

AURAL SKILLS 1 SYLLABUS

Fall 2013-Spring 2014

Mondays and Fridays, Period 5, Room 302

Instructor: Mr. Lenny San Jose

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Course Description:

Aural Skills is a course intended to provide vocalists with the tools necessary to read a piece of music at sight and strengthen their musical ear. In both levels of Aural Skills, students learn to identify solfege, rhythms, and common musical devices such as chord tones, theme, and sequence, in order to enhance their ability to sight-sing. Students are also trained to sing and identify intervals, chords, and scales. Aural Skills 1 is the foundational course, and will serve as a training ground for the more rigorous curriculum of Aural Skills 2.

Course Topics:

Aural Skills is broken down into two categories: Sight-Singing and Ear Training. Listed below are the covered topics in each category.

Sight-Singing

- Major Keys of C, F, G, A, F, Eb, Bb
- Predominantly stepwise motion with occasional skips and leaps
- Time Signatures of 2/4, 3/4, and 4/4
- Major Scale solfege and moveable do

Ear Training

- Ability to sing/identify diatonic intervals
- Ability to sing/identify major, minor, augmented, and diminished triads

Course Outline

Semester 1: In semester 1, students will learn solfege in C Major and moveable do, and focus on singing and identifying all diatonic intervals. By the end of Semester 1, students will be able to study and perform simple sight-singing exercises and sing and identify diatonic intervals in a multiple choice situation.

Semester 2: In semester 2, students will perform pieces of up to three sharps or flats, and sing and identify diatonic intervals in a randomized set. By the end of Semester 2, students will be able to scan a simple sight-singing exercise and perform it at first glance.

Course Policies

- We will respect and follow All OSA policies as outlined in the student handbook.
- Students who are absent are given a 0/15 for the day.
- Students with excused absences that meet the notification requirements stated in the OSA handbook, will receive a EX/15, provided that they provide teacher with either email or hand-written note from parent to verify that absence was excused.

This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with or without advanced notice

- Any missed assignments due to **communicated absences** must be made up within one week of the due date. Quizzes generally can be made up on the following Friday in class. If this is not possible, the student must arrange for a time outside of class to make up the assignment.
- Students are expected to take pride in their classroom by keeping it neat and clean.
- Students must be seated and ready with all necessary materials by the second bell. Students who do not arrive on time are considered tardy and will lose 5 participation points for the day.

Required Materials

Students must bring the following supplies to every class session:

- 3 ring binder or folder with pockets for worksheets and handouts, or a section in a binder dedicated to Aural Skills
- Pencil and eraser
- Planner to write down upcoming quizzes and exams.

Student Assessment

- Students receive 15 daily participation points for being present, on time, and engaged in the classroom. Students may lose points for being tardy, absent, or for unacceptable behavior as assessed by the teacher.
- Quizzes will be administered every Friday and will alternate between sight-singing and ear training exercises.
- An exam will be administered at the end of each quarter, consisting of the various elements taught in the course, sight-singing, singing and identifying intervals, scales, chords, etc.

Final grade = Points Earned / Points Possible
 Daily Participation Points: 15 points
 Quizzes: 5 – 20 points
 Exams: 20 – 40 points

I have READ and UNDERSTAND this syllabus and agree to its terms:

 Parent / Guardian Signature

 PRINT Parent / Guardian name

 Student Signature

PRINT Student name