



## Aural Skills I (1 credit)

*Fall 2025*

**Instructor:** Prof. Samantha Brewer

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**Phone:** (720)-445-0459

**Office Hours:** Thursdays at 12:00pm or by appointment via email, UCA 305A

**Time and Location:** TR 8:00-8:50 a.m., UCA 142

### Catalog Course Description

Introduction to aural skills, including melodic dictation, diatonic harmonic dictation, rhythmic dictation in simple and compound meters, prepared singing, and sight singing.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Type:** Face-to-face

### Course Objectives

By the end of the term, successful students will be able to:

1. Sing, by sight and with preparation, simple diatonic melodies in both the major and minor mode using appropriate solfege.
2. Sing, by sight and with preparation, simple diatonic melodies that utilize both simple and compound meters, and a variety of clefs (treble, bass and C clefs).
3. Dictate simple melodies featuring aspects from Objective 1 and 2.
4. Dictate basic diatonic harmonic progressions and provide correct Roman numeral analysis.
5. Identify interval size and quality.
6. Identify chord quality including all qualities of triads and seventh chords.

### Course Materials

The following text is *required* material for this course.

Ottman, Robert W. and Nancy Rogers. Music for Sight Singing. 10<sup>th</sup> Ed. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2019.

You are expected to have manuscript paper (available to download on Canvas), pencils, and erasers or a tablet on hand at all times. We will be continually working through materials in class, and you will be expected to actively participate in the process.

### Evaluation

Sight-Singing Tests (4):	40%	Last dictation test on <b>Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>: 2:00pm-4:00pm</b>
Dictation Tests (4):	40%	
<u>Aural Assignments:</u>	<u>20%</u>	
Total:	100%	

*Excessive absences override these percentages-see "Participation" in the Important Dates and Deadlines document*

Grades will be given with both a number and a corresponding letter. The following is the chart of letter/number equivalencies. Please note you must reach the number at the bottom of the chart in order to receive the corresponding letter. Final grades will not be rounded up.

A = 92-100	C+= 78-79
A-= 90-91	C = 70-77
B+=88-89	D = 60-69
B = 83-87	F = 0-59
B-= 80-82	

You must receive at least a C in the course to continue into MU128. Students receiving a grade lower than a C in the course may not continue until they have re-taken the course successfully (by achieving a grade of C or better). Music majors: You must also receive at least a C for this course to apply towards graduation.

## Weekly Topics

- Weeks 1-2: Rhythm: Simple Meters with beat division in 2 parts; Melody: Stepwise in Major Keys (Ch. 1 & 2); Interval Identification; Progressions featuring T-D-T or T-PD-T motion
- Weeks 3-4: Rhythm: Simple Meters; Melody: Leaps within Tonic Triad (Ch. 3); Interval Identification; Progressions featuring T-PD-D-T motion
- Weeks 5-6: Rhythm: Compound Meters, Melody: Leaps within Tonic Triad (Ch. 4); Interval Identification; Progressions featuring inversions of basic T-PD-D triads
- Weeks 7-8: Rhythm: Simple and Compound Meters; Melody: Minor Keys, leaps within tonic triad (Ch. 5); Triad Quality Identification; Progressions featuring the minor mode
- Weeks 9-10: Rhythm: Simple and Compound Meters; Melody: Leaps within V7 in Major and Minor Mode (Ch. 6); Seventh Chord Quality Identification; Progressions with seventh chords
- Weeks 11-12: Rhythm: Simple and Compound Meters; Melody: Introduction to C clefs (Ch. 7); Seventh Chord Quality Identification; Progressions featuring expansion of T-PD-D-T, including inversions of V7
- Weeks 13-15: Rhythm: Simple and Compound Meters; Melody: Further use of diatonic leaps (Ch. 8); Inverted Triad Identification; Progressions featuring second inversion triads and other expansions of T area

## Student Disability Center

If you have been granted accommodation by the SDC, you need to come meet with me during my office hours or email a request for an in-person meeting *within the first two weeks of classes* so we can discuss how this accommodation will be utilized in this course. I want to make sure there is full transparency about course expectations for any student with an accommodation.

This course will adhere to the Academic Integrity Policy of the Colorado State University General Catalog and the Student Conduct Code.

Please note the difference between collaborating with a colleague in the class and simply copying from one another. I recommend doing your own assignment first and then coming together to work on it. If you choose to work with another person, both parties will need to indicate that on the top of your homework assignment.

## Student, Faculty, and Staff Health and Safety Information

The School of Music, Theatre and Dance and Department of music are very concerned about the safety and health of our students, faculty and staff. As you receive instruction in applied lessons, classes, and rehearsals, instructors will provide basic information regarding the maintenance of hearing, vocal, and musculoskeletal health and injury prevention. Non-music major students enrolled in ensembles and music appreciation courses should be aware of possible hearing loss related to loud volumes of music, especially listening to headphones at excessive levels. Students are requested to immediately report any physical discomfort or injury related to their instrument to their applied faculty and ensemble directors so that that student's learning plan may be adjusted to best overcome those challenges. Students are encouraged to supplement information obtained in their lessons, masterclasses, and guest lectures regarding performing artist health and safety issues by utilizing some of the resources listed at <https://music.colostate.edu/safety-and-health/>. Additionally, SMTD students are encouraged to take advantage of the Performing Arts Medicine Association (PAMA) in order to obtain information about local resources available.