MUTC 2116.003: Aural Skills III
1 Credit Hour • Fall 2020
Hybrid: Livestream (Monday 10:00-10:50) + Online

Professor  Dr. Samantha M. Inman
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Office     Music Building 251
Office Hours Virtual (via Zoom) Fri. 9:00-12:00 or by appointment. Friday times are first-come first-served; you do not need to tell me you are coming in advance. See the Zoom Office Hours link posted on Brightspace for access.

Contact Policy E-mail is the best way to contact me. (Please do not call my office.) When you e-mail me, please include your name and the name of this course. I welcome questions and meetings requests. If you are requesting an individual meeting outside of the normal office hours listed above, please list at least three options of possible meeting days/times that work with your schedule. I typically reply to e-mails received on a weekday within 24 hours. I typically reply to e-mails received on Saturday or Sunday on the following Monday.

Course Description
This course continues to develop both the “hearing eye” and the “seeing ear.” Singing activities will include prepared melodies, sight singing, and ensemble singing. Students are expected to become fluent with movable-do solfège (with both do-based and la-based minor) and the McHose counting syllables. Dictation exercises will focus on melody, rhythm, and harmony.

Learning Outcomes
By the end of the course, students will be able to:
1. Sing and dictate melodies in major and minor keys that employ diatonic leaps.
2. Perform and dictate rhythms in simple and compound time that include tuplets and syncopation.
3. Dictate chord progressions that include applied chords (secondary dominants and secondary leading-tone chords).
4. Sing and dictate melodies that include chromaticism.

Required Materials
- Auralia Student Cloud license [https://www.risingsoftware.com/shop/](https://www.risingsoftware.com/shop/)
  - NOTE: Please make sure you are purchasing the CLOUD version. not the more expensive Student and Home version.
  - School code: SFASU
  - PIN: G6WF
- Access to a computer and reliable high-speed internet.
- Content and handouts posted on Brightspace [https://d2l.sfasu.edu/](https://d2l.sfasu.edu/)
- Pencils and staff paper [https://www.blanksheetmusic.net/](https://www.blanksheetmusic.net/)
- Zoom (videoconferencing software available for free at [https://sfasu.zoom.us/](https://sfasu.zoom.us/)
- Sound source for checking pitches. (This could be anything from a keyboard to a tuning fork to your primary instrument to a phone app.)
Prerequisites
MUTC 1117 & 1212 (formerly MTC 152 & 162) both with a C or better. Co-requisite: MUTC 2211. The SFASU School of Music Undergraduate Handbook states: “Courses required to be taken concurrently (MUTC 1116 & 1211; MUTC 1117 & 1212; MUTC 2116 & 2211; and MUTC 2117 and 2212) must BOTH be passed with a minimum grade of “C” before moving on to the next two courses. Thus, students who meet the minimum requirements in only one of the two courses may NOT move on to the next level until the deficiency is rectified.” Also, be aware that you only have two attempts to pass any required music class.

Grading Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skills Videos</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sight-Singing</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auralia</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dictation Tests</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Letter Grades

- A 90-100%
- B 80-89%
- C 70-79%
- D 60-69%
- F below 60%

Time Requirements
MUTC 2116 “Aural Skills III” (1 credit) is a hybrid class that spans 15 weeks. Each week contains one 50-minute livestreamed session, during which students are expected to participate in and contribute to class activities. The online portion entails weekly assignments in singing, rhythmic reading, and dictation that average a minimum of 3 additional hours of work each week.

Assignments
Livestream and Participation
The livestream portion of this course will take place on Mondays via Zoom. See the Zoom meeting information posted on Brightspace. These sessions will stress strategies for singing and dictation. I may record these to aid with taking attendance and checking sound quality. In order to be counted as present for the day, you are expected to be logged in for the entire 50-minute session, to have your webcam turned on, and to participate in all activities. Not counting test days, there are twelve live-stream class sessions. While ideally you would attend all of these, you may miss up to two of these without penalty for any reason (whether that be for illness, internet outage, travel, family emergencies, etc.). Participation grades will be recorded as follows:

- 100% Attended 10 or more sessions
- 66% Attended 9 sessions
- 33% Attended 8 sessions
- 0% attended 7 or fewer sessions

Video Assignments
Most weeks feature several skills you will need to record on video. Your face needs to be visible on the recording, as do your hands for activities that require conducting. You have two options for creating videos.

Option 1: Record directly in the Brightspace dropbox using the Video Note tool.
- This has the advantage of simplicity, as the recording tool is built into the Brightspace dropbox.
- A possible disadvantage is this requires you to be connected to the internet and have Brightspace open while recording.
Option 2: Upload a link to a video stored elsewhere (preferably YouTube).

- Please note that this says “link”; do not try to upload videos into Brightspace, as these are likely to exceed the storage capacity of the dropbox.
- The biggest advantage of this approach is that you do not need internet access while recording. It also allows for greater control in cropping and organizing files if that is important to you.
- A possible disadvantage is that moving files from your recording device to a storage location takes time.
- If you go this route, I strongly recommend storing these as unlisted videos on YouTube. (Unlisted means that only people who have the URL will be able to view the video. Please do not set your YouTube video to Private, as that prevents anyone except the owner from viewing it.)

The video submission process is similar for both options. Start by opening the dropbox connected to the assignment. Scroll to the box shown in the picture on the left below, and click on the “insert stuff” button (the one that looks like a play button) in the upper left-hand corner. This should open a popup menu. Scroll down until you see the options shown on the right below. From here, you can either click “Add Video Note” and start recording or click “Insert Link” and paste the link to your video stored elsewhere. I will always set the dropbox to accept multiple submissions and to save all of them. This means that you can submit different parts of the assignment in different videos on different days or times or substitute a better video later if you were unhappy with your original submission.

Auralia Assignments
Most weeks involve several short Auralia assignments. I have deliberately chosen to keep the assignments short and independent of one another (rather than organizing several tasks into a single “test” in Auralia) to allow you greater control over how you allot your time. Most Auralia assignments will be set so that you may attempt the exercise multiple times, and only the highest grade you achieve for each activity will be recorded in the gradebook.

Once you have installed and opened Auralia Cloud (see the information on p. 1), you will need to enroll yourself in the course named “Inman Aural Skills 3.” While you might be able to access some portions of this syllabus through a browser, you will need to complete homework assignments from a computer in order to have access to all assigned activities. If you think that a particular task has
been auto-scored incorrectly, please take a screenshot of the exercise and e-mail it to me for evaluation.

For best results, I recommend wearing headphones when you work on Auralia. Since the program makes it difficult to enter notes and rhythms out of order, you might also consider first completing the dictation with pencil and staff paper and then entering your answers on the computer.

**Sight-Singing Tests**

The course features three sight-singing tests: one at the end of each main unit. Conducted over Zoom, these will feature true sight-singing, meaning you will be asked to perform rhythms and melodies you have not seen before. (To practice for these, treat every task on every video assignment as if it were graded sight-singing before moving into drill and focused practice in preparation for the video recording.) Each student will be assigned one five-minute slot during class time on Wednesday or Friday. Please be on time to your appointment.

**Dictation Tests**

The course likewise features three dictation tests: one at the end of each main unit. These will be conducted via livestream. Your webcam must be turned on for the entire duration of the test. Before leaving the livestream, you will scan or take a picture of your work, save it as a pdf, and submit the pdf to the designated dropbox in Brightspace. If you plan to use your phone to do this, I recommend using the app AdobeScan, which can save the document as a pdf. The best scan setting is black and white at 300 DPI (dots per inch). We will go through this entire procedure during at least the first practice test, so you can experience how the technology works before the first graded test.

**Late Work Policy and Dropped Grades**

- Video assignments submitted up to three calendar days late will be penalized 10%, and video assignments submitted more than three days late will not be accepted. I will drop the lowest video grade at the end of the term.
- Auralia assignments must be submitted on time; no late work will be accepted. If you are experiencing technical difficulties, it is your responsibility to contact Auralia Cloud Support before the assignment is due. I will drop the lowest four Auralia grades (which is the number of short assignments in a typical week). [https://www.risingsoftware.com/cloudsupport](https://www.risingsoftware.com/cloudsupport)
- You are expected to be present at all sight-singing and dictation tests. All tests count toward the final grade. Makeups for missed tests will only be offered in the case of extreme emergencies at the discretion of the instructor.

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1)**

You are expected to complete all homework, quizzes, and exams independently. **DO NOT collaborate with other students on dictation assignments.** You may, however, consider practicing the skills assignments with a classmate. If you have a question regarding the directions or the content of an assignment, please e-mail me with your query or to schedule a meeting. Any student caught cheating, plagiarizing, copying another student's work, or willingly allowing another student to copy his/her own work will automatically receive a zero for the assignment or exam. Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.
Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Student Code of Conduct: Policy 10.4
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program. Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This policy applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare: Early Alert Program at SFA. Information regarding the iCare program is found at https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp or call the office at 936-468-2703.
Course Schedule (subject to change; check Brightspace for updates.)
Modules run Monday through Sunday.
Assignments are due by 11:59 PM Central Time on the date listed.

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