

Eastern Kentucky University  
Department of Music  
**Syllabus for MUS 161-002, Musicianship I, CRN 14053**  
T/TH 11:00-11:50  
1 Credit Hour  
Fall 2012

Professor: Dr. Richard Byrd

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**CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

MUS 161 Musicianship I (1). I, II. Corequisite: MUS 181. Skills and strategies for the perception, identification and performance of the basic materials of music.

**TEXTS:**

- Berkowitz, Sol, *A New Approach to Sight Singing*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, 2011.
- MacGAMUT 6 Music Software, 2008. (EKU Bookstore or [www.macgamut.com](http://www.macgamut.com) has this software) This program cannot be shared, so each student is required to purchase their own copy.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

This course is an introduction to the study of music as an academic discipline. Music theory, along with music history, provides the foundation for all other studies in the field of music. While the materials presented in this course consist primarily of musicianship skills, the study and review of theory fundamentals corresponding to skills acquired in the written theory coursework are necessary components to help facilitate successful aural skills. These fundamental theory skills include a working knowledge of key signatures, scales, intervals, sonorities, inversion symbols, roman numerals, cadences, meters and rhythms.

The musicianship portion of the course will provide intensive drill in identifying and reproducing the fundamental structures of music. Students will be able to:

- Identify melodic and harmonic intervals within an octave
- Identify major, minor, and diminished triads including chordal inversions and root-position seventh chords
- Dictate, correct and sight sing melodies involving treble and bass clefs, major and minor keys, simple and compound meters, scalar contours, and tonic and dominant triadic leaps
- Dictate, correct and sight sing rhythms involving simple and compound meters and basic syncopation
- Dictate, correct and sight sing chord progressions involving tonic, subdominant, and dominant triads

## **EVALUATION METHODS:**

- **Grading:**

40%—Weekly quizzes (sight singing and aural skills)

20%—Class Participation (10%) and MacGamut Practice Time (10%)

20%—Comprehensive Mid-semester Exams: Sight singing (10%) & Aural Skills (10%)

20%—Comprehensive End-of-semester Exams: Sight singing (10%) & Aural Skills (10%)

- **Grading Scale:**

A—90 to 100; B—80 to 89; C—70 to 79; D—60 to 69; F—below 60

- **Class Participation:**

Class participation is expected of all students during each class. Students should be prepared to participate in all class activities as requested (e.g. sight singing, dictation, answering questions, group work, etc.). Taking notes during class will also be considered a part of class participation, especially when directed by the instructor, so it is imperative that each student brings a notebook daily for taking notes. Please note that the final grade (10%) reflects the student's degree of participation in class. All unexcused absences and all tardies that exceed 50% of the class time will affect the class participation grade as well. Students will incur a 3% reduction of their class participation grade for each of the following: 1) every absence, 2) every significant tardy, and 3) every three tardies that do not exceed 50% of the class time, and 4) every two days without the use of their own class textbook when used during class.

NOTE: MacGAMUT Aural Skills (NOT written skills) Practice Time requirements for the semester are 10 minutes per day for 3 days each week for a semester total of 45 days (450 minutes). All students are required to turn in their hours (via e-mail) on the last Monday of classes during dead week. Students will only be given credit for practice time as reflected by the requirements stated above and as documented by the dates in the MacGAMUT stats listings. You are welcome to practice for more than 10 minutes each day and more than 3 times per week, but you will only be given credit for 10 minutes maximum each day and 3 times maximum per week—this policy reflects the philosophy that consistent practice is more beneficial than inconsistent practice and will produce the most successful results.

- **Comprehensive Exams:**

The comprehensive mid-semester sight singing and aural skills exams will be scheduled during the middle of the semester. The comprehensive end-of-semester sight singing and aural skills exams will be scheduled during the last week of classes. The specific dates for these exams will be announced the week prior to these exams.

**STUDENT PROGRESS:**

Students are responsible for keeping track of their grades throughout the semester. All aural skills quizzes and exams will have a grade marked on the paper, which the students should record for themselves. Sight-singing quiz grades may be obtained anytime during the semester. Students are encouraged to regularly calculate their grade throughout the semester to examine their progress and grade to date for the course.

NOTIFICATION FOR MID-TERM GRADES: Mid-term grades for all undergraduate students will be viewable online beginning October 15, 2012. The mid-term grade serves as a reflection of the student's progress during approximately the first half of the semester, and is calculated as follows: 50% = quizzes given, 50% = midterm exams given.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

**ATTENDANCE IS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT FACTOR AFFECTING THE STUDENT'S SUCCESS IN THIS COURSE!** Regular and punctual attendance will be expected of all students throughout the semester. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class period. Any student with more than five (5) absences, regardless of whether they are excused or unexcused, shall be automatically assigned the final grade of an F. All exceptions will be determined only by the class instructor on an individual case by case basis, and students must have provided the instructor written documentation of EVERY absence immediately as they occur to be considered as a potential exception. Students arriving after class has started will be considered "late", and students are responsible for what they missed before they arrived, which includes all announcements along with any lecture material. Students who are "late" to take a sight singing/aural skills quiz/exam will miss that portion of the quiz or exam that was given while they were absent and will not be able to make it up. Students who miss more than 50% of class time will be considered absent.

- **Exam Policy:**

**The student is responsible for all scheduled quizzes and exams.** If a student is absent from class, it will be the student's responsibility to find out when any quiz or exam is scheduled. **THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES OR EXAMS GIVEN.** However, if a student knows that they will be absent on a particular quiz or exam date due to a University-sponsored event, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor prior to that day, and discuss how alternative arrangements will be made in lieu of the missed quiz or exam, otherwise a zero (0)

grade will be assigned. All exceptions (e.g., severe illness, family emergencies, etc.) will be determined only by the class instructor on an individual case by case basis.

### **LAST DAY TO DROP THE COURSE:**

Please refer to the *Colonel's Compass* for the last day to drop this course.

### **DISABILITY STATEMENT:**

If you are registered with the Office of Services for Individuals with Disabilities, please obtain your accommodation letters from OSID and present them to the course instructor to discuss any academic accommodations you need. If you believe you need accommodation and are not registered with the OSID, please contact the Office in the Student Services Building Room 361 by email at [disserv@eku.edu](mailto:disserv@eku.edu) or by telephone (859) 622-2933 V/TDD. Upon individual request, this syllabus can be made available in an alternative format.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT:**

Students are advised that EKU's Academic Integrity policy will strictly be enforced in this course. The Academic Integrity policy is available at [www.academicintegrity.eku.edu](http://www.academicintegrity.eku.edu). Questions regarding the policy may be directed to the Office of Academic Integrity.

Copying and/or collaboration (working together) on homework assignments is considered cheating and will be dealt with seriously, which will include no credit for all papers involved and/or referral for disciplinary action.

### **OFFICIAL E-MAIL:**

An official EKU e-mail is established for each registered student, each faculty member, and each staff member. All university communications sent via e-mail will be sent to this EKU e-mail address.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Each student must own their own copy of the following text, software, and supplies:

- Berkowitz sight singing textbook
- MacGAMUT 6 Music Software (including 1/8 inch plug headphones & flash drive stick)

Each student must bring to every class the following materials:

- Berkowitz sight singing textbook
- Sharpened pencils with erasers—**NO INK will be accepted for quizzes or exams**
- Music staff paper
- Notebook—either a 3-ring binder or a folder to hold handouts along with class notes

Each student must observe each of the following classroom policies:

- No cell phones are allowed to be on or even visible during class—students should purchase a separate timepiece if they wish to keep track of time during class (No texting is allowed)
- No earplug listening devices are allowed during class (ipods, mp3s, etc.)
- No getting up and leaving the classroom during class without permission
- No late arriving to class or early leaving before the class ends without permission
- No talking to each other while the instructor is talking
- No sleeping, lounging, or eye/head resting during class
- No gum chewing during class
- No working on other class-related materials or engaging in leisure-related activities
- No wearing caps, hoods, or hats of any kind during class
- **No complaining, arguing, dictates, inappropriate commenting, etc. during class**

All exceptions to the classroom policies will be determined only by the class instructor on an individual case by case basis. **The class instructor reserves the right to announce additional policies as the semester progresses that he deems disruptive to the classroom teaching environment.**

### **COURSE OUTLINE:**

Units of study from Berkowitz text: Chapters 1-5

#### Interval Recognition & Singing:

- Melodic intervals: m2 through P8, simple (before mid-term)
- Harmonic intervals: m2 through P8, simple (after mid-term)

#### Chord Identification & Singing (solfeggio):

- Triads in root position: major and minor (after mid-term)
- Triads in first inversion: major, minor, diminished (after mid-term)
- Triads in second inversion: major, minor (after mid-term)
- Seventh chords in root position: major-minor (after mid-term)

### Scale Identification & Singing (solfeccio):

- Major scales: ascending/descending, broken thirds, diatonic triads (before mid-term)
- Minor scales: ascending/descending, broken thirds, diatonic triads (after mid-term), natural, harmonic, and melodic forms

### Rhythmic Correction, Dictation & Singing (on “ta”):

- Simple meters: beat note = quarter, half, eighth, and sixteenth notes/rests (before mid-term)  
dotted and tied notes/rests (syncopation)  
division of the beat only
- Compound meters: beat note = dotted quarter, half, and eighth notes/rests (after mid-term)  
tied notes/rests (syncopation)  
division of the beat only

### Melodic Correction, Dictation & Singing (solfeccio):

- Treble and bass clefs
- Major and minor (all three forms), diatonic
- Simple and compound meters (as introduced above)
- Primarily scalar, skips and leaps within the tonic triad
- Phrasing and dynamics for singing

### Harmonic Correction, Dictation & Singing (solfeccio):

- Triads in root position: tonic, subdominant, dominant (after mid-term)
- Triads in first inversion: tonic, subdominant, dominant, leading tone (after mid-term)
- Triads in second inversion: tonic, subdominant, dominant (after mid-term)
- Seventh chords in root position: dominant seventh (after mid-term)
- Two-part correction/dictation (soprano and bass) (after mid-term)

### **INDIVIDUAL TUTORIALS:**

I am available to provide further explanations and/or extra help during my posted office hours or by appointment. If you are having any problems at all with any of your sight singing/aural skills, please seek help immediately from myself, another music instructor, or a theory GA. Individual tutorial sessions with a theory GA are available, but must be arranged by the student.