

AURAL SKILLS 4

MUT 2247L, 1 credit hour

-SPRING 2020 Syllabus-

Instructor

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Course Description

Fourth of a sequence of four courses that develop skills in sight singing and ear training. Prereq: MUT 2246L.

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

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

Recommended Textbooks

Ear Training: A Technique for Listening, 7th Edition-Benward/Kolosick

Required Materials

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

Course Fee

None

Course Outline *(note: by the second week of a class, a full outline will be posted to Canvas)*

Weeks	Topic(s)**	Test(s)
1 January 6-9	Syllabus and Diagnostic Test	Diagnostic Test

Note, course schedule and topics/units covered are subject to change.

Course Components for Evaluation

- **Dictation Tests** (50%)**—students will take **three (3)** dictation tests over the course of the semester. Dictation tests will feature sections from the Benward/Kolosick ear training manual as well as materials/topics covered in class. 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.* ****Dictation Tests (tests will be constructed from in-class practice/drilling and from units found in the text Ear Training: A Technique for Listening)**
- **Prepared Sight Singing Units** (20%)**—by the end of each sight singing/rhythmic sight reading test week, students are required to submit to CANVAS recordings of all examples from each prepared sight singing unit. **There will be three (3) prepared sight singing units.** Students are required to use the moveable do system for the prepared examples of the sight singing test. If a student does not use the moveable do system to perform the test, he/she will receive a *half credit* for that portion of the test. Further instructions for submittal during sight singing test weeks will be distributed several weeks before their due dates. Students are required to submit audio files for their sight singing. **Video files will not be accepted and will result in a zero being assigned!** ****Prepared Sight Singing Units (the examples for each unit will be distributed and posted to Canvas at least 3 weeks before their submittal deadline)**
- **Unprepared Sighting Singing and Rhythmic Sight Reading Unit Tests (30%)**—students will perform **three (3)** sight singing/rhythmic sight reading tests in individual appointments (during sight singing test weeks) over the course of the semester. Through practice both in class and outside of class from the Berkowitz Sight Singing books as well as supplementary examples, students will be sufficiently prepared for each unit test.
 - For the unprepared sight singing portion of the test, students **must utilize moveable do** as their system to sing pitches.
 - For each unit test, students will be expected to execute one rhythmic example at sight by “tah-ing,” counting, or other verbal execution of the rhythm.
 - If a student would like feedback regarding his/her performance on an unprepared sight singing/rhythmic unit test, he/she must follow up with the instructor through email by the end of the sight singing test day appointment. Any requests for feedback after the day of the test will not be honored.

Evaluation

Dictation Tests (3)	50%
Unprepared Sight Singing/Rhythmic Sight Reading Unit Tests (3)	30%
Prepared Sight Singing Units (3)	20%
Total	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
C-	70.0-73.3	1.67
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%) in this course, per baccalaureate music degree requirements.

****Important grading clause: the instructor reserves the right to not round up final grades to the next letter grade.**

*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**.

PREPARED SIGHT SINGING UNITS SUBMITTAL POLICIES

- For each day a prepared sight singing unit is submitted late to the Canvas assignments portal, the instructor will deduct **one letter grade** off of the overall assigned grade for the prepared sight singing unit submittal. Prepared sight singing units submitted three or more days after the deadline **will not be graded and will be assigned a zero**. Prepared sight singing submitted after the 11:00pm deadline on the due date will lose 10 points off of the overall earned grade.
- All recordings must be submitted as audio files. Video files **will not** be accepted!
- For technical difficulties to be considered as an excuse for an assignment extension the instructor must receive notification **at least several hours** in advance of the deadline.
- Students must submit their own work for these sight singing units. If students submit recordings not of their own doing, they will receive a zero on the entire Unit. Multiple instances of this will result in the instructor pursuing additional sanctions (See University honor code section below).
- **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 instructor. **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 use office hours to review material missed due to absence/tardiness (exceptions: illness/religious holidays/extenuating circumstances). 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 /Canvas 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 regarding proper classroom decorum.
- **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.
 - Absences incurred due to religious practices/holidays and/or official UF business (i.e. tours, conferences, etc.) will not count against the student.
 - 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 (appointment with Student Health Care Center) or Verifiable emergency**
 - 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 ten days** 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/) 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 professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-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://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-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 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.
<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, 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.