

Aural Skills I: MUST 1111 - Sections 1 & 2

University of Texas at El Paso, Department of Music - Fall 2021 Syllabus

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Stephen Nordstrom, Assistant Professor of Violin

EMAIL: sbnordstrom@utep.edu

OFFICE: Fox Fine Arts Center, M434

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 10:00 - 11:00 am

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is the first in a four-semester sequence of aural skills for music majors. It includes practice in interval, scale, and chord recognition, pulse and meter identification, rhythmic and melodic dictation, and diatonic sight singing. Instruction will explore all major and minor keys as well as simple and compound meters. Co-requisite for the course is MUST 1313. Pre-requisite is MUST 1312 with a grade of "C" or better OR a high score on the Music Theory Placement Exam. Musicianship skills gained in this course are applicable to all areas of music performance, theory, and pedagogy.

CLASS MEETINGS

Fox Fine Arts Center, Room M101

Section 1 — Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:00-8:50 am

Section 2 — Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00-9:50 am

For class meetings and all assessment activities, you must attend the section in which you are enrolled.

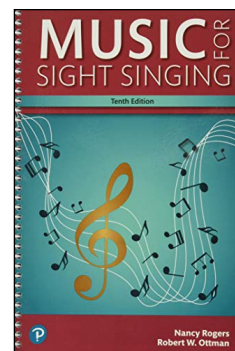
COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize diatonic intervals and be able to sing them at sight in treble and bass clef
- Recognize simple and compound meters and detect pulse and rhythm
- Sing diatonic melodies and scalar patterns at sight in both major and minor keys using solfeggio
- Accurately complete exercises in melodic dictation using major and minor keys
- Accurately notate rhythms in both simple and compound meters by ear

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Textbook - Rogers and Ottman, *Music for Sight Singing*, 10th Edition (Pearson 2019), Print or Online edition
- Auralia subscription (Purchased through UTEP Bookstore, \$35 for 12-month access)
- Metronome, manuscript or staff paper, pencils and eraser, piano keyboard for checking pitch (smartphone app OK)



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BLACKBOARD and TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

The bulk of evaluative work will be completed online through our Aural Skills I course module in UTEP's Blackboard learning management system. Students will need access to a computer/tablet with internet as well as a microphone and webcam. A smart phone video recorder will suffice for making recordings. You will need to access the Blackboard course module to submit singing quizzes and to practice and complete quizzes/exams in Auralia.

COURSE COMMUNICATION

- **Office Hours** - This will be the primary way for you to interact with me outside of the classroom. I will hold in-person Office Hours in M434 on Tuesdays from 10-11:00 am.
- **Email** - If you have an urgent question or need immediate assistance please email me through your designated UTEP email address. State your question clearly, and include your full name and course section in the message. I will make every effort to respond to your email within 24 hours.
- **Announcements** - Check Blackboard regularly for announcements, updates, and important information about the class. These announcements go directly to your email when you are enrolled in the course.

ATTENDANCE and COURSE PARTICIPATION

Attendance and course participation are vital to your success in this class and are therefore mandatory and included as part of your overall grade. Attendance will be taken through a sign-in sheet at the beginning of class. If you are not in your seat when the sign-in sheet goes around, you will be counted absent. At the end of the semester, each unexcused absence will incur a 5-point deduction from your overall attendance/participation score. Your participation in class activities is important for your own learning success and to enhance the building of your skills within a community of learners. Attendance and class participation will comprise 10% of the final grade.

MAKE-UP WORK and LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Make-up work will only be given in the case of a documentable emergency. It might be given in a different format and/or graded with penalty points. If you miss an assignment without a documentable excuse, you will receive a 50% deduction on that assignment. Reach out to me, in advance when possible, and explain with the proper documentation why you missed a certain assignment. Once the parameters for a make-up assignment have been set, no further extensions will be granted.

I highly encourage you to submit your work early to help avoid technical difficulties that sometimes arise with last-minute submissions. If you are having trouble submitting an assignment, contact me as soon as possible by email. If you experience technical difficulties that are beyond your troubleshooting abilities, please contact the [UTEP Help Desk](#).

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COURSE ASSIGNMENTS and GRADING

Auralia Assignments

- Bi-weekly Assigned Quizzes, Due on Fridays by 11:59 pm
- Will be completed and submitted through *Auralia* software, accessed via Blackboard

Singing Quizzes

- Prepared singing examples from *MfSS* textbook, Bi-weekly, Due on Fridays by 11:59 pm
- Will be video-recorded by the student and submitted via Blackboard or taken one-on-one during class time (see course schedule)

Exams (Midterm and Final)

- Each exam will have two parts - Dictation on *Auralia* and Singing in my office, M434
- The singing and dictation portions of the exams will count for 50% of the exam grade

***Singing quizzes/exams will be graded on rhythmic accuracy, solfege, and intonation**

The final grade will be weighted as follows:

- *Auralia* Assignments - 25%
- Singing Quizzes - 25%
- Midterm Exam - 20%
- Final Exam - 20%
- Attendance/Participation - 10%

Grading Scale:	90-100 = A	80-89 = B	70-79 = C	60-69 = D	0-59 = F
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***Students must receive a grade of "C" or higher in Aural Skills I to move on to the next course in the sequence, Aural Skills II**

COURSE-DROP and INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICIES

I will not initiate a course-drop in the event of excessive absence and lack of completed work. If you feel you are unable to complete the requirements of the course - including attendance and assignments - or have accumulated enough missed work that it will create a detrimental effect on your grade, please let me know as soon as possible and then contact the [Registrar's Office](#) to initiate the course-drop process. If you do not take these steps, you will be at risk of receiving an "F" for the semester.

Incomplete grades may be requested if you have completed at least half of the course requirements and extenuating circumstances will hinder your ability to complete the remainder of the course before the conclusion of the semester. Speak with me as soon as possible if you feel this is warranted. If you are granted an incomplete for the semester, we will establish a list of assignments to be completed with concrete deadlines.

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ABSENCE FOR RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS

In the event that a class meeting, exam, or assignment falls on the day of a recognized religious holy day, the student must provide written notice to the instructor. This written notice should be submitted no less than ten days prior to the expected date of absence.

EXCUSED ABSENCES FOR UNIVERSITY-RECOGNIZED ACTIVITIES

Students representing UTEP in officially-recognized University activities such as sporting events, band, or professional conferences must notify the Dean of Students of their upcoming absence no less than ten days prior to the absence. The student is responsible for providing the professor with a letter from the Dean of Students prior to the officially recognized activity. Make-up assignments and exams will be permitted with the consultation of the faculty and provided that the student follows the proper procedures.

ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

Students with disabilities (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, visual, hearing, etc.) who need to arrange special classroom accommodations must notify me at the beginning of the semester with a letter from the [Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS). Students are encouraged to contact the CASS Center for further information. PHONE: 915-747-5148, EMAIL: cass@utep.edu, LOCATION: Union East Building, Room 106

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All UTEP students are expected to be honest and individual in their pursuit of truth and knowledge and will be held to the highest standards of academic integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion are unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations will be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution](#) (OSCCR) for possible disciplinary action. Students are strongly encouraged to familiarize themselves with the university's policies on academic infringement from the [UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures](#).

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Student Health Center is equipped to provide COVID-19 testing.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still

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need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area, and will be available at no charge on campus during the first week of classes. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org

FALL 2021 COURSE SCHEDULE (Subject to Change)

Week	Auralia Topics	Music for Sight Singing	Assignments and Quizzes
1	Interval Comparison, Pulse Tapping, Meter Recognition	Chapter 1	Quiz #1 - Rhythm
2	---	Chapter 1 and 2	Auralia Quiz #1
3	ADD Interval Recognition and Pitch Comparison	Chapter 1 and 2	Quiz #2 - Singing
4	ADD Interval Imitation	Chapter 1 and 2	Auralia Quiz #2
5	ADD Rhythmic Dictation	Chapter 2	Quiz #3 - Singing (During Class)
6	ADD Melodic Dictation	Chapter 2 and 3	Auralia Quiz #3
7	---	Chapter 2 and 3	Quiz #4 - Singing
8	October 12th & 14th — Midterm Exam Week (Dictation on Auralia, Singing in M434)		
9	ADD Scales	Chapter 3 and 4	Auralia Quiz #4
10	---	Chapter 3 and 4	Quiz #5 - Singing and Rhythm
11	---	Chapter 3, 4, and 5	Auralia Quiz #5
12	ADD Cadences	Chapter 3, 4, and 5	Quiz #6 - Singing and Rhythm (During Class)
13	---	Chapter 4 and 5	Auralia Quiz #6
14	ADD Chord Recognition	Chapter 4 and 5	Quiz #7 - Singing and Rhythm Thanksgiving 11/25
15	---	Chapter 4 and 5	Auralia Quiz #7
Finals	December 6th-10th — Final Exam Week (Dictation on Auralia, Singing in M434)		