

Duke Ellington School of the Arts

Music Department Syllabus

Course: Sight-Singing I

Credit: One Carnegie Unit each year

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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. The students will gain foundational learning on how to read an intergenerational and inclusive language: Music!

Content Standards

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

Learning Objectives

Ear-Training-

Solfege- Students will identify and demonstrate their understanding of solfege through the singing of all diatonic solfege within the major keys and chromatic solfege, both ascending and descending, and demonstrate understanding of scale degrees.

Intervals- Students will identify and demonstrate an understanding of ascending Minor 2nd's thru Perfect 8th's (octaves) using solfege from major scale when sung and will recognize these intervals when played both melodically and harmonically.

Scales/Key Signatures-

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the chromatic scale and the all of the Major Scales and Key Signatures. Students will also be introduced to the minor scale using La-based solfege (Relative minor, all three forms of the minor).

Chords/Tonality-

Students will identify and demonstrate an understanding of Major triads as well as identify the tonic of a Major triad/key. Students will also demonstrate a basic identification and demonstration of minor triads and be introduced to primary

chords (I/IV/V/V7) and Chord progressions, identifying the tonic of a minor triad/key.

Dictation-

Students will demonstrate a basic understanding of rhythmic and melodic dictation based on theory objectives.

Rhythm -

Rhythm- Students will identify and demonstrate an understanding of rhythmic patterns/time signatures using whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth, and dotted notes.

Conducting- Students will identify and demonstrate an understanding of counts, tempo markings and conducting patterns.

Sight-Singing -

Clef- Students will demonstrate understanding of the treble and bass clefs.

Melodies- Students will demonstrate understanding of intervals including unison, stepwise, and leaps.

Teaching Strategies

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

Grading Policy Summary

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

Class Participation - 10%

Homework - 10%

Practice and Application - 40%

Assessments - 40%

Sight-Singing Jury

This portion of the grade will only be applicable during the 1st and 3rd advisories. The students will demonstrate what they have learned during the course of the advisory which will also prepare them for the Benchmark Exams.

Benchmark Exams

To be given at the beginning of 4th Advisory and will count as a portion of Final Exam Grade.

**Scheduled dates of assessments are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor and/or in the event of extenuating circumstances, i.e., school closures, approved school activities, etc.*