

Asbury University
MTH 231 ADVANCED MUSICIANSHIP I
Autumn 2014

Class Times:

Written: T 8:00–8:45, W 9:00–9:50, R 8:00–9:00

Aural: T 8:45–9:15, R 9:00–9:15, F 9:00–9:50

Dr. Enoch Jacobus; Office Hours TBA

Email: enoch.jacobus@asbury.edu

Google Hangout: +Enoch Jacobus

Twitter: @enochobus

WRITTEN THEORY

I. REQUIRED MATERIALS

- A. Prerequisite: Successful completion of MTH 112 or consent of the instructor.
- B. Kostka, Payne, Almen. *Tonal Harmony*, 7th ed. McGraw Hill.
- C. A Google account. (If you have a Gmail address, you already have this.)

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

A. Learning Outcomes:

- to acquire an understanding of 18th-century counterpoint.
- to explore the contrapuntal forms and techniques of the late Baroque period.
- to understand formal structures such as sonata-allegro.
- to explore the harmonic vocabulary of the 19th century.
- to write a short composition based on a prescribed formal structure (education majors—a portfolio possibility!)
- to explore the musical creations given to us by God.

- B. Instructional Methods: In order to achieve the above objectives, class time will be divided between lectures, drills, recitations, and class presentations.

III. GRADING AND CLASS POLICIES

- A. Exams: Music theory exams are comprehensive, with emphasis on analysis skills. In order to measure the achievement of the above objectives, three major exams will be given during the course of the semester.
- B. Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all classes. ONLY excused absences issued by the Registrar's Office will be accepted. In the event of serious illness or unusual circumstances, a student may submit an explanation in writing, after which the instructor may or may not excuse the absence. **Three tardies (1–10 minutes late for class) will be counted as one unexcused absence.** If a student is in excess of ten minutes late for a class, an absence will be recorded. If a student leaves class early, the equivalent of a tardy will be recorded. *After two unexcused absences, each successive absence will result in the lowering of the student's final grade by 3 percentage points.*
- C. Grading Weights and Scale: Homework assignments will result in 20% of the final grade; *these assignments must be turned in at the beginning of the specified class.* One homework grade per student will be dropped from each module. **Late assignments will not be accepted for a grade.** No credit will be given for homework and/or exams that are completed through plagiarism or cheating. In order to receive a

Asbury University
MTH 231 ADVANCED MUSICIANSHIP I
Autumn 2014

passing grade for MTH 231, you must complete both the written and sight-singing/aural training areas of this course with a grade of 70% or above.

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|----------------------|---------------|----|-------------|
| Homework Assignments | 20% | A | 95.0-100% |
| | | A- | 92.0-94.9% |
| Exams | 40% (2 x 20%) | B+ | 89.0-91.9% |
| | | B | 86.0-88.9% |
| | | B- | 83.0-85.9% |
| Projects | 10% | C+ | 80.0%-82.9% |
| | | C | 77.0%-79.9% |
| | | C- | 74.0-76.9% |
| Final | 30% | D | 70.0-73.9% |
| | | F | 0-69.9% |

SIGHT-SINGING/AURAL TRAINING

I. REQUIRED MATERIALS

- A. Prerequisite: Successful completion of MTH 112 or consent of the instructor.
- B. Texts:
 - 1. Berkowitz, *A New Approach to Sight Singing*
 - 2. Hall, *Studying Rhythm*
- C. Internet access

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

A. Learning Outcomes:

- to develop aural imagery by turning notated music into sound as a mental and aural image.
- to understand, demonstrate, and transcribe rhythmic patterns.
- to sight-sing melodies with letters, numbers, and syllables using moveable “do.”
- to transcribe melodies and harmonies through dictation.
- to transcribe, identify, and sing intervals, triads, seventh chords and chromatic harmonies.
- to develop corrective listening skills, involving errors in pitch, rhythm, harmony, dynamics, and articulation.
- to develop a vocabulary for describing all aspects of a performed piece, including melody, rhythm, harmony, form (including contrast, restatement, and variation), timbre, texture, tonality, etc.
- to further our understanding of the intricate creation of music given to us by God.

- B. Instructional Methods: This lab course is part of the four-semester sequence in theory, designed to improve students’ sight-singing and aural abilities. There will be a weekly assignment sheet, a portion of which students must prepare for a weekly ten-minute sight-singing lesson. In-class lectures will be limited, and student participation extensive!

III. GRADING AND CLASS POLICIES

- A. **Exams:** Three major exams in each track (Aural Training and Sight Singing) will be given during the course of the semester. The Aural Training exams will be given in class, and the Sight Singing exams will be given during the students' weekly Sight Singing lesson.
- B. **Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend all classes. ONLY excused absences issued by the Registrar's Office will be accepted. In the event of serious illness or unusual circumstances, a student may submit an explanation in writing, after which the instructor may or may not excuse the absence. **Three tardies (1–10 minutes late for class) will be counted as one unexcused absence.** If a student is in excess of ten minutes late for a class, an absence will be recorded. *After two unexcused absences, each successive absence will result in the lowering of the student's final grade by 3 percentage points.*
- C. **Grading Weights and Scale:** This course is divided into three modules, with each module being divided into two tracks, Aural Training and Sight Singing.

There will be weekly assignments resulting in 40% of the final grade. 20% of this grade will come from dictation assignments, which will be due every Friday *at class time*. The sight-singing weekly lesson will result in 20% of the final grade, and must be completed in the students' scheduled sight-singing lesson time. ***These assignments must be completed at the specified time. Late assignments will not be accepted for a grade.*** No credit will be given for homework and/or exams that are completed through plagiarism or cheating. *For successful completion of MTH 231, both the written and sight singing / aural training areas of this course must be passed with a grade of 70% or above.*

Grading weight is as follows:

| | | |
|--|--|----------------|
| Sight-Singing Lessons 20% | | A 95.0-100% |
| | | A- 92.0-94.9% |
| Sight-Singing Exams 30% (3 x 10%) | | B+ 89.0-91.9% |
| | | B 86.0-88.9% |
| | | B- 83.0-85.9% |
| Aural Training Dictation Assignments 20% | | C+ 80.0%-82.9% |
| | | C 77.0%-79.9% |
| | | C- 74.0-76.9% |
| Aural Training Exams 30% (3 x 10%) | | D 70.0-73.9% |
| | | F 0-69.9% |

IV. COURSE EVALUATION

All students completing the course for credit are required to complete an online course evaluation at the end of the course. Participation by all students is important, not only for our continued accreditation, but to assist in refining the course to assure quality instruction. The University will provide instructions to students via your campus email on how to complete the evaluation about two weeks before the course ends.