



SAN JOSÉ STATE
UNIVERSITY
School of Music and Dance

MUSC 202, Graduate Seminar in Music Systems
Dr. B. Belet

ASSIGNMENT: Due February 4, 2019

Part 1 – Written

Prepare a list of those aspects of music that need to be analyzed in a composition. This list may be ranked in order of importance, or not, as you see fit. (This is a simple list, possibly with annotations. It is not an essay!) Print two copies of this assignment: hand one in at the beginning of class, and keep one for our discussion.

NOTE: This will be a brief document, no more than a single page.

Part 2 – Prepare for in-class discussion

1) Be able to discuss the items on your analysis list (above): Why you chose the items you did; Why you left others out; Your ranking of the items (if you did this).

2) Read the article excerpt that is posted on the course web site:

<http://www.beletmusic.com/sjsu-courses.html>

(refer to the 'MUSC 202' section of the page)

→ "Theoretical and Formal Continuity in James Tenney's Music"
Contemporary Music Review, 27/1, February 2008

Specific items for our discussion:

pp. 4-8 (NOTE: These are PDF document page numbers, not article page numbers)

Abstract

Formal Continuity

Form and Structure

pp. 13-14

Conclusion

How do Tenney's considerations of musical parameters to analyze agree or contrast with your own list? How might you reconcile any differences? Does Tenney's approach make sense (or was he as mad as a proverbial hatter)?