

**GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE  
FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT**

**Course Outline  
Mu 1510**

**Aural and Keyboard Skills I**

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**Course Description:**

This course explores the aural perception of materials covered in Mu 1550/1560 through the practice of sight singing, dictation, and keyboard harmony.

This is a course in which students will increase their ability to read music by learning to hear with their eyes, and to see with their ears. There are several skills which will be developed during the course:

1. Mastery of the skill of sightsinging.
2. Mastery of reading music.
3. Mastery of transcribing music (melodic, rhythmic, and harmonic dictation).
4. Mastery of basic keyboard skills.

**Prerequisite:** Mu 1000, Rudiments of Music, or satisfactory completion of Music Theory Placement and Aural Skills examinations.

**Corequisite:** Mu 1550/1560, Music Theory I and II.

**Course Content and Criteria:**

This course requires the acquisition of both knowledge and skills, therefore, a considerable amount of repetition, practice, and rote learning is necessary. Daily practice is expected of all students. Regular attendance in class is also required, and will be a factor in determining the final grade.

Students will frequently sing in class, both as a choir and as vocal soloists. The Tonic Solfa, or moveable *do* system, will be used to sing all exercises in class and for all oral examinations. Duet partnerships will be established for the purpose of rehearsing and performing rhythmic and melodic duets. Sight singing exercises will be tested in class. Material to be prepared will be assigned often for graded performance in class. Material assigned as homework in one class may be tested in the following class without prior notice being given. In this case, a mark will be assigned and will be a factor in determining your final grade. A make-up exam, for any of the surprise quizzes, will only be given if the student presents the instructor of the course with a doctor's certificate.

Rhythmic study will involve simple rhythmic units, pulse, simple and compound meter, subdivisions, syncopation, and polyrhythms.

Harmonic study will include all diatonic intervals and triads, and the dominant seventh chord, all inversions, open and close position.

The keyboard component will begin in January. Prior to that, it is expected that students will become familiar with the keyboard and be able to read and play all notes in the treble and bass cleff.

<b>Materials Required:</b>	<i>A New Approach To Sight Singing</i> , 4th Edition Berkowitz, Fontrier, & Kraft
	<i>Studying Rhythm</i> Hall
	Pencil(s) and manuscript paper
<b>Supplementary Material:</b>	<i>A New Approach To Keyboard Harmony</i> Brings, Burkhart, et al
<b>Evaluation:</b>	Class tests, assignments, performances, and quizzes 25%
	October Midterm Exam 15%
	December Midterm Exam 15%
	February Midterm Exam 15%
	April Final Exam 30%

## PIANO LAB REQUIREMENTS

- I. Scales
  - The first seven major keys, up to and including three sharps and flats, plus their relative minor keys in all three forms (natural, harmonic, and melodic).
  - Two octaves ascending and descending.
  - Correct fingering must be used.
  - Hands separately for non-piano majors, hands together for piano majors or those with considerable piano experience.
- II. Cadences
  - Incomplete Authentic and Complete Authentic cadential progressions (all major and minor keys up to and including three sharps and flats).
- III. Figured bass
  - Realization of a figured bass passage in either a major or minor key.
- IV. Score reading
  - Choral style, open score.
  - Orchestral style, open score.
- V. Accompany a simple melody.
  - Choose an appropriate accompaniment style.
  - Choose the correct chords.
  - Sing the melody while you play the accompaniment part.
- VI. Sing and Play exercises