

The University of Vermont

Music 154: Harmony & Form Lab III

Fall 2017

MW 1:10-2:00 Southwick 310 and 200D

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Office Hours: M 2-3, F 1-2, and other times by appointmentdo not hesitate to ask

Class Website: www.uvm.edu/~dfeurzei/154

OVERVIEW

Continuing from Music 056, we will practice singing both at sight and with preparation; taking melodic, harmonic and rhythmic dictation; and performing keyboard exercises including play & sing and score-reading.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS (available at the UVM Bookstore)

- Clendinning et al., *Musician s Guide to Aural Skills: Sightsinging*, 3rd ed. WW Norton. If you dont have this, talk to me before purchasing.
- 8 x 11 inch, 10- or 12-stave notebook and music manuscript paper.
- Pencils for quizzes and music manuscript assignments. Do not use ink for quizzes.

FORMAT

Class will involve daily rendition of prepared and at-sight materials individually and together. In addition to in-class evaluations, there will be one-on-one meetings for assessment and coaching. Homework will consist of exercises from the text and other materials, including practice dictations that will be posted on the class website. Details of assignments and due dates will be announced in class and posted on the website. Assigned material may be tailored to individual students entry points.

PRACTICE

You will achieve the most successful and lasting results through <u>regular</u> and <u>thoughtful</u> practice. Plan to spend approximately 30 minutes daily on assigned material for this class.

ATTENDANCE

Your presence is crucial for group activities and for your own success. While I will not grade attendance as such, there is a performance assessment (prepared or unannounced) almost every class, with no make-ups except for excused absences. Excused absences require advance approval or (in cases of bona fide personal or medical emergency) prompt notification in writing or by email as soon as is possible, followed by appropriate documentation.

TECHNIQUES AND EVALUATION

Singing: We will usually use movable-do solfge with chromatic inflections (Kodaly system); sometimes English pitch letter-names with optional German chromatic modifications (*Fis* for $F\sharp$, *Es* for $F\sharp$, etc.). For all quizzes you must sing from a **clean** score, **without solfge syllables** written in. I grade singing on a 10-point scale using the following criteria:

- 10 = A+: Sing without error in good tempo and intonation, respecting dynamics and articulations, without stopping.
- 9 = A: Sing correctly or with one or two minor mistakes, in good tempo and intonation, respecting dynamics and articulations, without stopping.
- 8 = B: Sing with a few minor mistakes, respecting dynamics articulations; may stop once.
- 7 = C: Sing with several minor mistakes or one major mistake, or with unstable tempo; may stop twice.
- 6 = D: Sing with one or two major mistakes or way out of tempo; stop up to three times.
- 5 = F: Sing with several major mistakes or without tempo; or stopping more than 3 times. 1-4 = F-minus: Mostly reserved for obviously underprepared attempts.
- 0 = absent: If you are absent without approved excuse on a quiz day you will receive a 0.

Rhythmic exercises: We will usually employ the takadimi system (modified Indian *solkattu* syllables). You need to keep the meter (either conducting or tapping, as specified) while speaking the written rhythm. Graded performance will be from clean scores, with no syllables written in, except when announced otherwise.

Keyboard play & sing exercises: Criteria will vary depending on the task, but as in all performance, rhythmic integrity and continuity are of greatest importance.

Participation: Be prepared to perform. Anyone may be called on at any time during class to sing, conduct, or take dictation at the board.

Course grade: Your final letter grade will be based on total points earned, weighted as below, with class contribution and preparation as factors in borderline cases. There is no final exam.

35%
10%
20%
15%
20%

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Any unsanctioned shared work and copying on tests will result in the loss of all points for all parties involved. Further consequences may result according to the UVM Code of Academic Integrity, available at www.uvm.edu/~uvmppg/ppg/student/acadintegrity.pdf.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

Students have the right to practice the religion of their choice. Submit a documented religious holiday schedule to me by the end of the second full week of classes.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible, but no later than the third week of classes.