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<th>Class code</th>
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| Instructor Details | Tony Ackerman, Ph.D.  
E-mail: tonyack3@gmail.com  
Office hours TBA |

### Class Details

Aural Comprehension IV  
Mondays, 16:30-17:50  
Wednesdays, 16:30-17:50  
Location: Hrabal Hall, Richtruv dum

In addition to class meetings, there will be one required attendance at an evening concert.

### Prerequisites

Aural Comprehension III

### Class Description

Aural Comprehension IV is a one-credit course, building on the foundations you have created in AC I-III.

The two weekly class sessions will be devoted to group work in sight-singing and dictation: melodic, rhythmic and harmonic. You will be expected to keep up a practice of these skills outside of class. In addition, we will arrange tutorials (at least three per semester) for individual work and assessment.

The musical materials of AC IV will be taken from the same historical periods as Music Theory IV: late 19\(^{th}\)-century (Romanticism, Impressionism), and 20\(^{th}\)-century (Modernism, Serialism, Minimalism, Jazz and World Music)

### Desired Outcomes

“Aural comprehension” simply means “an understanding of music gained through hearing”. In Aural Comprehension IV we continue to develop listening and perception skills necessary for:

- understanding and describing music in depth and detail
- performing, conducting, interpreting, and/or improvising music
- teaching music at all levels

### Assessment Components

The following percentages are rough guidelines only.

| Singing/Dictation/Analysis Tests: |  
|---------------------------------|------|
| Two during semester             | 20%  |
| Final                           | 30%  |
| Homework                        | 20%  |
Effort/Progress 20%
Class Participation/Attendance 10%

Grade A: Shows excellent progress and has mastered the material
Grade B: Shows good progress and has good grasp of most of the material
Grade C: Shows some progress and has a partial grasp of the material
Grade D: Shows little progress and has not grasped much of the material
Grade F: Shows no progress and has not grasped the basic skills of the course

Grade conversion
N/A

Grading Policy
In-progress letter grades, accompanied by an explanatory paragraph, will be given after each of the two major tests.

Attendance Policy
This is a “lab” course, meaning that the sight-singing, dictation, and active learning done in each class are essential for you to gain mastery of AC skills. At the discretion of the instructor, up to two unexcused absences (these include absences due to travel) in the semester may be tolerated, after which each unexcused absence will result in your final grade being reduced. Absences for medical reasons will be excused. To obtain an excused absence, you are obliged to supply either a doctor’s note or corroboration of your illness by a member of the housing staff (either an RA or a Building Manager).

Plagiarism Policy
According to the Liberal Studies Program Student Handbook, plagiarism is defined as follows:

Plagiarism is presenting someone else’s work as though it were one’s own. More specifically plagiarism is to present as one’s own a sequence of words quoted
without quotation marks from another writer, a paraphrased passage from another writer’s work; facts or ideas gathered, organized and reported by someone else, orally and/or in writing. Since plagiarism is a matter of fact, not of the student’s intention, it is crucial that acknowledgment of the sources be accurate and complete. Even where there is no conscious intention to deceive, the failure to make appropriate acknowledgment constitutes plagiarism.

The College of Arts and Science’s Academic Handbook defines plagiarism similarly and also specifies the following: “presenting an oral report drawn without attribution from other sources (oral or written), writing a paragraph which, despite being in different words, expresses someone else’s idea without a reference to the source of the idea, or submitting essentially the same paper in two different courses (unless both teachers have given their permission in advance).

Receiving help on a take-home examination or quiz is also cheating – and so is giving that help – unless expressly permitted by the teacher (as in collaborative projects). While all this looks like a lot to remember, all you need to do is give credit where it is due, take credit only for original ideas, and ask your teacher or advisor when in doubt.”

“Penalties for plagiarism range from failure for a paper, failure for the course or dismissal from the university.” (Liberal Studies Program Student Handbook)

### Required Text(s)

- We will use excerpts of
  -- *Music for Sight Singing*, by Ottman and Rogers

### Internet Research Guidelines

N/A

### Additional Required Equipment

- Music manuscript paper, pencils and erasers

The weekly plan that follows is approximate. The two make-up classes are not listed below; we will schedule them together.

**Week 1, Feb. 3**

Introduction, Pre-testing; **no class Wednesday Feb. 5**

**Week 2, Feb. 10-12**
| Week 3, Feb. 17-19 | MELODY: Intervals, diatonic modes, MELODY: More modes and scales: octatonic, whole-tone  
Make-up class Feb.21 |
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<td>Week 4, Feb. 24-26</td>
<td>RHYTHM: syncopation, 3/2 changes</td>
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<td>Week 5, March 3-5</td>
<td>New meters (irregular, additive, etc)</td>
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<td>Week 6, March 10-12</td>
<td>Tutorials, Test #1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7, March 17-19</td>
<td>Chromatic Harmony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8, March 24-26</td>
<td>Chromatic Harmony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9, Mar. 31-April 2</td>
<td>Jazz Harmony, Tutorials, Test #2a (Keyboard)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10, April 7-9</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11, April 14-16</td>
<td>Harmony Review: Test #2b (Dictation)</td>
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| Week 12, April 23 | No class April 21  
20th-century techniques: serialism, minimalism |
Week 13, April 28-30  
20th-century techniques: serialism, minimalism

Week 14, May 5-7  
20th-century techniques: serialism, minimalism

Week 15 May 12-14  
Review, tutorials
Test #3a: Prep. singing and keyboarding

Week 16 May 19-21  
May 19 Test #3b: Dictation
May 21 Closure

Classroom Etiquette

- Please arrive on time – your active participation is necessary from the beginning.
- Because we sing and write together, please do not bring food into the classroom. Water is allowed.
- No open laptops unless requested.
- Please do not pack up your things before the class actually ends
- You may leave to go to the restroom without asking.

Suggested Co-curricular Activities

I will inform you of interesting music events to attend, one of which we will prepare for and attend together.

Welcome to Prague, and I look forward to a semester of developing your ears!