drafts the week prior to the performance. Consult individual instructors for specifics.

**Final drafts are due Friday, September 27, with performances in class! You must be present for the performance to receive full credit on the midterm. No late papers will be accepted.**



