The City College of New York, Fall 2022
Music 26200: Popular Music Ear Training II

This syllabus is subject to change.
Students will receive a new version of the syllabus if any changes are made.

Instructor: Erin Johnston
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Modality: In-Person

Hours
Class: SH-79, Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:00am–12:15pm EST
Office Hours: SH-80 or on Zoom; by appointment

Required Materials
- Manuscript paper - can be printed for free at the following links: 12 staves or 10 staves per page -
Any handouts given out, sent by email, or posted on Blackboard
- Pencil
- Eraser

Course Description
This course builds upon the material learned in Ear Training 1, and introduces new concepts related to singing and transcribing rhythms, melodies, and harmonic progressions from common-practice Western popular music. Some of the new concepts touched upon in this course include modality, chromaticism, triplets, and various elements of by-ear song analysis.

By the end of the term, students should demonstrate a significant improvement upon their aural skills at the beginning of the semester. This improvement should be evident across all facets of the course.

Grading
Your grade depends solely on your individual performance. You will not be evaluated against your colleagues. The following will improve your grade: meeting deadlines, scholarly effort, and demonstrating curiosity and interest in the course material. *The instructor reserves the right to alter any grade based on class conduct, and reserves the right to fail any student for consistent class disruption; they will be issued one warning and upon later infraction will be failed. The classroom is a positive, supportive, and inclusive learning environment for all students.*

Your grade will be calculated as follows:
      Weekly Assignments: 60% (12 at 5% each)
      Final Projects: 30% (2 at 15% each)
      In-Class Activities: 10%

Twice throughout the semester, I will hold meetings with students individually. During these meetings, students will perform that week's assignment for me in person, in a one-on-one setting. We will also discuss students' progress and any issues they might be having with the course material. **These meetings will take the places of Assignments 4 and 10.** Your attendance at these two one-on-one meetings is **mandatory**. If we move to remote learning during these times, these meetings will be held on Zoom.

Class Policies and Procedures
Please read the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity, which may be downloaded from the College's home page. Any violations of academic integrity will be handled according to these guidelines.

Submitting Assignments

I ask that you submit your assignments by email to EarTrainingAssignments@gmail.com. If your attachments are too large, feel free to submit a link to the files through Dropbox, OneDrive, or another file-sharing service.

Many of the assignments will require you to submit recordings of yourself singing. These recordings can be done in whatever way works best for you (computer, phone, tablet, other recording device, etc.). If you do not have a way to record yourself, please let me know right away and we will work out an alternative way for you to submit your assignments.

Other parts of your assignment will require you to transcribe melodies onto staff paper. I will provide you with a staff on the assignment for those of you who can print it. Alternatively, you can transcribe the melodies by hand on staff paper and send me a **clear and legible** image or scan via email. If you do not have access to staff paper or would prefer to do it electronically, you can use a notation software or website. One example is www.noteflight.com, which allows you to notate your transcription on a staff, and then share it with me via a link. You can do this with a free membership.

Attendance in the Time of COVID

While attending class will help you succeed in this course and your participation in-class will improve your final grade, if you have been exposed to or have symptoms of COVID-19, I ask that you please let me know by email and stay home until you have tested negative and no longer have symptoms. You can still submit your work from home, and you will not be penalized for missing any class meetings. A certain degree of independence will be necessary on your part, however: you will have to keep up-to-date on your work, and if you have questions or need any help, you will have to take initiative and reach out to me by email. I am happy to set up Zoom meetings with students in these situations.

Procedures if Moved to Remote Learning

In the unlikely event that our course is moved to remote learning, we will meet during class time (M/W 11:00–12:15pm) on Zoom. During these meetings, we will go over course material and discuss new concepts. Assignment deadlines will remain the same.

Email Etiquette

I ask that you please be respectful when sending emails—not only to me, but also to other faculty members. Rude or disrespectful emails will not be tolerated. Additionally, **emails are not text messages.** Please always begin your message with a salutation (i.e., "Dear [recipient's name]," "Hello [recipient's name]," etc.), and close it with a signature (i.e., "Sincerely, [your name]," "All the best, [your name]," etc.). Your emails should be written with care. Your questions should be clearly and concisely laid out in the text. This will allow me to answer you as efficiently and clearly as possible.

Statement of Accessibility

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a physical, psychological, medical, or learning disability or a health consideration that may impact your coursework and/or require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Center/Student Disability Services (disabilityservices@ccny.cuny.edu). They will work with you to determine what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential and every effort will be made to give you agency over disclosure of your disability status.

Short Resource List

There are many resources available to students who want to study popular music, and below is a short list of some of the more useful ones. Of course, this is not a complete list and students should inform the instructor of other resources that they find useful. There is a lot out there, and no one could be comprehensively surveilling the Internet landscape to know when new, useful resources appear. Students should let the instructor

know and they can explore the resources together. Here are a few helpful links:
Teoria.com
Openmusictheory.com
Songstuff.com
Rapanalysis.com
Genius.com
HookTheory.com
Holistic Songwriting (YouTube channel)
Hack Music Theory (YouTube channel)
Rick Beato's "Everything Music" (YouTube channel)
Masterclass.com

COVID-19
Finally, as you all know, we are still in the middle of a global pandemic. Please be sure to familiarize yourself with CCNY's requirements, protocols, and rules regarding COVID-19.

Additionally, the pandemic may cause you to find yourself in extremely challenging circumstances that may limit your ability to complete work, meet deadlines, etc. In such instances, please reach out to me and we will work together to find a solution to the problem. But remember, I cannot help you or make other arrangements if you don't let me know. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me!

Tentative Schedule
(Subject to change)

M August 29 Course Introduction

W August 31

M September 5 Labor day observed – *no classes*

W September 7 **Assignment 1 due**

M September 12

W September 14 **Assignment 2 due**

M September 19

W September 21 **Assignment 3 due**

M September 26 Rosh Hashanah observed – *no classes*

W September 28 **Assignment 4: one-on-one meetings**

*Th September 29 Thursday follows a Monday schedule
                                Assignment 4: one-on-one meetings

M October 3

W October 5 Yom Kippur observed – *no classes*

M October 10 Indigenous Peoples' Day observed – *college closed* W October 12

Assignment 5 due

M October 17

W October 19 **Assignment 6 due**

M October 24

W October 26 **Assignment 7 due**
M October 31

W November 2 **Assignment 8 due**

M November 7

W November 9 **Assignemnt 9 due**

M November 14 **Assignment 10: one-on-one meetings** W November 16

Assignment 10: one-on-one meetings M November 21

W November 23 **Assignment 11 due**

M November 28

W November 30 **Assignment 12 due**

M December 5

W December 7

M December 12

W December 14 Last day of classes

Final Projects deadline: TBD (during exam period)