

MUSI 1185-004: Sight Singing and Ear Training I

Fall 2018

Instructor: Dr. Cheyenne Cruz

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Office Hours: 11am-12pm Tuesdays, or by appointment

Section Information: MUSI 1185-004

Time and place of class meetings: Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30-10:20am, FA 309

Daily Grid Link:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1TXV2sCYZG7WIFJ-dhFVQEBrSRtRKPAXMP1Q7YgUPBhc/edit?usp=sharing>

Description of Course Content: This course builds on the foundation of tonal harmony established concurrently in MUSI 1325. This course aims to foster the basic skills in sight-singing and musical dictation necessary for a career in music. The main components are sight-singing of melodies and rhythms (using movable “do”), and ear-training (aural identification of intervals and chords, and melodic and harmonic dictation).

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to aurally identify (and notate) intervals, scales, chords, melodies, and harmonic progressions, and be able to sight-sing as appropriate for the course level.

Requirements: Students will be required to spend up to three hours each week outside of the regularly scheduled class time in preparation of quizzes, homework, and exams.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:

- Comprehensive Aural Skills, Justin Merritt and David Castro. Routledge, 2016. The e-book will not be accepted; the hard copy is required.
- Pencils
- Blank staff paper

The textbook, staff paper, and pencils are required at every class meeting, along with any homework or other assigned materials. You will be required to write in the text, so do not purchase a used copy.

Grading Policy: Students are responsible for all material covered in class and assigned for homework. Grading will be weighted as followed:

- Six homework assignments, averaged: 20% of final grade
- Three dictation quizzes, averaged: 30% of final grade
- Several in-class singing performances, averaged: 20% of final grade
- Three sight-singing exams, averaged: 30% of final grade

Final grades are determined as a percentage of your total points against the total points possible.

A = 90-100% B = 80-89% C = 70-79% D = 60-69% F = 0-59%

For music majors, it is necessary to earn a grade of “C” or better to count for degree credit as a music major. A grade of “D”, while technically passing, is not sufficient to count for degree credit and the course must be re-taken.

Extra credit is given to the entire class at the discretion of the instructor. Individual requests for extra credit will not be granted under any circumstance.

Late work for this course is not accepted. Exceptions will be made for officially excused absences with documentation. Work due on the day a student is excused for a university excused absence should be turned in before the due date and will not be accepted late unless arrangements have been made beforehand with the instructor.

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class session indicated in the syllabus. If a student misses a class due to illness or any other unexcused circumstance, photos or scans of homework will be accepted in via email until 9:40am on the due date/absence date.

Course Schedule and Major Due Dates

See Course Schedule posted on Blackboard, under a link called “Daily Schedule Grid.” All exam and assignment due dates can be found there.

Attendance:

At the University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required, but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, my attendance policy is listed below. While UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients “begin attendance in a course.” UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

- **Excused absences:** no penalty if documentation is provided to the instructor for excuses such as illness, university approved trips, etc.
- **Unexcused absences 1 and 2:** Two absences are allowed in this category for the occasional oversleeping, illness not sufficient to go to the health center or doctor, or other life events.
- **Unexcused absences 3+:** one point will be deducted from the student’s final semester. For example, if a student as two unexcused absences and a final average of a 70, the student will fail the course with a 68.
- **Unused unexcused absences 1 and 2:** Students with perfect attendance will have two points added to their final semester averages. Students with one unexcused absence will have one point added to their final semester averages. For example, a student with a final semester average of a 68 and perfect attendance will pass the course with a 70.
- **Tardiness:** For each tardy arrival, .33 points will be deducted from the student’s final semester average. For example, a student with a final average of 70 and five tardies will fail the course with a 68.

All quizzes and exams must be taken on the scheduled date and time; make-up exams will only be given with a doctor's note or a letter from the Student Affairs Division, or in unavoidable medical emergency or other situations. Advance communication is required. It is your responsibility to understand all aspects of the Attendance policy, and to keep track of your absences.

Excused absences include official University or Department of Music activities, medical emergencies, religious observances, and documented illnesses. Excused absences do not count against your attendance or lower your grade. E-mail me as soon as possible with the reason and documentation for your absence. If you are ill, please provide me a dated doctor's note, but please keep your medical condition private. If you expect to be absent for several days or weeks, please contact the Office of Student Affairs. If you have a chronic medical condition that might affect your class attendance or performance, please see the Office of Disability Accommodations.

Because gaining fluency in music takes consistent practice, I expect you to attend every class. If you do miss a class for any reason, you are still responsible to know the material covered that day and for submitting all assignments on time. Besides failing to show up, unexcused absences include sleeping in class, being unwilling to participate in class activities, and leaving class early without a good reason.

Classroom Behavior Policies: Cell phones or any other electronic communication devices are strictly prohibited in the classroom environment, including laptops and smart watches. Disturbances from such devices will result in 1 point deduction from the student's semester total for each infraction.

Any special arrangement discussed in person in or outside of class must be confirmed via email. Examples include scheduling a time for tutoring or additional help, a makeup exam or quiz, arrangements to turn in assignments outside of class, discussion of grades, etc.

If you anticipate being tardy or absent on a homework due date, you may email me a photo or PDF of your homework. I will accept all electronic homework submissions received before 11:10AM on the due date.

Extra Help:

In a cumulative, fast-paced course like music theory and ear training, students are encouraged to seek extra help. Students should understand there is no magic solution to overcoming hearing deficiencies; hours of practice and study based on your needs are the only remedy. Here are some solutions for students seeking extra help with this course:

- Individual tutoring is offered by both UTA and UTA approved private tutors. The contact below is for the Fall 2015 semester:
 - Renae Perry (Computer Lab FA302, renae.perry2@mavs.uta.edu)

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Disability Accommodations: UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official

notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability. Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

Non-Discrimination Policy: *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos.*

Title IX Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington ("University") is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Campus Carry: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox

regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students’ anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: for semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located by exiting the classroom and turning right, proceeding through the glass doors, and down the stairs. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

The IDEAS Center (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **free** tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email IDEAS@uta.edu or call (817) 272-6593.

The English Writing Center (411LIBR): The Writing Center Offers free tutoring in 20-, 40-, or 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Our hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mon.-Thurs., 9 am-3 pm Fri. and Noon-6 pm Sat. and Sun. Register and make appointments online at <http://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom Visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students are also available. Please see www.uta.edu/owl for detailed information on all our programs and services. The Library’s 2nd floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library’s hours of operation. <http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza>