UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO – SCHOOL OF MUSIC
Music Theory and Aural Skills Exams for Prospective Transfer and Graduate Students

Diagnostic Exam

Prospective undergraduate transfer students who have completed 1-3 semesters of music theory and aural skills (and are not currently enrolled in level 4) will take the **Music Theory and Aural Skills Diagnostic Exam** on their UTSA audition day. Results will be used to determine appropriate placement in the music theory and aural skills sequence at UTSA.

The exam consists of clef reading, scales, key signatures, intervals, triads and 7th chords, part-writing, harmonic analysis with Roman numerals, non-chord tones, phrase identification and cadences, melodic and harmonic dictation, and sightsinging.

Proficiency Exam

Prospective graduate students and prospective undergraduate transfer students who have completed four semesters of music theory and aural skills (or are currently enrolled in level 4) will take the **Music Theory and Aural Skills Proficiency Exam** on their UTSA audition day.

A passing grade on this exam is required of all undergraduate music majors prior to enrolling in most upper-level music courses and all graduate music majors prior to enrolling in the required graduate-level music theory course. Students who do not receive a passing grade on this proficiency exam will be required to enroll in a music theory and/or an aural skills review course.

The music theory proficiency exam includes:
1. Fundamentals (scales and modes, intervals, chord qualities, terminology)
2. Harmonization of bass lines and four-voice part-writing
3. Harmonic analysis with both diatonic and chromatic chords
4. Form (phrases, cadences, motivic comparisons, form identification)

The aural skills proficiency exam includes:
1. Melodic dictation (diatonic melody with decorative chromaticism)
2. Harmonic dictation (four-voice progression with both diatonic and chromatic chords, bass and soprano lines only)
3. Rhythm sight reading (using counting syllables, while conducting the beat)
4. Prepared melody singing (either major or minor, using solfege, while conducting the beat) **
5. Major melody sight singing (diatonic with decorative chromaticism, using solfege)
6. Minor melody sight singing (diatonic with decorative chromaticism, using solfege)

** The following page contains four melodies that students who are taking the proficiency exam should prepare prior to their audition.

Prepared Melodies for Music Theory and Aural Skills Proficiency Exam

- Prepare each of the following four melodies prior to your UTSA audition day.
- Each student will sing <u>one</u> of these four melodies during the exam (as selected by music faculty).
- Students should sing the melodies using a pitch labeling system. Solfege is preferred, but numbers are acceptable if that is the system used at the student's previous college or university.
- Students will be required to conduct the beat while singing the melody.
- Follow suggested tempo ranges when practicing and performing these melodies.

Melody A

Melody B

Melody C

Melody D