

University of South Carolina School of Music
MUSC 218: Aural Skills IV
Spring 2010

Faculty Supervisor

Dr. J. Daniel Jenkins
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Instructors

Ms. Jennifer Adam (adam@email.sc.edu)
Mr. David Schroeder (schroedd@email.sc.edu)

Meeting Times and Locations

Section 1 (250430)	TTH	8:25-9:15 AM	Room 040	Schroeder
Section 2 (250450)	TTH	9:30-10:20 AM	Room 040	Schroeder
Section 3 (250470)	TTH	9:30-10:20 AM	Room 214	Adam
Section 4 (250480)	TTH	2:00-2:50 PM	Room 101 SPB	Adam

Course Description

Students in MUSC 218 will pursue the development of musical independence, including sightsinging, ear training, rhythmic reading, dictation, and partsinging.

Goals and Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to describe and compare basic elements of music theory, including foundational principles of harmony and voice leading, in a variety of musical styles. More specifically, students will be able to

- demonstrate the ability to use a variety of solfege and counting systems
- recall basic patterns of musical material in a variety of contexts
- analyze musical scores
- develop inner hearing and musical memory
- recognize a variety of musical notational symbols
- distinguish the differences among a variety of meters and tonalities
- transfer heard sound into musical notation

Course Materials

Robert W. Ottman and Nancy Rogers, *Music for Sight Singing*, seventh edition
Staff paper and pencil (pen is *not* acceptable)
MacGAMUT software (as required by your instructor)

Units

MUSC 218 will be divided into three units: 19th century music, jazz harmony and 20th century music. Units 1 and 3 will conclude with an individual sightsinging audit and a dictation exam. Unit 2 will conclude with a transcription project.

Daily Grades

Most of these grades will be based on performance in class. Other Daily Grades will include short quizzes and short web-based assignments. If you are absent from class on a day that the instructor would have asked you to perform for a grade, or that a daily grade assignment is due, and the absence is *excused*, then you will be allowed to make that grade up. If the absence is *unexcused*, then you will receive a grade of "0."

Web-dictations

There will be two web-dictations and one transcription project. If you do not turn these in on the date they are due, they will be late and will receive a grade of “0.” If you are absent from class, and the absence is *excused*, then you will be allowed to turn in the assignment for a grade. If the absence is *unexcused*, then you will receive a grade of “0.” (However, you do have the option to have a classmate bring your homework to class.)

Unit Exams

At the end of Units 1 and 3 you will take an individual sightsinging audit and a dictation exam. Due to time constraints, some of these audits will have take place outside of regular class time. *It is your responsibility to sign up for an audit time that does not create conflicts with other things in your schedule.*

Audits and exams are extremely important course requirements and make-ups will only be offered under the most exceptional of circumstances.

Grading Distribution

Your grade in this course will be divided into the following categories:

Daily Grades	20%
Web dictations (2 @ 5% each)	10%
Unit 1 Sightsinging Audit	15%
Unit 1 Dictation Exam	15%
Unit 2 Transcription Project	10%
Unit 3 Sightsinging Audit	15%
Unit 3 Dictation Exam	15%

Non-numeric Grading Scale

- √+ - Excellent work, meets all requirements of the assignment.
- √ - Work completed, but needs further refinement in specified area(s).
- √- - Please come see me to discuss your work. Re-do and re-submit assignment.
- l - Late work, no credit

Numeric Grading Scale

A	100-93	Grades in the A range represent truly excellent work, showing a high degree of mastery of the subject matter. This work is error-free (or nearly so), and displays musicality and creativity. An exceptionally high grade.
B+	92-86	Grades in the B range represent good to strong basic command of the material, with few errors. A high grade.
B	85-80	
C+	79-75	Grades in the C range represent errors that reveal only partial understanding or weak mastery of the material. A fair grade.
C	74-70	
D+	69-65	Grades in the D range represent work that is very weak, showing poor understanding and very little mastery of the material. A low grade.
D	64-60	
F	59 and below	Grades in the F range represent unacceptable work. A very low grade.
0		A grade of “0” represents work that was not submitted or submitted late.

Class Attendance

The university attendance policy states the following: “Enrollment in a course obligates the student not only for prompt completion of all work assigned but also for punctual and regular attendance and for participation in whatever class discussion may occur. It is the student’s responsibility to keep informed concerning all assignments made. Absences whether excused or unexcused do not absolve him or her from this responsibility. Absence from more than 10 percent of the scheduled classes, *whether excused or unexcused*, is excessive and the instructor may choose to exact a grade penalty for such absences” [emphasis added].

There are only 28 class meetings of this course, which means you can only miss three times excused or unexcused. Each additional absence, whether excused or unexcused, will result in the lowering of your grade by three percentage points. Your instructor will take attendance at every class meeting.

You must inform your instructor of excused absences in advance. In the event of illness, contact your instructor as soon as possible, and no later than the next day.

Tardy Policy

If you are not in class at the time your instructor is ready to begin, you will be counted tardy. Two tardies are the equivalent of one absence.

Requirement for Music Majors and Minors

From the undergraduate handbook:

“A minimum grade of ‘C’ is required for any course submitted for fulfillment of major requirements. Consequently, any music course in which a grade of ‘D’ or ‘F’ is recorded must be repeated until a ‘C’ is attained, if it is to count toward degree requirements. Students will be prohibited from continuing in a music degree if grades below ‘C’ are recorded in applied music for two consecutive semesters; a student will then be required to re-audition to continue as a music major in any degree.”

Academic Integrity

The University of South Carolina takes academic integrity very seriously. Please make sure that all work you do in this course is your own. Any instances of cheating, plagiarism, etc. will be documented and referred to the Office of Academic Integrity for possible disciplinary action. For more information, please see the website of the Office of Academic Integrity: <http://www.sc.edu/academicintegrity/>

Learners With Special Needs

If you have a learning disability, please make your instructor aware of it. Also, if you have not already done so, please refer to website of the Office of Student Disability Services: <http://www.sa.sc.edu/sds/>

Important Dates

Thursday, February 18	Unit 1 Dictation Exam
Week of February 22	Unit 1 Individual Sight-singing Audits
Week of March 8	Spring Break – No Classes
Tuesday, March 23	Unit 2 Transcription Project due
Thursday, April 22	Unit 3 Dictation Exam
Finals Week	Unit 3 Individual Sight-singing Audits