San José State University
School of Music and Dance
MUSC 1B, Music Systems 1B, Section 01, Fall 2015

Instructor: Dr. Brian Belet
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Email: Brian.Belet@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Monday / 3:00 – 4:00 pm; Tuesday / 11:00 am – 12:00 noon
Class Days/Time: Monday & Wednesday / 10:30 – 11:20 am
Classroom: Music Building, Room 210
Course Website: www.beletmusic.com/SJSU_Courses.html (see ‘MUSC 1B’ course files)
Prerequisites: Music Major or Music Minor. This course assumes little or no previous experience in aural skills. Registration granted via permission from the Area Coordinator.
Final Exam: Tuesday, December 15, 2015, 9:45 am - 12:00 noon.
Course Fees: Music Use Fee: Music majors and minors must pay a music equipment use fee of $30 each semester. The fee must be paid directly to the Cashier’s Office, and you must bring the receipt to the Music Office before completing registration. Applied music instruction will not be authorized until this fee is paid.

Course Description
Music Systems is a multi-semester course sequence containing two areas of study: written analytical skills and aural skills. MUSC 1B is the first course in this sequence, which focuses on aural skills acquisition. Skills areas include dictation, sight-singing, sight-reading performance, and aural analysis. Examples for study are drawn primarily from the Renaissance through late Twentieth-Century compositions of the Western European and American traditions, with supplementary examples drawn from other musical practices when appropriate.
Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

GOALS: 1) Notate dictation exercises of a beginning degree of difficulty. 2) Sight sing (with approximately one minute preparation) melodies and rhythms of a beginning degree of difficulty. 3) Complete comprehensive midterm and final examinations in both dictation and sight singing.

Course Content Learning Outcomes

There is a teaching proverb that states: ‘Teachers open the door. You enter by yourself.’ Provided a student applies himself/herself to this course — including attending class, practicing sight-singing and dictation daily, completing assignments on time, asking questions when the material is not yet understood, working with tutors as needed (tutors are provided by the music program at no charge to the student) — the following outcomes can be expected:

1) Students will understand the concepts and procedures of diatonic tonal voice-leading and harmony.
2) Students will gain a deeper understanding of the music they hear and perform that utilizes these diatonic techniques.
3) Students will be able to competently analyze music that employs these diatonic techniques.
4) Students will be able to sight-sing melodies and take aural music dictation that employs these diatonic techniques.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook


NOTE: These two texts are used for MUSC 1B, 2B, 3B, and 4B.

Optional Resources

Students have access to the Music Building’s CAI Lab upon payment of the Music Use Fee. The lab computers include aural skills practice software.
Course Topics

The course topics of MUSC 1B mirror those of MUSC 1A (see MUSC 1A Topic List document posted on the MUSC 1A course web site). All topics studied in MUSC 1A will be similarly studied in MUSC 1B, but with an emphasis on aural dictation and sight-singing. A summary topic list includes:

- Simple Intervals – all diatonic intervals between P1 and P8.
- Scales – major and minor.
- Melodies – diatonic melodies (4 – 8 mm. length).
- Melodic cadence structures.
- Harmony – SATB format, diatonic triads & seventh chords, isolated and in tonal phrase contexts.
- Harmonic cadence structures.
- Rhythm – patterns found in basic tonal phrases (isolated and with melody); simple and compound meters.

Classroom Protocol

Attend each class session and participate in the aural skills exercises.

Complete homework on time. NOTE: No late homework will be accepted, and no make-up exams or quizzes will be permitted unless cleared with the instructor. Possible reasons for late work include verifiable emergency illness and hospitalization, and family emergencies. Late / missed work will receive a grade of ‘F’ unless otherwise determined by the instructor.

Course documents, including some assignments, will be posted to the course website. Students are responsible to regularly check the site for document updates, and all items posted on the site are considered regular course materials.

All cell phones must be turned off while in class; plan personal communications for before or after class. Since most cell phones have photo, video, and text messaging capabilities, any student seen with a cell phone during class will be considered to be cheating and will automatically fail the course. Course lectures may not be recorded (audio or video) without Instructor’s permission. Larger tablet and laptop computers may be used when specific music score and/or audio examples are being referenced.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Information on add/drops are available at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-298.html. Information about late drop is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.
Assignments and Grading Policy

Weekly performance in dictation, sight-singing, sight-reading, aural analysis, and use of the computer lab will be graded. Since students will be called upon at any time to sing, perform, or notate a passage from selections under study, attendance is essential. An “F” grade will be recorded if a student is called upon and is absent. When graded dictation is being performed late students will not be admitted to the classroom, and these students will receive an ‘F’ for that dictation. Evaluation details will be discussed in each individual section.

Course work weightings:
- Midterm Dictation Exam 10%
- Midterm Sight-singing Exam 5%
- Final Dictation Exam 20%
- Final Sight-singing Exam 10%
- Quizzes (in-class & take-home) 40%
- Class Participation 15%

Letter grades are assigned on a 10-point scale, with “+” and “-” used as appropriate. All assignments, quizzes, and exams are graded on a normalized 100-point basis, so that letter grades correspond to the following GPA and percentage points:

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<th>GPA</th>
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University Policies

Academic integrity

SJSU’s Academic Integrity Policy is available at
Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State
University, and the University’s integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your
academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of
Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The website for Student Conduct and Ethical

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism
(presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without
giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this
class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise
specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted,
or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy F06-1 requires
approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to
make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an
appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential
Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must
register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the
1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs
may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin
Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media
Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and
Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound
systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.
Learning Assistance Resource Center

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. The LARC website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/.

Peer Mentor Center

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop-in basis, no reservation required. Website of Peer Mentor Center is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/