

Sul Ross State University
Ear Training I
MUS 1116
Fall 2014

Professor: Heather Ainsworth-Dobbins

Email: hobbins@sulross.edu

Office: 206A

Phone: (432) 837-8130

Class Meetings: T/Th 9:30-10:20am, FAB 200

Description

This course will introduce the aural study of basic musical elements with emphasis on sight-singing and harmonic and melodic dictation.

Music Program Learning Objectives

This course is a required course for a major in instrumental music. As such, it helps the student to meet one or more of the program learning outcomes for the major. These learning outcomes include:

The graduating student will demonstrate:

1. the ability to integrate appropriate musical expression into performance.
2. the ability to prepare appropriate program notes.
3. the ability to evaluate and critique a musical performance.
4. a general knowledge of music history

Student Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Count basic rhythms in simple and compound meter types with steady beat and designated counting syllables.
- Sing scalar melodies in major keys with proper syllables while maintaining a steady beat and consistent tonal center.
- Perform leaps from the tonic triad in major keys both in isolated drills and within the context of written melodies.
- Aurally identify all ascending intervals up to the octave.
- Differentiate between the qualities of root position triads.
- Upon hearing, notate short melodies with leaps from the tonic triad.
- Upon hearing, notate basic rhythmic patterns.

Text and Materials

- *Fundamentals of Sight Singing and Ear Training*, Arnold Fish and Norman Lloyd, Waveland Press.
- *Music for Ear Training*, Horvitt/Koozin/Nelson, Schirmer.
- Lined notation paper
- Earbuds/headphones

Class Attendance and Participation

- Late arrival and excessive absences are unprofessional and, therefore, unacceptable for this course.
 - You are allowed two unexcused absences for the semester.
 - Each absence after two will lower your final grade by one letter grade. (For example, an A becomes a B, an A- becomes a B-.)
 - Absences will be excused for medical emergencies or serious personal conflicts, but prior approval or documentation is required.

- A tardy of no more than 10 minutes will equate to 1/3 of an absence.
- A tardy of more than 10 minutes will be recorded as an absence. (I still encourage you to come to class if you'll be more than 10 minutes late- you will be less likely to miss information that way.)
- As is expected with an employed teacher, please call me if you are going to be absent or tardy to class. Call *prior* to the start of class.
- Students with six unexcused absences will be dropped from the class.

Professional Communication Policy

- All communication with me should be done either face-to-face or through email.
- You are expected to check your email on a regular basis.
- Communication by cell phone is for EMERGENCY ONLY! Please call if an emergency will prevent you from attending class. Text messaging will not be allowed, nor will communication via Facebook.

Course Assignments & Grading:

Grades for this course will be determined according to the following criteria:

- Assignments 50%
- Sight-singing and Dictation Quizzes 30%
- Final Exam 20%

Grading guidelines for sight-singing quizzes:

- A+ : Correct pitches, correct rhythm, correct conducting, performed confidently and musically
- A: Correct pitches, correct rhythm, correct conducting
- A-: Minor errors in one or two areas
- B+: Minor errors in three areas or 1-2 obvious rhythm errors; stopping and continuing
- B: 2-3 serious pitch errors or serious rhythmic errors; beginning over
- B-: 3-4 serious pitch errors and/or many rhythmic errors
- C's: Starting over more than once; additional pitch and rhythm errors; failure to conduct
- D's: Numerous errors in all areas; lack of orientation to key center; poor preparation
- F: Numerous errors in all areas; apparent lack of preparation

Extra Help in the Course:

Seeking “extra help” in this course means that while you may be having trouble grasping the material for the class, you claim full responsibility for your own learning – you are not missing excessive class and are not interested in blaming anyone else for your situation. In this case, help is available! If you experience difficulty, seek help immediately by making an appointment to see me as soon as possible. Do not wait for things to “get better on their own;” this seldom happens! Seek out the extra resources available to you before it's too late in the semester to make a difference in your final grade.

ADA Accommodations

It is Sul Ross State University policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodations because of a physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact the ADA coordinator for Program Accessibility located in the Counseling Center or call 837-8203.

Tentative Schedule and Topics to be Covered:

8/26-8/28: Syllabus/ Unit I
9/2-9/4: Unit I contd.
9/9-9/11: Unit II
9/16-9/18: Unit II contd.
9/23-9/25: Unit III
9/30-10/2: Unit III contd.
10/7-10/9: Unit III contd./ Unit IV
10/14-10/16: Unit IV contd.
10/21-10/23: Unit IV contd./ Unit V
10/28-10/30: Unit V contd.
11/4-11/6: Unit V contd.
11/11-11/13: Unit VI
11/18-11/20: Unit VI contd.
11/25: Unit VI contd.
11/26-28: Thanksgiving Break
12/2: Last class day **REVIEW FOR FINAL**
Tuesday, 12/9: Final Exam, 8am