



**MUSI-1116-150CL**  
**Sight Singing/Ear Training I**  
**Fall Semester 2023**  
**Fine Arts Building, Room F-110**  
**Monday/Wednesday 2:00-3:20 p.m.**

**Instructor:** Dr. Paul Boyd

Office: F-122

Office Hours: Posted each semester on office door. Office hours may vary on occasion due to extraordinary circumstances such as make-up lesson, conferences, etc., therefore appointments are suggested.

Phone: College 409/933-8342

E-mail: [pboyd@com.edu](mailto:pboyd@com.edu)

**Required Textbook: None**

**Materials:** Students are required to 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. Additional software for ear-training is available in the Music Lab and may be utilized there. Intervals, scales, melodic, rhythmic and harmonic dictations are contained within the software. Students will be instructed on how to obtain the software.

**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 skill 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 quizzes with an accuracy level of 60%. Periodic quizzes will also be administered. No examinations will be given without prior notification in class time.

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harmonic dictations are contained within the software. Students will be instructed on how to obtain the software.

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**Grading:** Grading is based on a number of factors, including attendance (see below). A 100% percentage scale is utilized for written testing purposes, using the following scale:

90% and above = A  
80% - 90% = B  
70% - 80% = C  
60% - 70% = D  
60% and below = F

For sight-reading examples, scoring is based objectively on the number of elements correctly performed in a given musical excerpt.

Attendance and attitude will influence the student's final percentage. For instance, if a final written score totals 87%, with an excellent record of attendance and positive attitude, the student will very likely be moved into the 90% rank, and receive an "A" for the course.

**Make-Up Policy:** Make-ups are not feasible, in that our work is done in a "real time" lab environment. If a student knows that he/she/they will be absent from class on a given day, it is their responsibility to study any material missed. With prior notification, exams may be made up with proper documentation.

### **Attendance/Classroom Procedures**

Attendance and promptness to all class meetings is extremely important, and expected. Absences and general tardiness will be taken into account in the final grading process. 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. 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

completed in order to successfully complete the course.

If entering the classroom late, do so in an unobtrusive manner, as not to disturb those who are already working. Cell phone use and texting are prohibited in the classroom. Ringers should be turned off prior to entering class, and messages may not be retrieved during class time. Students using a cell phone in any manner will receive a warning for the first occurrence. A second occurrence may result in withdrawal from the class. In addition, computers may not be used in class for other than ear-training purposes. Internet use in class is prohibited unless for ear-training exercises.

**Tardiness Policy:** Please make every effort to be on time for class. Chronic tardiness will result in the lowering of a grade by 3 tardies equaling an absence.

**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.

**General Education Core Objectives:** Students successfully completing this course will demonstrate competency in the following Core Objectives: critical listening and thinking, writing, speaking and cultural competency (awareness of musical styles in history). While the class is not part of the general education core curriculum, it maps to at least one core objective.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Apply a method of sight singing to more difficult melodies in treble and bass clef, and oral demonstration of complex rhythms	Critical thinking	Written, aural and oral assessment via exams, quizzes and class participation.
2. Classify more difficult elements of music, such as extended tertian chords, compound intervals and non-diatonic scales	Critical thinking	Written, aural and oral assessment via exams, quizzes and class participation.
3. Transcribe more difficult/complex rhythms, diatonic and non-diatonic melodies	Critical thinking	Written, aural and oral assessment via exams, quizzes and class participation.
4. Transcribe and analyze diatonic and chromatic harmonic functions	Critical thinking	Written, aural and oral assessment via exams, quizzes and class participation.
5. Read and reproduce rhythms in various meters, including syncopation and irregular beat divisions.	Critical thinking	Written, aural and oral assessment via exams, quizzes and class participation.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Any incident of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate disciplinary action.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is using someone else’s words or ideas and claiming them as your own. Plagiarism is a very serious offense. Plagiarism includes paraphrasing someone else’s words without giving proper citation, copying directly from a website and pasting it into your paper, using someone else’s words without quotation marks. Any assignment containing any plagiarized material will receive a **grade of zero** and the student will be referred to the Dean of Students for the appropriate action.

**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. Rocky Barney, Academic Dean, at [rbarney@com.edu](mailto:rbarney@com.edu) or 409-933-8727.

### **Course Outline**

- Week 1 Introduction to Western Music Style.
- Week 2 Scales of Common Practice
- Week 3 Recognition of Sonorities in musical examples
- Week 4 First Quarter Exam.
- Week 5 Introduction of simple intervals
- Week 6 Introduction of solfege and numbers for scales and intervals
- Week 7 Rhythm study
- Week 8 Mid-term examinations
- Week 9 Complete study of simple intervals
- Week 10 Introduction of sight reading skills
- Week 11 Basic notation for melodic dictation
- Week 12 Third quarter Exam
- Week 13 Recognition of the sonorities of the triad and its positions
- Week 14 Melodic dictation and sight-reading
- Week 15 Review of Skills
- Week 16 Final Examination

## **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/docs/Student\\_Handbook\\_2023-2024\\_v2.pdf](https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2023-2024_v2.pdf). *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 accommodations is

requested to contact Kimberly Lachney at 409-933-8919 or [klachney@com.edu](mailto:klachney@com.edu). The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the 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 11. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 28. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is December 7.

**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)

