Concise Introduction To Tonal Harmony
Synopsis

The music theory text that students read and understand. Authors Burstein and Straus combine decades of teaching experience with concise prose, carefully curated musical examples, and a robust, skill-sharpening media program to illuminate the essential concepts of music theory.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Concise Introduction to Tonal Harmony accelerates the pedagogy of music theory into the twenty-first century by engaging adaptive technology.” - Cynthia Gonzales (Texas State University, San Marcos)

“Concise Introduction to Tonal Harmony is the textbook many music theory instructors have been waiting for.” - Donald Traut (University of Arizona)

“It is written by proven master teachers, and it shows.” - Jan Miyake (Oberlin Conservatory)

L. Poundie Burstein is Professor of Music Theory at Hunter College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. He has taught at Mannes College, Queens College, and Columbia University. He has written many articles on tonal music and performed extensively as a pianist for comedy improvisation groups. He is President of the Society for Music Theory.

Joseph Straus is Distinguished Professor of Music Theory at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. He has taught at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Queens College and has held visiting positions at the University of Chicago, Harvard University, Yale University, Princeton University, and New York University. He has many written articles and books on twentieth-century
music and is the author of several textbooks, including Concise Introduction to Tonal Harmony, Elements of Music, and Introduction to Post-Tonal Theory. He is a former President of the Society for Music Theory.

// I purchased this book through Canada, verified purchase mark could be seen through the Canadian page of this product when you see my review posted there. I disagree with Cynthia Gonzales' comment towards this textbook. Similar concise and essential pedagogy has been appeared in 1998 through Shimaoka's "Comprehensive Harmony" (General harmony - practical, analysis and principle (1998) ISBN: 4276102332 [Japanese Import]). However, Burstein's "Concise Introduction to Tonal Harmony" is the first English textbook I read with same extent of concision and essence comparing to Shimaoka's text. The current preview version still needs to fix some mistakes (as what I have found, there are contents of paradox found in Species Counterpoint section). Nevertheless, it's a wise choice to use this concise textbook for undergraduates. Students among universities in U.S. and Canada have to deal with heavy research workload for their Music History classes. They don't need a harmony textbook with lots of personal assumptions from author... too much assumptions or over-explanations may make students too early to have unnecessary doubts (which could hinder the effectiveness and the efficiency of students' study on tonal harmony). Nevertheless, tonal harmony teaching for undergraduates shall be in a scientific approach, which were all demonstrated by both Shimaoka and Burstein's textbook. N.B.: Yuzuru Shimaoka is the president of Music Theory Association in Japan, while Burstein is the president of "Society for Music Theory" in U.S. --- They have same level of authority regarding tonal harmony pedagogy.

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