MUTC 2117: Aural Skills IV
1 Credit Hour • Spring 2024 • Mon/Wed/Fri • McKibben 463
Section 1: 8:00-8:50 AM • Section 4: 9:00-9:50 AM

Professor Dr. Samantha M. Inman
E-mail inmans@sfasu.edu
Office McKibben Education Building Room 404B
Office Hours Tues/Thurs 8:30-11:00
Zoom meetings are available upon request.

Contact Policy
Email is the best way to contact me. When you email me, please include your name and the name of this course. I welcome questions and meeting requests. If you are requesting a meeting outside of the normal office hours listed above, please list at least three options of possible days/times that work with your schedule and specify whether you would prefer to meet in person or over Zoom. I typically reply to emails received on a weekday within 24 hours. I typically reply to emails 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. Keyboard assignments focus on fluency with all chords and scales studied. This is a continuation of MUTC 2116 comprising advanced ear training. Content includes sight-singing and dictation of advanced harmonic progressions, chromatic, modulating, and modal melodies, advanced tuplets, and asymmetrical meter.

Program Learning Outcome
1. Students will demonstrate the ability to hear, identify, and work conceptually with the melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic elements of music, including sight-singing, analysis, and error detection.

Student Learning Outcomes
By the end of the course, students will be able to:
1. Sing and dictate modal melodies.
2. Sing and dictate melodies that modulate.
3. Dictate chord progressions that include mixture, augmented sixth chords, and the Neapolitan.
4. Identify (by ear) all diatonic modes as well as pentatonic, whole-tone, and octatonic scales.
5. Perform rhythms in complex (asymmetrical) and changing meters.

Time Requirements
MUTC 2117 “Aural Skills IV” (1 credit) typically meets three times each week in 50-minute segments for 14 weeks. Students are expected to participate in and contribute to class activities. Students have weekly assignments in singing, rhythmic reading, dictation (through the Auralia ear-
training software), and keyboard. Completion of homework and preparation for performance tests average a minimum of 1 hour of work each week outside of classroom hours.

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
- Content, handouts, and dropboxes on Brightspace [https://d2l.sfasu.edu/](https://d2l.sfasu.edu/)
- Pencils and staff paper [https://www.blanksheetmusic.net/](https://www.blanksheetmusic.net/)
- A metronome (or metronome app)
- Access to a piano (or electronic keyboard)

Prerequisites
MUTC 2116: Aural Skills III & 2211: Theory III both with a C or better.
Co-requisite: MUTC 2212: Theory IV.
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>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Videos</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hearings</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auralia</td>
<td>20%</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%

Assignments

**Videos**
Every unit includes three video assignments in which you will record several exercises. 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 buttons on a remote control). 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
Each unit of the course entails three Auralia assignments that bundle about four different drills into a “test” (which counts as homework). All Auralia assignments will be set so that you may attempt each test three times, and only the highest grade you achieve will be recorded in the gradebook. You are strongly encouraged to practice each drill before attempting the graded assignment. If nothing else, practice to figure out how the input works. (This is particularly true for entering applied chord RNs or notating tuplets.)

Once you have logged into Auralia Cloud (see the information on p. 1), you will need to enroll yourself in the course named “Inman, Aural Skills 4, 8:00” or “Inman, Aural Skills 4, 9:00” according to your section. Click on the “Settings” gear, select “Change your details,” then select the checkbox next to the course name. All practice drills and graded assignments can be completed either in the browser or in the desktop version. 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.

**Hearings**

There are three individual hearings, which will feature a combination of prepared and at-sight materials. The prepared materials will include both singing activities and playing short harmonic paradigms or scales on the piano. The unprepared materials 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 short timeslot for each hearing. Please be on time to your appointment.

**Dictation Tests**

The course entails three dictation tests. These will include rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic dictation as well as ID of other musical elements. All classwork and tests must be completed neatly in pencil.

**Late Work Policy and Dropped Grades**

- Video assignments submitted up to one week late will be penalized 10%, and video assignments submitted more than one week 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 Auralia grade at the end of the term. [https://www.risingsoftware.com/cloudsupport](https://www.risingsoftware.com/cloudsupport)
- You are expected to be present at all hearings and dictation tests. All tests count toward the final grade. Makeups for missed tests will only be offered in the case of illness or emergencies at the discretion of the instructor.

**Attendance**

Because gaining fluency in aural skills takes consistent practice, I expect you to prioritize class attendance. If you do miss a class for any reason, you are still responsible to know the material covered that day. You are also responsible for submitting all assignments on time unless you have made prior arrangements with me. I consider attendance record when deciding whether or not to round up a given student’s grade at the end of the semester in borderline cases.

Excused absences include official University or School of Music activities, medical emergencies, religious observances, and illnesses. Excused absences do not count against your attendance or lower your grade. E-mail me as soon as possible (usually before class) with the reason and documentation for your absence. Please notify me by email if you are ill, but please keep your medical condition private. If you have an illness that will require missing two or more classes in a row, please email me a doctor’s note or arrange for documentation through the Dean of Students Office.

Unexcused absences include missing class without a documented excuse, sleeping in class, arriving more than 10 minutes late without a good reason, and leaving class early without a good reason. Students are allowed up to 4 unexcused absences; each additional absence lowers the semester grade.
by 10%. (For example, a student with a semester average of 85% and 6 unexcused absences would be penalized 20 points, yielding a 65% D for the semester.)

**Course Schedule (subject to change; check Brightspace for updates.)**
Assignments are due by 11:59 PM Central Time on the date listed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>HW Due</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>1</td>
<td>R/O ch. 16-17. Modulation between closely-related keys, changing and asymmetrical meters. Review of applied chords.</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>1/19</td>
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<td>division constant</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>1/22</td>
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<td>modulation by 5th</td>
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<td>W</td>
<td>1/24</td>
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<td>beat constant</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>1/26</td>
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<td>modulation by 3rd</td>
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<td>M</td>
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<td>Video 1.1</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>2/9</td>
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<td>7/x meter</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>2/12</td>
<td>Video 1.3</td>
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<td>R/O ch. 18-19. Advanced chromaticism (chords and modulations), small subdivisions.</td>
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<td>Mixture; small subdivisions</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>M</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>M</td>
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<td>W</td>
<td>4/3</td>
<td>Hearing 2</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Hearing 2</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>R/O ch. 20-21. Modes and other scales, post-tonal idioms, polyrhythms.</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>4/8</td>
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<td>Pentatonic scales; 2:3</td>
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<td>4/10</td>
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<td>4/12</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>4/15</td>
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<td>M</td>
<td>4/22</td>
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<td>W</td>
<td>4/24</td>
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Academic Integrity (4.1)
You are expected to complete all homework and tests 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 email 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 and may be reported at the discretion of the instructor. A second infraction will result in a grade of F for the course and will automatically be reported.

The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy.

Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the Faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one's self, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities.

Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one's own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one's own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements.

Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.

Misrepresentation is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.
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.

Course Evaluations
Your participation in the evaluations of this course is very important and helpful to this class, program, and the university. Near the conclusion of each semester, students in the College of Fine Arts electronically evaluate courses taken with the college. The evaluation is used for a variety of important purposes including the following:
1. Course and program improvement, planning and accreditation.
2. Instruction evaluation purposes.
3. Making decisions on faculty tenure, promotion, and retention.
As you evaluate this course, please be thoughtful, thorough, and accurate in completing the evaluation. Please know that the College of Fine Arts is committed to excellence in teaching and continued improvement. Therefore, your participation is crucial. The course evaluation process has been simplified and is completed electronically through MySFA. Although the instructor will be able to view the names of students who complete the survey, all rating and comments are confidential and anonymous, and will not be available to the instructor until after final grades are posted.

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 Wellness and Well-Being
SFA values students’ overall well-being, mental health, and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, emotional well-being, alcohol and other drugs, identities, finances, etc.

If you are experiencing concerns and seeking help, SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

The Dean of Students Office • Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby
www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents • 936.468.7249 • dos@sfasu.edu

SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic • Human Services, Room 202
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp • 936.468.1041
The Health and Wellness Hub • “The Hub” on the corner of E. College and Raguet St. 
www.sfasu.edu/thehub • 936.468.4008 • thehub@sfasu.edu

To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Services include:

- Health Services
- Counseling Services
- Student Outreach and Support
- Food Pantry
- Wellness Coaching
- Alcohol and Other Drug Education

Crisis Resources:

- Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
- National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
- johCrisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741