

Sight Singing/Ear Training II

MUSC1140 351

Instructor Information



Instructor Name

Phone: Instructor Phone

Email: Instructor Email

Office Location: Instructor Office Location

Office Hours

Instructor Office Hours

Course Description

Second semester of a four-semester series. Continued development of aural skills, building on those learned in SS-ET I.

Prereq: MUSC 1120 or concurrently, and MUSC 1130 (both w/C grade or better).

Semester: Spring & Summer

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will demonstrate ability to accurately sing at sight rhythms and melodies that incorporate the following elements in addition to those learned in MUSC 1130: dotted rhythms and ties, compound meter, triplets and duplets, syncopation, minor mode, all diatonic triads in root position and first inversion, inversions of the dominant seventh chord, and all diatonic seventh chords, aided by the use of

appropriate syllables and hand motions from a department-approved standardized system (e.g., solfege).

- Students will demonstrate ability to take dictation of (notate after hearing) rhythms, melodies and phrase-length harmonic progressions that incorporate these same elements listed in #1 above.

Course Prerequisites

Prerequisite: Successful completion of MUSC 1130 with a C grade or better. Co-requisite: MUSC 1120.

Keys for Success (how to succeed in the course)

Required Supplies

10 or 12 stave music manuscript paper, pencil, and eraser, access to a computer (you can use any of SLCC's computer labs, but you will need to provide your own headphones). Your computer will need to have a microphone for use with SmartMusic (see below).

In this course, we will be using SmartMusic - a program from the same company that developed the Finale music notation software - to prepare your sight singing exercises. We will be using this program for all four semesters of Sight Singing/Ear Training. Access to this program on your own computer or iPad is recommended to make doing your homework more convenient. You will be shown how to connect to the class assignments in class. The free version of this application is all that is necessary for this class. We will also be using Auralia - an online program - to drill ear training exercises. Use of this program requires a subscription and is required, since we use this as the primary text for our ear training activities.

Class Schedule

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
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Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
	6.1 ET GA p73 #4 Smart Music is counting wrong?	Discussion	0
	Auralia Extra Practice	Assignment	0
5/14	1st Day Participation	Assignment	10
5/16	Read the Course Introduction Module	Assignment	
5/16	Unit 6 Practice Quiz #1	Assignment	100
5/16	Watch the Unit 6 Lecture Videos	Assignment	
5/21	Chapter 6 Day 1	Assignment	10
5/21	Unit 6 Quiz 1	Assignment	100
5/23	Unit 6 Midterm Ear Training Exam	Assignment	100
5/28	Chapter 6 SS Exam	Assignment	100
5/30	Chapter 7 Day 1	Assignment	10
5/30	Unit 7 Quiz #1	Assignment	100
6/4	Unit 7 Ear Training Midterm Exam	Assignment	100
6/4	Unit 7 Optional Ear Training Practice	Assignment	0
6/6	Chapter 7 SS Exam	Assignment	100
6/11	Chapter 8 Day 1	Assignment	10
6/11	Watch the Unit 8 Lecture Video	Assignment	

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
6/11	Unit 8 Quiz #1	Assignment	100
6/13	Chapter 8 Day 2	Assignment	10
6/13	Unit 8 Quiz #3	Assignment	100
6/18	Unit 8 Midterm Ear Training Exam	Assignment	100
6/20	Chapter 8 SS Exam	Assignment	100
6/25	Chapter 9 Day 1	Assignment	10
6/25	Chapter 9 Quiz #1	Assignment	100
6/25	Watch the Unit 9 Lecture Video	Assignment	
6/27	Chapter 9 Day 2	Assignment	10
6/27	Chapter 9 Quiz #3	Assignment	100
7/2	Unit 9 Midterm Ear Training Exam	Assignment	100
7/9	Chapter 9 SS Exam	Assignment	100
7/11	Chapter 10 Day 1	Assignment	10
7/11	Chapter 10 Quiz #3	Assignment	100
7/18	Unit 10 Midterm Ear Training Exam	Assignment	100
7/18	Unit 10 Option Ear Training Practice Exercises	Assignment	0
7/23	Chapter 10 SS Exam	Assignment	100
7/25	Chapter 11 Day 1	Assignment	10

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
7/25	Chapter 11 Quiz #1	Assignment	100
7/30	Final (Unit 11) Ear Training Exam	Assignment	100
7/30	Unit 11 Optional Ear Training Practice	Assignment	0
8/1	Final SS Exam (Chapter 11)	Assignment	100

Brief Description of Assignments/Exams

Homework

You cannot develop these skills with just the in-class exercises. You must also spend time each day outside of class practicing your sight singing and dictation skills. Expect an assignment to practice your sight singing and dictation skills outside of class time every day. Each assignment is divided into two parts, "Practice" and "Graded" assignments. The practice assignments are intended to help you develop the skills necessary to do well on the graded assignments. You may not need to do all of the practice assignments on some days, however, you should be sure to do enough of them to be certain that you can do well on the graded portion of the assignments. You ARE required to do all of the graded assignments.

Late Assignments Policy – If you are absent or are unable to turn in an assignment on the day that it is due, you may turn in the assignment late. It will be penalized 10% for each day that it is late. Even if you cannot attend class, turn your assignments in to Canvas before class begins to avoid this penalty. You may not turn in an assignment after the day of the exam for the unit to which that assignment belongs.

Sight Singing

For each class period, you will have a set of sight singing exercises that you should learn outside of class and bring prepared to the class. Six of these exercises from each set will

also be assigned to you to sing using SmartMusic. We will be going over the use of SmartMusic the first day of class. You will also be required to sing these by yourself or together with other students in class as part of the class activities. In preparing these exercises, you should not play them at the piano or on any other instrument, including the SmartMusic application. You may use a keyboard (or other instrument) to give yourself a starting pitch or to check your pitch at various points throughout the melody while you are learning them, but try to figure out the melodies by yourself, without hearing them (or even parts of them) first. This is very important in your preparation for your sight singing exams where none of these crutches will be available to you.

While learning these melodies you should use the appropriate solfege syllables. There are several different methods for assigning syllables to sight singing melodies. We will be using a movable do system in which the tonic (or home) note of the scale being used is represented by the syllable “do” for all of the major keys and the minor keys. This system is the same system used in MUSC 1130 will be explained further in class as necessary.

Additionally, you may be required to do a “rhythmic” sight singing of a given melody. It is highly recommended that you learn to sight sing any melodies that present a rhythmic challenge not only melodically but using the rhythmic sight singing methods as well. This method, along with its associated syllables, is the same one used in MUSC 1130 and will be explained further in class if necessary.

Following these guidelines in your practice time will help you to prepare for the in-class exams. Failure to do this (or cheating on the process, such as playing melodies at the piano to learn them instead of figuring them out using your sight singing skills) will result in poor performance in the exams.

Dictation

Likewise, you will need to spend time outside of class to learn the necessary music dictation skills. The music dictation textbook for the course comes with a computer application that will allow you to practice these skills. It has practice exercises and quizzes in rhythmic, melodic and harmonic dictation. This application will give you the answers for most of the practice exercises. For the “quizzes” in the book, the answers are not given. These are used for the graded portion of the assignment. On each of the quizzes that are turned in, you are only required to do the even-numbered exercises.

When doing these exercises and quizzes at home, you may listen to them as many times as you need; however, you should strive to get to the point where you can successfully finish each exercise after hearing it only four times, because that is how many times (minimum) you will be able to hear each part of the exams. Working with a partner to practice dictation skills can also be helpful and is highly encouraged.

Exams

Half of each exam will be dictation and half will be sight singing. A typical exam will have three dictation sections – one rhythm, one melody and one harmony. The sight singing portion of each exam will be given individually. You will be given a melody to sing and will have a maximum of five minutes to prepare the melody before you must sing it for a grade. Rather than dropping a single complete exam, your lowest midterm exam score in each area (dictation and sight singing) will be dropped (and will not count in your final grade total).

Notes: If you miss an exam or are late for it, you will receive a “0,” but you can use that exam as the low score exam. If you miss more than one exam, you will receive a “0” that counts toward your grade. No makeup exams will be given.

Your current grade along with the scores of all graded assignments and tests are available on SLCC's Canvas system. You will be given information about how to access your individual student account and see your grades the first day of class.

Grading Scale

Grading

55% 5 Midterm Exams (drop lowest score)
15% Sight Singing Participation/Preparation
15% Dictation Home Quizzes
15% Final Exam
100%

93-100% = A 90-92% = A-
87-89% = B+ 83-86% = B 80-82% = B-
77-79% = C+ 73-76% = C 70-72% = C-

67-69% = D+ 63-66% = D 60-62% = D-
59% or less = E

You must receive a "C" grade or better to progress to MUSC 2130.

How to Navigate to Canvas

Institutional Policies

As members of our academic community, we would like to invite you to review the Institutional Syllabus which covers important policies and procedures. This document contains important links for students on the code of student rights and responsibilities, academic integrity, and grading policies, Title IX and other important acknowledgements. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help us create a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

You can access the document by clicking on the following link:

<https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus>

Learning Support and Tutoring Services

We are pleased to offer a range of tutoring and learning support services to help you achieve your academic goals. Whether you need assistance with a specific subject or want to improve your study skills, you have many options for tutoring or other support.

To learn more about the services we offer and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Tutoring and Learning Support tab:

<https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus>. We encourage you to take advantage of these resources to help you succeed in your studies. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tutoring session, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you in any way we can.

Advising and Counseling Support Services

At our institution, we are committed to supporting your academic and personal growth. That's why we offer a range of advising and counseling services to help you navigate the challenges of college life. To learn more about the resources available to you and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Advising and Counseling Support Services tab: <https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus>. Our advising team and the support centers across campus are here to support you in achieving your goals and overcoming any obstacles you may face.

Student Academic Calendar

As students you should be aware of all important dates in the semester, such as the day that courses begin and end, as well as the drop date and the last day to withdraw. To learn more about those dates, navigate to the Student Academic Calendar below:

[SLCC Student Academic Calendar](#)