

## MUSC 2401 Aural Skills III

HUM Room: 234  
T/TH 11:00 - 12:15

Instructor: Dr. Karen Graffius  
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Office Hours as Posted

**Course Description:** MUSC 2401 is continuation of MUSC 1402 focusing on sight-singing all diatonic intervals and melodies which include chromatic alteration and modulation, continual development of rhythm reading including more complex divisions of the beat and more indepth study of harmony and chord structure. Students complete assignments by using traditional methods and by using the tools of music technology. MUSC 2301 must be taken concurrently.

### Course Materials:

- Bruce Benward & J. Timothy Kolosick. *Ear Training: A Technique for Listening*. Seventh ed., Rev. McGraw Hill, 2010.
- Maureen Carr & Bruce Benward. *Sight Singing Complete*, 8th ed. McGraw Hill, 2015.
- Manuscript paper and pencils (free printable paper found at <https://www.musictheory.net/tools/paper>)
- Optional Suggested Apps:  
Perfect Ear - free for androids and I phones/I pads  
Good Ear pro - I phones/I pads only

### Student Learning Outcomes:

*Each student will:*

- Sight-sing melodies which may include all diatonic intervals, chromatic alterations and melodies with modal characteristics.
- Read/perform rhythms which include subdivisions of the beat, 3 against 2, changing meter and triplets and hemiolas.
- Analyze both visually and aurally chord function, all diatonic triads, six-four chords, harmonic intervals and the dominant 7th and diminished 7th chords.
- Continue developing the ability to notate audiated melodies, rhythms and harmonic progressions.
- Continue developing the ability to improvise through singing.

### Grade Breakdown:

A = 100 - 90      B= 89-80      C=79-70      D=69-60      F=59 and below

### Grading:

- Dictation Exams and Transcription Projects: 40%
- Sight-Singing Exams: 40%
- Class Participation and In-Class Assignments: 20%

### Course Assignments:

- **Dictation Exams:** Four exams will be administered that test your ability to hear and write down melodies, harmonies and rhythms. It is your responsibility to have the appropriate materials for exams. (Exams 1 and 3 - 50 points; exams 2 and 4 100 points)
- **Transcription Assignments:** Two transcription assignments will be given throughout the semester where you are provided a recording to transcribe without the assistance of an instrument or musical score. These assessments will be worth 50 points.
- **Sight-Singing Exams:** Four sight-reading exams will be administered. You will sign up for a time slot in class one week before the exam. If you miss your time slot without a written, valid excuse, you may not make-up the exam. (100 points each)
- **Class Participation and In-class Assignments:** We will work actively for a portion of every class on ear training, sight-singing and dictation techniques. Your participation will be evaluated on a score of 0-10 for each of those days and that will comprise your class participation grade. (total of 200 points)

### Course Policies:

- **Common Courtesy:** Please practice common courtesy and respect. We are all works in progress!
- **Attendance:** building individual and group musicianship is vitally important, therefore attendance is mandatory; excused absences will be evaluated by the instructor on a case-by-case basis. Be sure to communicate regarding absences and lateness. Attendance is taken at the beginning of each class, and latecomers need to speak to the instructor after class if they expect to be marked present for the day. Remember that you are given 10pts/day for class participation. If you are absent or arrive 15 minutes or more after class has started, you may not receive those points!
- **Observance of Religious Holidays:** Students may miss class to observe religious holidays that fall under the following circumstances:
  - \* Students must notify the instructor in writing during the first 3 weeks of the semester.
  - \* Submit any possible make-up work by the assigned due date or it will not be accepted.
- **Late Work:** Assignments must be turned in on time. Work that is submitted after that time, but within 24 hours will be deducted 10% of the total possible points for that assignment. Each 24 hours after the due date that passes before work is submitted will drop the grade by a further 10%. Work more than 10 days overdue will not be accepted and will be submitted as a 0. If extreme circumstances prevent you from submitting an assignment on time, contact the instructor as soon as possible to make alternate arrangements for turning in your work.
- **Make-up Exams:** Make-up exams will not be offered except under extreme, documented circumstances. If you are unable to attend an exam, you must contact me by 9:15a.m. on the day of the exam or you will not be allowed to make it up. You will only be allowed one make-up exam during the course of the term, and only if you provide sufficient documentation to warrant make-up. In class grades cannot be made up.
- **Cell Phone Policy:** Use of cell phones and laptops is NOT allowed in the classroom. They provide more of a distraction than a benefit to learning, so respect me and those around you, and do not use them.

**Important Dates:**

- Thursday, Sept 5** - Sight-Singing Exam 1  
**Tuesday, Sept 10** - Dictation Exam 1  
**Thursday, Sept. 19** - Transcription Project 1 Due  
**Tuesday, Oct. 1** - Sight-Singing Exam 2  
**Thursday, Oct. 3** - **NO CLASS (Fall Break)**  
**Tuesday, Oct. 8** - Dictation Exam 2  
**Tuesday, Oct. 29** - Sight-Singing Exam 3  
**Thursday, Oct. 31** - Dictation Exam 3  
**Tuesday, Nov. 12** - Transcription Project 2 Due  
**Thursday, Nov. 21** - Sight-Singing Exam 4  
**Tuesday, Dec. 3** - Dictation Exam 4  
**Tuesday, Dec. 10** - **Final Exam**

The final exam is optional but may be used to replace a previous exam grade. Students failing the class must take the final exam!

**Course Policies:** Consult the following link for University policies on academic support, online courses, honor code, e-mail policy, credit hour policy and campus carry:

<https://www.westga.edu/UWGSyllabusPolicies/>

**Health and Wellness:**

The university and the Department of Music are concerned about your health and wellness. Below is a link with vital information to help students maintain their physical and mental health.

<https://www.westga.edu/music/wellness/>