

Duke Ellington School of the Arts

Music Department

Course Syllabus

Andrew Smith, Sight-Singing Coordinator

Music.7215@gmail.com

Course: Sight Singing III

Credit: One Carnegie Unit each year

Course Description:

Sight-singing is a four-part course in which the student will learn how to hear music before it is sung and/or played. The class will be structured around a series of quizzes/drills to ensure training of the ear to hear intervals, melodies, and to understand rhythms. Techniques include melodic, rhythmic, and harmonic dictations, sight-reading of melodies, clapping of rhythms, and daily exercises to ensure an understanding of the solfege system using “movable do”. It is an essential course for every music major to have and upon completing all courses, it fulfills a requirement for graduation.

Content Standards:

- Reading and notating music
- Singing alone with others, a various repertoire of music

Learning Objectives:

-Ear Training – Master the singing of the chromatic, major and minor scales using solfege syllables, sing and notate steps and skips within the major and minor scale, find the tonic in any given major or minor key, sing and notate major, minor, and diminished, augmented triads on a grand staff, sing and notate all seventh chords, sing and notate all intervals both ascending and descending, sing I, IV, V, V7 Chords in root position and in all inversions, demonstrate an understanding of roman numeral analysis as it pertains to chordal movement, identify and notate on the Alto and Tenor Clefs.

-Rhythm – demonstrate an understanding of meter and execute rhythmic patterns including: Quarter Notes, Half Notes, Sixteenth Notes, Whole Notes, Eighth Notes, Dotted notes with the rests and other various patters in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 3/8, 6/8 and other simple and compound time signatures, demonstrate an understanding of hypermeter and hemiola, demonstrate an understanding pf rhythmic patterns in irregular meter.

-Sight-Singing – Master the identification of the key of a given melody based on key signatures and hearing chords, notate solfege syllables of a given melody, identify intervals based on melodies given, demonstrate a basic understanding of reading a piece in a mode, identify and read on the Alto and Tenor Clefs, sing all parts of grand staff and even orchestral instruments.

-Vocabulary – demonstrate an understanding of basic musical terms that are used with dynamics, tempo marking and styles of singing, including but not limited to Italian, French and German phrases.

Teaching Strategies:

Demonstration, modeling, guided practice, and lectures are the primary teaching strategies used. For this reason, it is of paramount importance that students attend all classes.

Class Participation - 10%

Practice and Application – 50%

Assessments - 40%

Required Materials:

Each student must bring the following items to class daily:

- Pencil(s)
- Loose leaf paper/Notebook for notetaking
- Eraser
- Folder with sight-singing melodies and rhythmic drills
- Ear phones and cellular phone/laptop when asked
- **GREAT ENERGY!!!**

-NO PENS ALLOWED IN CLASS!!! If a student writes in pen, their assignment will only be worth half-credit. It is important for students to have pencils in music classes because mistakes will happen. When they do, erasing is better than scratching out the answers with a blue or black pen.

Grading Scale:

- A 93-100**
- A- 90-92.9**
- B+ 87-89.9**
- B 83-86.9**
- B- 80-82.9**
- C+ 77-79.9**
- C 73-76.9**
- C- 70-72.9**
- D+ 67-69.9**
- D 64-66.9**
- F 63 and below**

Attendance Impact on Grade

- Grade reduction for 5 unexcused absences in a quarter for a single course
- Automatic “FA” (Failure due to absence) for 10 unexcused absences in a quarter for a single course
- Automatic “F” for 30 unexcused absences in a year for a single course

I Incomplete (too little work submitted) Students have until 2 weeks after issuance of report cards to make up quizzes/exams for partial credit. Failure to complete required work within the above stated time frame will result in the incomplete grade converting to an “FA”.