

AURAL SKILLS 4

M/W 9:35AM-10:25AM; T/TH 8:30AM-9:20AM; T/TH 10:40AM-11:30AM

MUT 2247L, 1 credit hour

-SPRING 2021 Syllabus-

Instructor

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Graduate Assistant

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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 Software

Auralia⁶ Ear Training Student Cloud Program *[note: many assignments will be assigned/completed through this program—students must use this on their DESKTOP (not the browser version) to have access to assignments]*

Purchase the 12-month subscription **for \$35** at below link: *(if you were not a student in Fall 2020 Aural Skills):*

<https://www.risingsoftware.com/shop/cloudstudent/>

1. School Code: **UFL**

2. School PIN: **HQ9P**

Recommended Textbooks

A New Approach to Sight Singing (Berkowitz, Kraft, Fontrier)

Required Materials

Staff paper/pencil

Course Fee

None

Course Outline**

| Weeks | Assignments |
|---|--|
| Week 1: January 11th-15 th | Review Syllabus/Announcements; Complete the Entry Diagnostic Quiz in Auralia by 11pm on Friday, January 15th |
| Week 2: January 18 th -22 nd | Dictation Assignment 1/Singing Assignment 1/Rhythmic Assignment 1 due by 11pm on SUNDAY, January 24th |
| Week 3: January 25 th -29 th | Dictation Assignment 2/Singing Assignment 2/Rhythmic Assignment 2 due by 11pm on Friday, January 29th |
| Week 4: February 1 st - 5 th | Dictation Assignment 3/Singing Assignment 3/Rhythmic Assignment 3 due by 11pm on Friday, February 5th |
| Week 5: February 8th-12th | Sight Singing and Rhythmic Sight Reading Test 1 |
| Week 6: February 15 th - 19 th | Dictation Assignment 4/Singing Assignment 4/Rhythmic Assignment 4 due by 11pm on Friday, February 19th |
| Week 7: February 22 nd - 26 th | Dictation Assignment 5/Singing Assignment 5/Rhythmic Assignment 5 due by 11pm on SUNDAY, February 28th |
| Week 8: March 1 st -5 th | Dictation Assignment 6/Singing Assignment 6/Rhythmic Assignment 6 due by 11pm on Friday, March 5th |
| Week 9: March 8th-12th | Sight Singing and Rhythmic Sight-Reading Test 2 |
| Week 10: March 15 th - 19 th | Dictation Assignment 7/Singing Assignment 7/Rhythmic Assignment 7 due by 11pm on Friday, March 19th |
| Week 11: March 22 nd - 26 th | Dictation Assignment 8/Singing Assignment 8/Rhythmic Assignment 8 due by 11pm on SUNDAY, March 28th |
| Week 12: March 29 th - April 2 nd | Dictation Assignment 9/Singing Assignment 9/Rhythmic Assignment 9 due by 11pm on Friday, April 2nd |
| Week 13: April 5 th - 9 th | Dictation Assignment 10/Singing Assignment 10/Rhythmic Assignment 10 due by 11pm on Friday, April 9th |
| Week 14: April 12th - 16th | Sight Singing and Rhythmic Sight Reading Test 3 |
| Week 15: April 19 th - 23 rd | Complete the Exit Diagnostic Quiz in Auralia by 11pm on Friday, April 23rd |

****Note, course schedule and assignment deadlines subject to change.**

Topics for the semester*:

Reinforcement and review of all diatonic intervals (melodic and harmonic), Chord Quality Identification, cadence identification, chromatic solfege, asymmetric and mixed meters, advanced harmonic dictations, melodic and rhythmic error detection, advanced rhythmic reading, advanced singing, pitch awareness, advanced melodic and rhythmic dictation

**not limited to the ones listed above. Topics could be adjusted depending on pacing of course and overall ability of students in class.*

Course Components for Evaluation

- Weekly Singing Assignments (10 TOTAL)**

Students will submit to CANVAS audio recordings of their assigned weekly singing examples. Examples will be posted in the Module "Weekly Singing Assignments." Students will post their audio files to the Assignment Tab in the corresponding Assignment Portal for each Weekly Singing Assignment. Students **are required to use the moveable do system (and chromatic solfege) and a metronome** for all assigned examples. If a student does not use the moveable do system and/or a metronome, he/she/they will receive *half credit* on the assignment. All assignments are **due by 11:00pm on the Friday* the week they are assigned.** **Video files will not be accepted and will result in a zero being assigned!**

GRADING RUBRIC FOR SINGING ASSIGNMENTS:

100A= very well prepared with accurate pitches, steady tempo, correct rhythms, AND dynamics (if dynamic markings present)

85B= somewhat well-prepared; mostly stable tempo throughout, some rhythmic mistakes present, a few pitch inaccuracies, a few solfege mistakes, no dynamic contrast (if dynamic markings present).

75C=not well prepared; unstable tempo, several rhythmic mistakes, several pitch inaccuracies, several solfege mistakes, no dynamic contrast (when called for).

65D=poorly prepared; unrecognizable tempo/pulse, multiple rhythmic mistakes and pitch inaccuracies, multiple solfege mistakes, no dynamic contrast (when called for).

50E= Did not use a metronome and/or did not use moveable do/appropriate chromatic solfege.

0= did not submit by late submission deadline.

**Overall earned grade for the singing assignment drops by one letter grade each day after the submission deadline.*

- **Weekly Rhythm Assignments (10 TOTAL)**

Students will submit to CANVAS audio recordings of their weekly assigned rhythmic examples posted in the Module “*Weekly Rhythm Assignments.*” Students will post their audio files to the Assignment Tab in the corresponding Assignment Portal for each Weekly Rhythmic Assignment. Students **are required to use a metronome** at the assigned tempo during recording and execute the rhythm by “tah-ing,” counting, or other verbal method for all assigned examples. If a student does not use a metronome during the recording, he/she/they will receive *half credit* on the assignment. All assignments are **due by 11:00pm on the Friday* the week they are assigned.** Video files will not be accepted and will result in a zero being assigned!

GRADING RUBRIC FOR RHYTHM ASSIGNMENTS:

100A= very well prepared with correct rhythms.

85B= somewhat well-prepared; but with slight rhythmic and timing mistakes.

75C=not well prepared; unstable tempo and several rhythmic mistakes.

65D=poorly prepared; unrecognizable, many rhythmic mistakes, no ability to keep up with the tempo (even with metronome on)

50E= Did not use metronome.

0= did not submit by late submission deadline.

**Overall earned grade for Rhythm Assignment drops by one letter grade each day after the submission deadline.*

- **Weekly Dictation Assignments [Auralia and Canvas] (10 TOTAL)**

Students will submit weekly dictation assignments through Auralia and/or Canvas. On the Monday of each week an assignment is due, the instructor will post assignment instructions to Canvas. To be prepared for these assignments, students are strongly encouraged to review practice material set up in the Auralia program, attend class during the week for guided instruction/practice with the instructor, and/or review any supplementary instructional resources posted to Canvas. All assignments are **due by 11:00pm on the Friday* the week they are assigned.**

**Some assignment due dates will be pushed back 1-2 days, if during a holiday week. Consult course outline.*

- **Sighting Singing and Rhythmic Sight Reading Tests (20%)**—students will perform **three (3)** sight singing/rhythmic sight reading tests during testing weeks (*see course outline*) with the instructor over the course of the semester. Through practice both in class and outside of class (including submitted singing homework assignments), students will be sufficiently prepared for each test. Due to the small size of the class/COVID-19 restrictions, testing will occur over a week, with each student receiving an assigned day of class (testing will occur during assigned class times) to perform the test for the instructor.
 - **As with in-class instruction, a well-fitting mask is REQUIRED for this test; failure to wear a mask during the testing will result in an assigned zero for the test. Scarfs/gaiters/loose mouth coverings are not**

considered acceptable. If a student needs help securing a better mask, they must reach out to the instructor ASAP.

- For the sight singing portion of the test, students will be expected to execute singing example at sight. Starting pitches/establishment of the key will be provided by the instructor. While singing, students must utilize moveable do (including do-based minor), chromatic solfege (when present), and maintain a steady tempo.
- For the rhythmic portion of the test, students will be expected to execute one rhythmic example at sight by “tah-ing,” counting, or other verbal execution of the rhythm. The instructor will also utilize a metronome during this portion of the test.
- If a student would like feedback regarding his/her performance on an unprepared sight singing/rhythmic 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

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Weekly Singing Assignments (10) | 25% |
| Weekly Rhythm Assignments (10) | 25% |
| Weekly Dictation Assignments (10) | 25% |
| Sight Singing and Rhythmic Sight Reading Tests (3) | 25% |
| 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 |

NOTE: THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM FOR THIS COURSE!

****You must receive at least a C or better to satisfy baccalaureate music degree requirements for theory sequence.*

****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/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

Course Policies

- **COVID-19 Clause:** We will have face-to-face instructional sessions to accomplish the student learning objectives of this course. In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.
 - You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings. Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.
 - This course has been assigned a physical classroom with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals) requirements. Please utilize designated seats and maintain appropriate spacing between students. Please do not move desks or stations.
 - Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
 - Follow your instructor’s guidance on how to enter and exit the classroom. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.

- If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms ([Click here for guidance from the CDC on symptoms of coronavirus](#)), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. [Click here for UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms](#).
 - Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. [Find more information in the university attendance policies](#)
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure they have access to a reliable working computer and internet as this course requires some online submittal of assignments. If students encounter technical difficulties, they are encouraged to [visit the helpdesk website](#) or call 352-392-4357. If students encounter other difficulties with the online delivery of this course, they are encouraged to reach out to the instructor as soon as possible so that a solution can be found.
 - **Attendance Clause:** As all assignments (apart from the sight singing and rhythmic sight reading tests, which must occur in person) can be completed/submitted online (CANVAS/AURALIA) and supplementary instructional materials will be available online (CANVAS) for students, there is much flexibility for class attendance. *The instructor strongly discourages the use of office hours/outside appointments for students who choose to miss class for non-valid reasons.*
 - **Assignments Clause:** It is expected that students schedule time during each week to complete assignments, seek out help, if needed, and to practice improving/enhancing their aural, singing, and rhythm skills. ***It is highly discouraged for students to attempt to prepare for and to complete assignments on the same day they are due. Also, without consistent practice, aural, singing, and rhythmic skills will not fully develop and will not improve.*** Failing to do these things will result in an unsuccessful acquirement of the skills necessary to succeed in this course.
 - **Late Assignment Submittal Policy**
For each day an assignment is submitted late it will lose an entire letter grade off of the overall earned grade. If not submitted by the end of the third day *after* the assignment deadline, a zero will be assigned.
 - **Test Makeup Policy**
Students will be granted a test makeup if the instructor is notified through email before the start of class. If student is unable to notify before the start of class due to illness or other extenuating circumstance, the instructor must receive an email notification within a timely manner the week of testing. *Test makeups must be scheduled with the instructor (it's the student's responsibility to do so) and occur within 2 weeks of the missed test.*
 - Students are expected to come to class prepared with staff paper and pencils. The instructor will distribute singing and rhythmic examples for student use during class time.
 - Electronic devices, unless supported by a letter from the DRC, are not permitted in the class. Students will be asked to leave the class if they are utilized.
 - **Students are strongly urged to confer with the instructor on their progress or any issues or questions regarding the course.** Students are encouraged to seek out help from the instructor as soon as they encounter any difficulties. **Do not wait** until the end of the semester to consult the professor and/or Teaching Assistant if you are having troubles! **To communicate with your instructor, use your UF email account, Canvas. Through those platforms you can arrange to meet with the instructor or with the TA during scheduled office hours, or with the instructor/TA during a mutually agreed upon outside office hour appointment. If an "in-person" office hour is attended/scheduled, students are REQUIRED to wear an approved face covering; failure to do so will result in the instructor/TA cancelling the appointment. In-person office hour appointments will last no longer than 30 minutes. For more time or help with singing, a Zoom office hour is required.**

- Students are strongly encouraged to use online resources and lectures (as shared by the instructor), programs in the Music Computer Lab (MUB 147), and any other ear training resources to aid in their understanding of the course material and to aid in their ability to successfully complete assignments.
- The instructor and TA will utilize email and Canvas as the main form of communication.
- **It is expected that students check their email and Canvas multiple times a week** to not miss important announcements, postings, assignment instructions, assignment due dates, etc.
- Students are expected to respond to their instructor's email inquiries in a timely manner.
- Extreme medical, family, and/or personal hardships encountered by a student that might result in a negative impact to their grade and ability to keep up with his course must be brought to the instructor's attention immediately. 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>

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. [Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center](#). *It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, 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://www.dso.ufl.edu/scrr/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 someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- *Counseling and Wellness Center*: [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- *Student Health Care Center*: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).

- *University Police Department:* [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- *UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:* For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

Academic Resources

- *E-learning technical support:* Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.
- *Career Connections Center:* Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.
- *Library Support:* Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- *Teaching Center:* Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
- *Writing Studio:* 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
- *Student Complaints On-Campus:* [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information](#).
- *On-Line Students Complaints:* [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#).

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.