

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY

SYLLABUS

MUS 3141: Sight Singing and Ear Training IV
TT 9:30-10:20 A.M.

Spring, 2026
FAB 200

Dr. Karrin Ford
Office: FAB 107
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Office Hours: MWF 11-12; TR 11-12; or by appointment

Course Description:

A continuation of MUS 2116, designed as the aural skills complement to MUS 3341 (Music Theory IV). Emphasis will be placed on the solfège singing of major and minor melodies at sight, rhythmic reading in simple and compound meters, and melodic, rhythmic, and harmonic dictation of contemporary material.

Required Materials:

Phillips, Joel, and Paul Murphy, Elizabeth West Marvin, and Jane Piper Clendinning. *The Musician's Guide to Aural Skills: Ear Training*, 4th edition. New York: W. W. Norton, 2021.

Rogers, Nancy and Robert Ottman. *Music for Sight Singing*, 10th edition. Boston: Pearson, 2019.

Manuscript paper and pencil (required for every session)

Objectives:

This course is designed to give students increased skills in musicianship, with particular emphasis on sight singing and dictation.

Specific skills to be acquired/strengthened include:

- Aural recognition of any harmonic interval within the octave
- Singing and identification in any register of scale degrees in major or minor keys
- Melodic dictation of non-modulating melodies, including 7th-chord arpeggiation

- Reading of rhythms in simple and compound meters, including subdivisions, triplets, duplets, and syncopation, using rhythmic syllables while conducting
- Aural recognition of seventh chord types, including inversion
- Harmonic dictation of progressions, including all diatonic triads, seventh chords, and non-chord tones
- Dictation of two-voice 2:1 counterpoint

Student Learning Outcomes for Music Majors:

SLO 1: All students will demonstrate the ability to integrate appropriate musical expression into performance.

SLO 2: All students will demonstrate the ability to research and prepare appropriate program notes.

SLO 3: All students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate and critique a musical performance.

Attendance:

Regular, punctual attendance is essential if the educational objectives of this course are to be achieved, particularly given its interactive nature. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class.

In accordance with the *Sul Ross State University Student Handbook*, any student who accumulates more than nine (9) absences may be dropped from a course at the faculty member's discretion.

Students are responsible for all class material, activities, and announcements made when absent.

University-excused absences will allow students to make up or complete assignments incurred by absence without penalty. The following instances constitute a university-excused absence: 1) documented illness with note from a medical provider; 2) family emergency; 3) university-approved activity.

University-related activity necessitating an absence from class will not count as an absence.

Major tests will be rescheduled in the case of a university-excused absence.

An unexcused absence will result in a grade of zero for any quiz, daily assignment, or homework grade taken that day.

Two tardies will equal one absence.

Homework:

Success in this course is closely linked to consistent practice outside of class. A significant portion of homework for the course will consist of melodies or rhythms to be prepared independently and performed and graded in class.

Food and Drink:

No food or drink may be brought into the classroom, other than bottled water.

Grading:

Daily Assignments	30%
Tests	30%
Dictation Assignments	20%
Final Examination	20%

90 - 100	A	Excellent
80 - 89	B	Good
70 - 79	C	Average
60 - 69	D	Poor
Below 60	F	Failure

Grading guidelines for sight-singing and dictation:

- A+: Correct pitches, rhythm, and conducting, performed confidently and musically
- A: Correct pitches, rhythm, and 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; stopping and beginning again
- B-: 3-4 serious pitch errors and/or many rhythmic errors
- C: Starting over more than once; additional pitch and rhythm errors; failure to conduct accurately
- D: Numerous errors in all areas; lack of orientation to key center; poor preparation
- F: Numerous errors in all areas; lack of concentration

Electronics:

The use of cell phones and other electronic devices (computers, MP3 players, recording devices, etc.) during class is prohibited.

Disability:

Sul Ross State University is committed to providing equal access for all students, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. Students seeking accessibility services for this course should contact the ADA Coordinator for Program Accessibility, Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall 112 (Mailing address: P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832) or call (432) 837-8691 for more information about specific services available at Sul Ross State University.

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1	1/15	Written: Phillips, Chapter 22, p. 217
Week 2	1/20 1/22	Oral: Ottman, Chapter 15, p. 246 Written: Phillips, Chapter 22, p. 217
Week 3	1/27 1/29	Oral: Ottman, Chapter 15, p. 246 Written: Phillips, Chapter 22, p. 217
Week 4	2/03 2/05	Oral: Ottman, Chapter 15, p. 246 Review
Week 5	2/10 2/12	TEST I NO CLASS: TMEA
Week 6	2/17 2/19	Oral: Ottman, Chapter 16, p. 281 Written: Phillips, Chapter 23, p. 237
Week 7	2/24 2/26	Oral: Ottman, Chapter 16, p. 281 Written: Karpinski, Chapter 23, p. 237
Week 8	3/03 3/05	Review TEST II
	3/09-3/13	SPRING BREAK

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Week 9	3/17 3/19	Oral: Ottman, Chapter 17, p. 313 Written: Phillips, Chapter 24, p. 253
Week 10	3/24 3/26	Oral: Ottman, Chapter 17, p. 313 Written: Phillips, Chapter 24, p. 253
Week 11	3/31 4/02	Oral: Ottman, Chapter 17, p. 313 Written: Phillips, Chapter 25, p. 265
Week 12	4/07 4/09	Review TEST III
Week 13	4/14 4/16	Oral: Ottman, Chapter 19, p. 348 Written: Phillips, Chapter 26, p. 277
Week 14	4/21 4/23	Oral: Ottman, Chapter 19, p. 348 Written: Phillips, Chapter 27, p. 289
Week 15	4/28	Review for Final Exam

FINAL EXAMINATION: Monday, May 4, 8:00 – 10:00 A.M.