



**MUSI-1116-151C3**  
**Sight Singing & Ear Training I**  
**Fall 2025, 16 weeks**  
**Monday/Wednesday – 2:00pm-3:20pm**  
**Fine Arts Building, Room F-110**

**Instructor Information:** Mr. Ethan Fasnacht, [efasnacht@com.edu](mailto:efasnacht@com.edu), (409) 933-8946

**Office hours and location:** Office hours may vary on occasion due to extraordinary circumstances, such as make-up lessons, conferences, etc., therefore appointments are recommended (Location: TBD)

**Required Textbook/Materials:**

Open Music Theory FREE DOWNLOADABLE TEXT

Mark Gotham Version 2

<https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/1254>

Students are required to additionally have pencils and music staff paper at all class meetings. No other materials to be supplied by the student will be needed. Sight-reading materials will be supplied by the instructor, as will ear-training resources. Students are recommended (not required) to use [musictheory.net](https://musictheory.net) for ear training practice in conjunction with provided materials. Students may not use electronic staff paper for the sake of the class, due to the nature of the submission and being able to provide feedback.

**Course Description:** The purpose of the Sight Singing and Ear Training series is to facilitate the application of skills learned in Music Theory course work. The knowledge gained in Music Theory and its application in Sight Singing and Ear Training creates a foundation of general musical skills necessary for comprehensive musicianship. There are no prerequisites for this course, but concurrent enrollment in Music Theory I is required.

**Course requirements:** This course involves learning the techniques and skills necessary to aurally recognize and dictate the elements of common practice music theory, from basic intervals and scales to harmonically advanced chorale style musical phrases. Progressive technical knowledge of methods used in the ability to read existing musical examples will also be studied. Minimum objectives for the course will include the ability to pass four (4) quarter term exams with an accuracy level of 60%. As this is a **lab-based practice course**, some weekly journals and text submissions will be administered online, either independently or as a class discussion

board. Weeks with quizzes or quarterly exams will be given in lieu of the journals or text submissions. Periodic quizzes will also be administered. No examinations will be given without prior notification in class time.

### **Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:**

Grading is a weighted percentage distributed in the following manner:

General in-class quizzes/Singing quizzes/Performance quizzes: 50%

Journal/homework: 10%

Quarterly Exams: 40% (10% per exam)

These weighted grades are then combined and calculated on the following scale for the final course grade:

90% and above = A

80%-89% = B

70%-79% = C

60%-69% = D

59% and below = F

For sight-reading, scoring is based objectively on the number of elements correctly performed in each musical excerpt. The same applies to singing quizzes, which are administered individually. If a student is out of tune in the attempt, it is up to the discretion of the instructor whether credit will be given.

Additionally, excellent attendance and positive attitude may influence the student's final grade percentage.

**Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy:** Missed examinations may be made up, but only if prior notification of the absence has been made to the instructor. If no notification of absence is given, the student must provide written documentation concerning the reason for absence before the examination may be made up. All examinations must be attempted to successfully complete the course. Late journals/homework will be accepted at a rate of loss of one letter grade per day late (i.e. if submitted after 11:59pm, that will be a B, the next day after 11:59pm a C and so on).

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance and promptness to all class meetings is expected. Attendance will be accurately taken at each class meeting. The instructor reserves the right to withdraw any

student who has missed more than three (3) class periods. As this course is designed primarily as a “lab” format, there are no “make-ups” available for missed class periods.

Chronic tardiness will result in the lowering of a grade by three (3) tardies equaling an absence. If entering the classroom late, please do so in an unobtrusive manner, as not to disturb those who are already working.

**Communicating with your instructor:** ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means.

<b>Student Learner Outcomes</b>	<b>Maps to Core Objective</b>	<b>Assessed via this Assignment</b>
1. Apply a method of sightsinging to melodies in treble and bass clef, and orally demonstrate rhythms	Critical thinking	Written, aural and oral assessment via exams, quizzes and class participation.
2. Classify and orally demonstrate elements of music, such as chords, intervals, and scales	Critical thinking	Written, aural and oral assessment via exams, quizzes and class participation.
3. Transcribe rhythms, diatonic melodies, and non-diatonic melodies	Critical thinking	Written, aural and oral assessment via exams, quizzes and class participation.
4. Transcribe and analyze diatonic harmonic	Critical thinking	Written, aural and oral assessment via exams, quizzes and class participation.
5. Read and reproduce rhythms in various meters	Critical thinking	Written, aural and oral assessment via exams, quizzes and class participation.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Disciplinary actions will be taken for students who exhibit disorderly conduct, cheat on exams, submit plagiarized work (see below), or are involved in collusion (helping others cheat or plagiarize) as defined in the Student Handbook under the heading, “Discipline and Penalties.” The maximum penalty imposed for violations will be an F in the course. The student will also be referred to the Dean of Students for further disciplinary action. Please read through the “Standards of Student Conduct” in the Student Handbook for a more complete discussion of these issues and your rights and responsibilities.

**Student Concerns:** If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Dr. Kristina Jantz, Fine Arts Department Chair, at 409-933-8255 or [kjantz@com.edu](mailto:kjantz@com.edu).

**Course outline (Singing and written quizzes are on WEDNESDAY the week they are listed at the beginning or end of class, except the scales quiz on Monday of Week 3. Journals are due by 11:59pm online Thursdays on the week they are listed. Holidays may influence due dates and students will be notified ahead of time if this is the case on any changes):**

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Week 1 Introduction to Western Music Style (**DUE Wednesday: Journal 1**)

Week 2 Scales of Common Practice (**DUE Wednesday: Journal 2**)

Week 3 Recognition of Sonorities in musical examples (**Written Quiz: Monday, Scales**)

Week 4 First Quarter Exam (**will occur on Wednesdays in class of the week listed**)

Week 5 Introduction of simple intervals (**Singing Quiz: Intervals**)

Week 6 Introduction of solfege and numbers for scales and intervals (**Singing Quiz: Intervals 2**)

Week 7 Rhythm study (**Performance Quiz: Rhythm**)

Week 8 Mid-term examinations

Week 9 Complete study of simple intervals (**Singing Quiz: Intervals 3**)

Week 10 Introduction of sight-reading skills (**Singing Quiz: Sightreading based on intervals**)

Week 11 Basic notation for melodic dictation (**Written Quiz: Interval-Based Melodic Dictation**)

Week 12 Third quarter Exam

Week 13 Recognition of the sonorities of the triad and its positions (**Written Quiz: Triadic positions**)

Week 14 Melodic dictation and sight-reading (**Singing quiz: Sightreading**)

Week 15 Review of Skills (**DUE Wednesday at beginning of class: Review Guide, bring questions on Monday prior!**)

Week 16 Final Examination

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## **Institutional Policies and Guidelines**

**Grade Appeal Process:** Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook <https://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.html> *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.*

**Academic Success & Support Services:** College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

**ADA Statement:** Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodation(s) is requested to contact:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: [AccessibilityServices@com.edu](mailto:AccessibilityServices@com.edu)

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

**Textbook Purchasing Statement:** A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

**Withdrawal Policy:** Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a “W” grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week session is October 1. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 14. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is November 25.

**FN Grading:** The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

**Early Alert Program:** The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

**Resources to Help with Stress:** If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at [deanofstudents@com.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@com.edu) or [communityresources@com.edu](mailto:communityresources@com.edu).

**Nondiscrimination Statement:** The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.