

MUSI 1224: Musicianship I
Fall 2017

Instructor: Dr. Kevin Clifton

Office: 225 E

Office Hours: MWF (1-1:50 in SOM office); MTWThF (2-5 in the Sam Center)

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Required Texts and Materials:

- 1) *Music for Sight Singing, 9th edition* (Nancy Rogers, Robert W. Ottman)
- 2) *Developing Aural Skills, vol. 1* (Barbara K. Wallace)
- 3) Music staff paper; pencils; erasers

Course Description:

This course provides intensive drills in reproducing and identifying the fundamental structures of music. The course content is divided into two parts:

- (1) *performance skills* (i.e., singing major and minor melodies in treble, alto, tenor, and bass clefs with solfège; counting rhythms in simple and compound meters; singing harmonic arpeggios; conducting the appropriate meter patterns during performances)
- (2) *aural skills* (i.e., your ability to hear music and interpret what you hear on staff paper with an emphasis on rhythmic dictation, melodic dictation, harmonic dictation, and interval identification)

Course Content:

Music for Sight Singing, 9th edition

Chapters 1-9

Developing Aural Skills, vol. 1

Units I-III

Co-enrollment:

Students in Musicianship I should also be enrolled in MUSI 1222 (Music Theory I) to ensure maximum success in learning the fundamental concepts of Western music. Please notify your instructor immediately if you are not currently co-enrolled.

Class Participation:

When you come to class, be prepared to participate. MUSI 1224 is an experiential class in that you will be actively engaged with the material through performance and aural activities on a daily basis. You will have an assignment for most classes and you should be ready to perform the materials by yourself. Think of these as performances, much like a performance in a solo recital. Students who have not brought their materials, are being disruptive in any way, or are not paying attention, may be asked to leave the class for that day and will receive an unexcused absence.

Theory Department Attendance and Tardy Policy:

Classroom attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class. Regular and punctual attendance is expected throughout the semester. University policy permits **3 classroom hours of unexcused absence without penalty per semester (T/Th = 2 absences)**. For each additional unexcused absence, 3 points will be deducted from your final grade. **Arriving late to class twice = 1**

unexcused absence; once roll has been taken, you are officially late to class. Excused absences include: official university functions or illness with appropriate documentation. If you anticipate a legitimate absence on a test date, contact me at least one week in advance so that plans can be coordinated for a possible make-up exam. Make-up Exams may be granted at my discretion and will be determined on a case-by-case basis. You are responsible for all assignments and material covered on the days of your absence.

Classroom Etiquette:

Students will not be allowed to eat in class, but can have a covered drink. Students may not use cell phones or other electronic devices such as laptops, iPods, etc., during class. Students may not use offensive language or be disrespectful to other members in the class. Repeat: disruptive students may be asked to leave the class for that day and will receive an unexcused absence for that day. It is essential to have a *positive learning environment* so that you and your colleagues can do your best in the class.

Neatness:

All work to be graded should be neat, legible, and done in pencil on staff paper. Any work the instructor considers to be illegible will not be graded and you will not receive credit. If you have a question about the quality of your work, ask your instructor before you turn it in to be graded. Always take pride in your work!

Homework Policy:

Your instructor will give you homework assignments that will consist of doing dictations and preparing materials to be performed in class (i.e., melodies, rhythms and harmonic arpeggios). The dictation exercises will require the use of the CD-ROM that goes with the *Developing Aural Skills* text. Extra copies of the CD-ROMs are on reserve in the Music Listening Room located on the 1st floor of the Newton Gresham Library.

Dictation assignments are due at the beginning of each class. If you are absent, you must find someone to turn in your dictation assignment on your behalf at the beginning of class. **No late homework will be accepted.** If you are absent (unexcused) on a day that your instructor is taking a performance grade, you will receive a zero for that missed performance.

Individual Hearings:

There will be three individual Hearings with me in Musicianship I. Times for individual Hearings will be set up with the professor typically the same week as each of the three Aural Skills Exams. Hearings may consist of both Prepared Materials (assigned melodies) and Unprepared Materials (melodies at sight).

Aural Skills Exams:

There will be three Aural Skills Exams in Musicianship I that may consist of the following materials: Melodic Dictation, Rhythmic Dictation, Harmonic Dictation, Interval Identification.

Final Grade Calculation for Course:

Daily Performances	12.5%
Aural Skills:	
Melodic Dictation Homework	8.5%
Aural Quizzes	8.0%
Exam #1	
Individual Hearing	10.5%
Aural Skills/Dictation	10.5%
Exam #2	
Individual Hearing	12.5%
Aural Skills/Dictation	12.5%
Exam #3 (Final Exams)	
Individual Hearing	12.5%
Aural Skills/Dictation	12.5%

Grading Scale:

A = 90 – 100

B = 80 – 89

C = 70 – 79

D = 60 – 69

F = 0 – 59

Requirements for Students Receiving Unsatisfactory Grades:

Students who have received a final grade of D or lower in any theory or musicianship course the previous semester will be required to drop the next course in the sequence if still enrolled at the beginning of the next semester. Prerequisite courses must be passed with a grade of C or higher for promotion to the next level.

SHSU Theory Department Tutoring Policy:

Each student has his/her own unique areas of strengths and weaknesses. If you are falling behind in a certain area and are not able to visit your instructor during scheduled office hours, you should contact them via email to arrange a time to meet that will fit your schedule. In addition, a department tutor will also be available for free tutoring for theory and musicianship throughout the semester.

University Policy on Academic Dishonesty:

The Faculty Handbook states that the University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Furthermore, the University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to: cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. In sum: do your own work! Working on homework assignments with your friends and classmates is *not* acceptable; this is an example of collusion.

More on Classroom Demeanor and Rules of Conduct:

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, the mission of the University. Please turn off your cell phone, tablet, and/or pager before class. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking amongst each other at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a, minimally, directive to leave class, or being reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with the University policy.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

Any student with a disability that affects his/her academic functioning should contact the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at the SHSU Counseling Center (Lee Drain North Annex, telephone 936-294-1720, TDD 936-294-3786) to apply for accommodations. In the event that accommodations are approved by SSD, the student is advised to schedule an appointment with the course instructor in order to present his/her accommodation forms and discuss the arrangements for the accommodations.

Student Absences on Religious Holidays Policy:

Section 51.911 (b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to be absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) a religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first 15 days of the semester or the first 7 days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

Proposed Course Schedule and Weekly Assignments/Exams – the homework melodies to sing are to be prepared outside of class, and are found in the *Music for Sight Singing* text. The written homework dictation assignments are found in the *Developing Aural Skills* text and utilize the accompanying CDs. I reserve the right to adjust this course plan as needed to accommodate any issues that may arise throughout the semester.

Unit 1:

- Week 1 (8/23, 8/25) Chapter 1: Simple Meters; The Beat and Its Division into Two Parts
Homework Dictations: p. 53 #I-6
- Week 2 (8/28, 8/30, 9/1) Chapter 2: Stepwise Melodies, Major Keys; Simple Meters; The Beat and Its Division into Two Parts
Melodies to sing for grade: p. 14 #2.3 and p. 15 #2.9
Due: 8/30 and 9/1
Homework Dictations: p. 43 #I-1
Due: 9/6
- Week 3 (9/6, 9/8) Chapter 2 continued
Melodies to sing for grade: p. 16 #2.20 and p. 17 #2.21
Due: 9/6 and 9/8
9/8: Practice Aural Quiz
Homework Dictations: p. 51 #I-5
Due: 9/11
- Week 4 (9/11, 9/13, 9/15) Chapter 3: Leaps within the Tonic Triad, Major Keys; Simple Meters
Melodies to sing for grade: p. 29 #3.14 and p. 32 #3.27
Due: 9/13 and 9/15
9/15: Aural Quiz #1
Homework Dictations: p. 55 #I-7
Due: 9/18
- Week 5 (9/18, 9/20, 9/22) REVIEW and EXAMS
9/22: Aural Exam #1

Unit 2:

- Week 6 (9/25, 9/27, 9/29) Chapter 4: Leaps within the Tonic Triad, Major Keys; Compound Meters; The Beat and Its Division into Three Parts
Melodies to sing for grade: p. 49 #4.28, p. 53 #4.44, and p. 55 #4.52
Due 9/27 and 9/29
Homework Dictations: p. 67 #II-3
Due: 10/2

Week 7 (10/2, 10/4, 10/6)	<p>Chapter 5: Minor Keys; Leaps within the Tonic Triad</p> <p>Melodies to sing for grade: p. 67 #5.11 and p. 69 #5.20</p> <p>Due: 10/4 and 10/6</p> <p>Homework Dictations: p. 65 #II-2</p> <p>Due: 10/9</p>
Week 8 (10/9, 10/11, 10/13)	<p>Chapter 5 continued</p> <p>Melodies to sing for grade: p. 73 #5.33 and p. 74 #5.38</p> <p>Due: 10/11 and 10/13</p> <p><i>10/13: Aural Quiz #2</i></p> <p>Homework Dictations: p. 73 #II-6</p> <p>Due: 10/16</p>
Week 9 (10/16, 10/18, 10/20)	<p>Chapter 6: Leaps within the Dominant Triad (V); Major and Minor Keys</p> <p>Melodies to sing for grade: p. 83 #6.12, p. 87 #6.26, and p. 91 #6.46</p> <p>Due: 10/18 and 10/20</p> <p>Homework Dictations: p. 75 #II-7</p> <p>Due: 10/23</p>
Week 10 (10/23, 10/25, 10/27)	<p>REVIEW and EXAMS</p> <p>10/27: Aural Exam #2</p>
Unit 3:	
Week 11 (10/30, 11/1, 11/3)	<p>Chapter 7: Alto and Tenor Clefs</p> <p>Melodies to sing for grade: p. 104 #7.14 and #7.15</p> <p>Due: 11/1 and 11/3</p> <p>Homework Dictations: p. 81 #III-1</p> <p>Due: 11/6</p>
Week 12 (11/6, 11/8, 11/10)	<p>Chapter 7 continued</p> <p>Melodies to sing for grade: p. 107 #7.26 and p. 108 #7.30</p> <p>Due: 11/8 and 11/10</p> <p>Homework Dictations: p. 83 #III-2</p> <p>Due: 11/13</p>
Week 13 (11/13, 11/15, 11/17)	<p>Chapter 8: Further Use of Diatonic Leaps; Simple and Compound Meters</p> <p>Melodies to sing for grade: p. 117 #8.13 and p. 121 #8.27</p> <p>Due: 11/15 and 11/17</p> <p><i>11/17: Aural Quiz #3</i></p> <p>Homework Dictations: p. 91 #III-6</p> <p>Due: 11/20</p>

Week 14 (11/20)

Chapter 8 continued

Ensemble Performances: p. 129 #8.62 and p. 130 #8.65

Happy Thanksgiving!

Week 15 (11/27, 11/29, 12/1)

Chapter 9: Leaps within the Dominant Seventh Chord (V^7);

Other Diatonic Seventh Leaps

Melodies to sing for grade: p. 138 #9.17 and #9.18

Due: 11/9 and 12/1

Homework Dictations: p. 89 #III-5

Due: The date of your final dictation exam

** Final Dictation Exam will be given during your Final Exam period for the class.

FINAL EXAM:

** Final Hearing will be scheduled during the week of Final Exams.

Sample Grading Rubric:

I. Singing

** You should refrain from writing in solfège syllables on your score. If you get in the practice of doing this, you will not be learning the syllables.

To earn an A*, all of these characteristics must be present in your performance:

- correct syllables
- excellent intonation
- excellent execution of rhythm/meter
- excellent conducting
- excellent use of dynamics, phrasing and articulation
- forward motion is maintained consistently throughout melody and you do not stop singing

To earn a B, one or more will be present in your performance:

- basically correct but not quite perfect syllables
- good but not excellent intonation
- good but not excellent execution of rhythm/meter
- good but not excellent conducting
- dynamics, phrasing and articulation ok
- you stop singing one time and lose forward motion

To earn a C, one or more will be present in your performance:

- weak syllables, but clearly understand key
- intonation basically sound but with some significant flaws
- multiple flaws in execution of rhythm/meter
- multiple flaws in conducting
- dynamics, phrasing and articulation bland
- you stop singing two times and lose forward motion

To earn a D, one or more will be present in your performance:

- marginal sense of syllables and key
- intonation only hit and miss
- marginal execution of rhythm/meter
- marginal execution of conducting
- marginal sense of dynamics, phrasing and articulation
- you stop singing three times and lose forward motion

To earn an F, one or more will be present in your performance:

- no understanding of syllables or key
- intonation completely off
- minimal execution of rhythm/meter
- no execution of conducting
- no sense of dynamics, phrasing and articulation
- you stop singing four times and lose forward motion
- you lose tonic

*You may earn a perfect score (100%) on a singing assignment by performing the example from memory AND successfully completing the requirements for an “A” grade.