

MUSIC AURAL SKILLS 1 SYLLABUS

Instructor: Mr. Sólás B. Lalgee

Fall 2014 thru Spring 2015

slalgee@oakarts.org

M/F: Period 4 in Room 205

<http://blalgee.blogspot.com>

Course Description:

Ear training or **aural skills** is a skill by which musicians learn to identify, solely by hearing, pitches, intervals, melody, chords, rhythms, and other basic elements of music. The application of this skill is the same thing as taking dictation in written and spoken language. As a process, ear training is in essence the flip side of sight-singing, the latter being the same as reading a written text aloud without prior opportunity to review the material. Ear training is typically a component of formal musical training. Students are also trained to sing, write and identify intervals, chords, and scales both vocally, aurally. Aural Skills 1 is the foundational course, and will serve as a training ground for the more rigorous curriculum of Aural Skills 2.

Course Objectives:

Aural Skills is broken down into two categories: Sight-Singing and Ear Training. Listed below are the covered topics in each category.

Sight-Singing

Major Keys

Predominantly stepwise motion with occasional skips and leaps

Time Signatures of 2/4, 3/4 and 4/4

Triads: Major, Minor, Augmented, Sus4, Diminished

Scales: Chromatic, Major, Minor (natural, melodic, harmonic blues)

Intervals and Inversions

Diatonic Melodies

Rhythmic Notation

Ear Training

Ability to sing/identify diatonic intervals

Ability to sing/identify major, minor, augmented, and diminished triads

Simple Melodic and Rhythmic dictation

This class will be modeling the "Studio Habits Of Mind"
(see attached handout)

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Course Policies:

Students will respect and follow all OSA policies outlined in the student handbook. Students will arrive on time, prepared and focused.

(This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with or without advanced notice)

No late homework will be accepted unless the student has an excused absence (list of approved excused absences can be found in the student handbook).

Note: For an excused absence, a student must turn in the assignment the day after he/she returns to school. There are no exceptions.

All work must be done in pencil.

Note: Any work done in pen will receive half credit

Students will receive 0 out of 15 participation points for each absence. In order to have the absence excused, a parent/guardian must send an email notification with the reason for student's absence within one week's time.

No eating, chewing gum, or use of cell phones in the classroom (unless as requested by the teacher or upon request of the student for educational purposes. Failure to adhere to these rules may result in deducted daily participation points.

Required Materials:

Students must bring the following supplies to every class session: Pencils with erasers and staff paper (some will be available in class but students can download staff paper online or purchase to be further prepared.)

Grading Criteria:

Students are graded on a point system. There are no category weightings:

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Professionalism: 15 points per day

Students should arrive quietly and immediately retrieve their notebooks from the classwork box, be ready in their seat, begin working on the ice-breaker assignment written on the board daily. Students are also required to make sure their work space is clean upon leaving and whatever changes have been made to the class are returned to normal.

In addition, I'm instituting a kindness clause. Aural Skills can be frustrating and difficult. Students need to be supportive of themselves and each other by creating a sense of safety through kindness and patience. Bathroom use should happen before class not during. Emergencies happen and will be allowed of course without penalty, but body awareness is part of life. Go before class. Water is fine, no juice or soda...we have carpets. NO GUM!

Daily Participation: 15 points per day

Students will receive 15 points per day for their attentiveness, and discussion feedback. Lack of participation and/or disruptive behavior will reduce points at the discretion of the instructor.

Tardiness (not being fully prepared and in place at the bell) will result in a loss of 5 pts. On the 3rd late arrival students will receive 0 pts. for that day. Any further tardiness will result in a phone call home. The same goes for excessive talking as well with the same loss of pts.

Homework: 10 points each

Each homework assignment will be worth 10 total points. Students must complete and hand in their homework assignments on time to receive full credit for that assignment. The homework will reflect materials covered in class.

In Class Assignments: 10 points each

The number, type and grading style of assignments will vary depending on the topic and needs of the classroom.

Quizzes: 20 points

Students will be quizzed regularly on a variety of topics including vocabulary words, listening exams, notation skills, dictation and reading and musical theory.

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Midterm (50 points) Final (100): There will be two major tests (one midterm and one final) that will cover all materials addressed in class to that point. These tests will be administered during regular class time. **Students will be given two final exams throughout the year at the end of each semester. The Semester 2 exam is cumulative and taken from materials covered throughout the year. **

I have READ and UNDERSTAND this syllabus and agree to its terms:

Parent / Guardian Name

PRINT

Parent / Guardian Signature

Student Name

PRINT

Student Signature

DATE
