

The University of Vermont

# Music 156: Harmony & Form Lab IV

Spring 2018

MW 8:30-9:20 Southwick 202

# **David Feurzeig**

Office: Music Bldg. A316 (802) 656-1498 dfeurzei@uvm.edu

Office Hours: Mon. 9:30-10:30, Weds. 1-2, Fri. 11:45-12:45, other times by appointment

Course Website: www.uvm.edu/~dfeurzei/156

# **OVERVIEW**

Continuing from Music 154, 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.

## **FORMAT**

This syllabus lays out percentage weightings for the activity categories listed under "Evaluation", below. Specific musical tasks assigned will evolve organically over the semester, and will always be posted on the website as well as explained in class.

Similarly, to allow us to explore the widest variety of techniques and material without unduly impacting your grades, there will be a partial **decoupling** of class activities and the exercises I grade you on. For example, I may give harmonically complex dictations but grade you on your recognition of a more limited menu of chord qualities, or assign highly challenging melodies to sing but grade you on the easier portions only. As the course progresses I will always make clear what I am evaluating you on and how.

# **REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS** (available at the UVM Bookstore)

- Clendinning et al., *Musician's Guide to Aural Skills: Sightsinging*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. WW Norton. If you don't have this, talk to me before purchasing.
- $8 \frac{1}{2}$  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.

#### **PRACTICE**

You will achieve better and more lasting results through <u>regular</u> and <u>thoughtful</u> practice. Plan to spend at least 20 minutes daily on assigned material for this class.

#### ATTENDANCE

Your presence is crucial both for group activities and your own success. While I do not grade attendance as such, there is some sort of assessment almost every class, with no make-ups for unexcused absences. Excused absences require advance approval or, in cases of personal or medical emergency, prompt notification by email or phone as soon as possible, followed by appropriate documentation.

#### **EVALUATION**

All performance will be evaluated on this 10-point scale:

- 10: Sing or play without error in good tempo and intonation, respecting dynamics and articulations, without stopping.
- 9: Perform correctly or with one or two minor mistakes, in good tempo and intonation, largely respecting dynamics and articulations, without stopping.
- 8: Perform with a few minor mistakes; may stop once.
- 7: Perform with several minor mistakes or one major mistake, or with substantially unstable tempo; may stop twice.
- 6: Perform with one or two major mistakes or out of tempo; stop up to three times.
- 5: Perform with several major mistakes or without tempo; or stopping more than 3 times.
- 3-4: Musically incoherent, missing much of the musical content; mostly for substantially underprepared attempts.
- 0: Absent: If you are absent without approved excuse on a quiz day you will receive a 0.

Points for individual dictation exercises will vary.

Your final letter grade will be based on points earned (90-100% = A-range, 80% up to 90% = B-range, etc.), weighted by category as below. Your lowest score in each category will be dropped. There is no final exam.

Prepared performance activities	30%
includes solfege, rhythm, and play & sing exercises	
Keyboard work (playing modes, chords, etc.) not involving singing	15%
At-sight performance activities	10%
includes solfege, rhythm, keyboard, and play & sing exercises	
At-home dictation	15%
In-class dictation	20%
Participation	10%
includes group and improvisational exercises and discussion	

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

You are encouraged to work together on performance exercises and on singing/recalling any inclass material assigned for at-home dictation. However, all written dictation must be your own work. Undue collaboration can result in the loss of all points for all involved. Further consequences may result according to the UVM Code of Academic Integrity, available at <a href="https://www.uvm.edu/~uvmppg/ppg/student/acadintegrity.pdf">www.uvm.edu/~uvmppg/ppg/student/acadintegrity.pdf</a>.

# **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 third 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.