

# AURAL SKILLS 1

## MUT 1241L, 1 credit hour

-FALL 2018 Syllabus-

Room: MUB 146

**Sections 31AA and 3H86**—Mondays and Wednesdays—3<sup>rd</sup> Period (9:35AM-10:25AM)

**Section 1300**—Mondays and Wednesdays—4<sup>th</sup> Period (10:40AM-11:30AM)

### Instructor

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### Teaching Assistant

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Office Hours: As posted online and by appointment

### Course Description

First of a sequence of four courses that develop skills in sight singing and ear training. Singing techniques are taught at the beginning of the course.

### Course Objectives

- To develop and reinforce skills such as dictation, sight singing, rhythmic sight reading, meter, and notational practice.
- An understanding of the common elements and organizational patterns of music and their interaction, the ability to employ this understanding in aural, verbal, and visual analyses, and the ability to take aural dictation. **(NASM VIII B. 2.a)**

### Required Textbooks

*Ear Training: A Technique for Listening*, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition-Benward/Kolosick

*A New Approach to Sight Singing*, 6e Edition-Berkowitz, Fontrier, Kraft, Goldstein, and Smaldone

### Required Materials

Pencil, manuscript paper (visit this site for free printout: <https://www.blanksheetmusic.net/> )

### Course Fee

None

## Course Outline

Weeks	Topic(s)**	Test(s)
1 August 22	Welcome and Syllabus	Aural Skills ENTRY Test (8/22)
2 August 27 August 29	Sight Singing: Intro to Solfege Systems; Scales Dictation: UNIT I Rhythm: Simple Meters (2/4, 3/4, 4/4)	
3 September 3 September 5	<b>LABOR DAY—NO CLASS (9/3)</b> Sight Singing: UNIT I Dictation: UNIT I Rhythm: Review for test	
4 September 10 September 12	Sight Singing: UNIT I Dictation: UNIT I Rhythm: <i>Test</i>	Rhythmic Sight Reading Test I (9/12)
5 September 17 September 19	Sight Singing: Review for test Dictation: Review of UNIT I Rhythm: Compound Meters (6/8, 9/8, 12/8)	Unit I Dictation Test (9/19)
6 September 24 September 26	Sight Singing: <i>test</i> ; start UNIT II Dictation: UNIT II Rhythm: Compound Meters (6/8, 9/8, 12/8)	Sight Singing Test I (9/24)
7 October 1 October 3	Sight Singing: UNIT II Dictation: UNIT II Rhythm: Compound Meters (6/8, 9/8, 12/8)	
8 October 8 October 10	Sight Singing: UNIT II Dictation: UNIT II Rhythm: Review; <i>test</i>	Rhythmic Sight Reading Test II (10/10)
9 October 15 October 17	Sight Singing: UNIT II Dictation: UNIT II Rhythm: Simple Meters: Syncopation, Ties, Dots, etc.	
10 October 22 October 24	Sight Singing: Review for test Dictation: Review of UNIT II; <i>test</i> Rhythm: Simple Meters: Syncopation, Ties, Dots, etc.	Unit II Dictation Test (10/24)
11 October 29 October 31	Sight Singing: <i>test</i> ; start UNIT III Dictation: UNIT III Rhythm: Simple Meters: Syncopation, Ties, Dots, etc.	Sight Singing Test II (10/29)
12 November 5 November 7	Sight Singing: UNIT III Dictation: UNIT III Rhythm: Review for test	
13 November 12 November 14	<b>VETERAN'S DAY—NO CLASS (11/12)</b> Rhythm: <i>test</i>	Rhythmic Sight Reading Test III (11/14)
14 November 19 November 21	Sight Singing: <i>test</i> <b>THANKSGIVING—NO CLASS (11/21)</b>	Sight Singing Test III (11/19)
15 November 26 November 28	Sight Singing: Duets from Berkowitz Dictation: Review of UNIT III	
16 December 3 December 5	<i>Dictation: Test and Exit Exam</i> <b>LAST DAY OF CLASS—DECEMBER 5<sup>th</sup></b>	UNIT III Dictation Test (12/3) Aural Skills EXIT Test

\*\*Further details on individual Units can be found below

### Dictation Unit Tests (all found in *Ear Training: A Technique for Listening* textbook)

- **UNIT I:** Melody 1A, 1B, 2B, 3B, 1C, 1D, 2D (including P1, P8); Harmony 1E; Rhythm 1A (Simple meters only)
- **UNIT II:** Melody 2A, 3A, 2C, 3D, 4D, 5D; Harmony 2E, 3C (Introduction to tonic, subdominant, and dominant chords), 3E; Rhythm 2A
- **UNIT III:** Melody 4A, 4B, 5B, 3C, 6D, 7D; Harmony 1A (root position only), 2A (root position only), 2D, 4E; Rhythm 3A, 3B, 4B

### Rhythmic Sight Reading Tests

- **I:** Simple Meters (2/4, 3/4, 4/4)
- **II:** Compound Meters (6/8, 9/8, 12/8)
- **III:** Simple Meters with syncopation, ties, dots, etc.

### Sight Singing Unit Tests (examples taken from Berkowitz's *A New Approach to Sight Singing*)

- **UNIT I MAJOR MODE STEPWISE MOTION**
  - Part I *Be able to sing a Major Scale Ascending and Descending (starting pitch will be given)*
  - Part II Prepared: Berkowitz Book pgs 6-7 (#s 8-14); Alto clef pg 14 (#41)
- **UNIT II MINOR MODES STEPWISE MOTION**
  - Part I *Be able to sing **any requested form** of the Minor Scale Ascending and Descending (starting pitch will be given)*
  - Part II Prepared: Berkowitz Book pgs 11-12 (#s30-36); pg 273 (#14\*) and pg 275 (# 21\*)  
*\*learn both top and bottom lines*
- **UNIT III MAJOR/MINOR TONIC TRIAD**
  - Part I Prepared: Berkowitz Book Berkowitz Book pg 8 (#s 15-19); pg 9 (#23); Alto clef pg 20 (#74); pg 16 (#51); pg 17 (#s 56, 58, 59)
  - Part II Unprepared: Be prepared to sing a short musical example at sight (any clef/Major and Minor modes/stepwise motion ONLY)

### Course Components for Evaluation

- **Dictation Tests (35%)**—students will take **three (3)** dictation tests over the course of the semester. Dictation tests will feature sections covered in class from the Benward/Kolosick ear training manual. The student should refer to the course outline above to see which sections from the manual will be tested. Students are required to complete dictation tests with a pencil. *Outside practice is necessary for success on these dictation tests.*
- **Rhythmic Sight Reading Tests (35%)**—students will perform **three (3)** rhythmic sight reading tests **in class** over the course of the semester. For each test, students will be expected to execute one rhythmic example at sight by “tah-ing.” Through in-class drilling of rhythm and outside of class practice, students will have sufficient preparation for these tests.
- **Sight Singing Tests (30%)**—students will perform **three (3)** sight singing tests **in class** over the course of the semester. Students will be tested from prepared examples (see course outline above) and will have an additional component as well (i.e. singing a major scale provided a starting pitch, short musical example, etc.).
  - Students are required to use the **moveable do system**. If a student does not use the moveable do system to perform the test, **he/she will receive a zero** for that test.
  - If a student would like feedback regarding his/her performance on a sight singing test, he/she must follow up with the instructor through email by the end of the sight singing test day. Any requests for feedback after the day of the sight singing test will not be honored.

## Evaluation

<b>Dictation Unit Tests (3)</b>	35%
<b>Rhythmic Sight Reading Tests (3)</b>	35%
<b>Sight Singing Unit Tests (3)</b>	30%
<b>Total</b>	100%

## Grading Scale\*

Grade	Percent Grade	Points
A	93.4-100	4.00
A-	90.0-93.3	3.67
B+	86.7-89.9	3.33
B	83.4-86.6	3.00
B-	80.0-83.3	2.67
C+	76.7-79.9	2.33
C	73.4-76.6	2.00
<b>C-</b>	<b>70.0-73.3</b>	<b>1.67</b>
D+	66.7-69.9	1.33
D	63.4-66.6	1.00
D-	60.0-63.3	0.67
E	0-59.9	0.00

*You must receive at least a C or better (70%) to advance on to Aural Skills 2, per baccalaureate music degree requirements.*

\*More information on grades and grading policies can be found here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

## Course Policies

- Cell phones, PDAs, MP3 players, laptop computers, and other electronic devices are **not to be used in class** as they disrupt students' attention and distract both fellow classmates and the instructor. Any infraction (such as texting, talking, listening to MP3s) **will result in an assigned absence for the day**. If a student needs to use an electronic device due to a documented disability, he/she needs to notify the instructor immediately.
- Students are expected to come to class **on time** and prepared from sufficient work outside of class. Students are permitted **three (3) late arrivals** to class; any late arrivals after three will result in assigned absences. Assigned absences due to late arrivals will count towards the overall policy.
- Students are expected to come to class prepared with the appropriate materials (i.e. pencil/manuscript paper/textbooks) for each class session. Any student that sits during class instruction without the appropriate materials to use **will be marked absent for the day**. *Note, on test days, textbooks and other materials are not required for class.*
- Students **are required to utilize a pencil** on dictation tests. If a dictation test is submitted in pen, **it will be not be graded and receive a zero**.
- Students are strongly encouraged to use online resources (as shared with students by the instructor), programs in the Music Computer Lab (MUB 147), and any other ear training resources to aid in their preparation and understanding of materials presented in class.
- Students are expected to participate in class and be mentally present. Any student found working on outside class material, sleeping, or engaging in any other activity non-related to instruction will be **given one warning** for that class. After the first warning, if the student engages again in a non-related class activity during that same class, he/she will **be marked absent for the day**.
- **Communication Policies:**
  - Students are strongly urged to confer with the instructor on their progress or any issues or questions regarding the course. Also students are encouraged to seek out help from the Teaching Assistant. **Do not wait** until the end of the semester to consult the professor and/or Teaching Assistant if you are encountering difficulties! To communicate with your instructor, use your UF email account, stop by during office hours, or set up an individual appointment.

- Students are asked to not email the professor or TAs or use office hours to review material missed due to absence/tardiness (exceptions: illness/religious holidays/extenuating circumstances). TA and instructor office hours should be available for students who need extra assistance outside of class, not for repeating material that was missed in class for an unnecessary absence.
- The instructor will utilize email as the main form of communication outside of class. **It is expected that students check their email multiple times a week** in order to not miss important announcements, postings, etc. “I didn’t see your email/announcement or I missed your email/announcement” will not be an acceptable excuse from students and will result in the student being held to any consequences for neglecting to read an important email/announcement.
- Students are expected to respond to their instructor’s inquiries, either verbally or through email, in a timely manner. Any emails sent to the instructor from a non-UF account and/or without formal greeting and closing **will not** receive a response.
- The instructor reserves the right to dismiss any student who is being disruptive or disrespectful in the classroom. Any student who is dismissed due to these reasons **will receive an absence for the day** and a follow up from the Dean of Students Office.
- **Attendance Policy:** Attendance is crucial for building aural skills, especially since this course’s material builds upon itself.
  - Attendance is mandatory for this course; however, every student will be **permitted four (4)\* absences to use at their disposal** without penalty to his/her grade. After four absences are achieved, **each additional absence will result in a deduction of 5% from the overall grade.**
  - Absences assigned due to violating the late arrival policy will count towards the attendance policy.
  - It is the student’s responsibility to keep track of his/her number of absences; however, he/she may request through an email to the instructor an official absence count.
  - Extreme medical, family, and/or personal hardships encountered by the student that might result in achieving many absences that negatively affect his/her grade for and performance in this course must be brought to the instructor’s attention immediately and have supporting verifiable documentation in order for the instructor to consider the student’s earned grade without applying the absence penalty. It is advised that the student review UF’s policies on withdrawals to find out what options are available should a situation described above arise: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/dropping-courses-withdrawals/#droppingcoursestext>  
*\*Absences missed due to religious holiday or practice will not count against the overall allotted absence amount.*
- **Test Make-up Policy:**
  - In order for the student to make up a test, the instructor must receive notification (email) from the student of an illness/emergency **no later than 15 minutes into class-time** (preferably before class has started) **as well as an excuse note** (see bullet points below) shown to the instructor at the next class the student attends. *Having a classmate notify the instructor of an issue will not suffice as notification or excuse!*
  - Tests may only be made up if the student has one of the excuses below:
    - **Verifiable Illness** (confirmed by a health care provider/printout from student health care center/notification from registrar) or **Verifiable emergency** (with documentation).
    - School-sponsored trips/activities (bring a note from your instructor **before** the absence and schedule a make-up test **before the trip**).
    - An absence on a test date **discussed** with the instructor and **excused in advance** (make-up test must be scheduled before the absence)
    - **A Religious holiday/practice**
  - If portions of a test are missed due to a late arrival without verifiable excuse, the student will not be offered the opportunity to make those missed portions up.

- It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor to make up a test. If a student does not schedule a make-up test **within one week** of the missed test, he/she **will not be extended a make-up opportunity** and will receive **a zero** on that test.

## Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

## Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

## University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conducthonor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

## Campus Resources

### Health and Wellness

- *U Matter, We Care*  
If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or (352) 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.
- *Counseling and Wellness Center*  
<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.
- *Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)*  
Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.
- University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

### Academic Resources

- E-learning technical support, (352) 392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to [Learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:Learning-support@ufl.edu).  
<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.
- Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.  
<http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>
- Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources

## Agreement

By remaining in this class beyond the add/drop deadline, *you acknowledge and accept* the terms of this syllabus.

**Course evaluation, components, topics, dates, and class policies are subject to change at the instructor's discretion. Students will be given due notice through email if any changes are made.**