

Grande Prairie Regional College

Visual & Performing Arts

Course Outline
MU 251 A23 91/3Y

ELEMENTARY AURAL SKILLS

G. Whittall

1. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Continues with the skill development of the student's ability to distinguish sounds and rhythm.

2. **COURSE IN PERSPECTIVE:** The focus will be on the development of the student's ability to translate written musical terminology into performance quickly. There will be an explanation of musical terms; such as intervals, simple & compound time, triads, 7th chords, root position, inversions, accidentals modulation and transition. Sight Singing and the dictation of melodies containing these elements. The purpose of the course is to enable the student to aurally identify and comprehend musical materials covered in the co-requisite course MU250.

Extent of Melodic Study: From the identification of a single interval to the comprehension of melodic organization in two-part and three-part forms of moderate length.

Extent of Harmonic Study: From the identification of a simple triad to the recognition of non-dominant 7th chords, modulations, secondary dominants, and augmented sixth chords.

Extent of Rhythmic Study: From simple rhythmic units containing whole-beat and half-beat values to the perception of complicated patterns embodying subtriplets, syncopations and changing meters.

3. **ASSIGNMENTS:** The student will be given regular reading and practice assignments to provide frequent repetition of the elements of the course.

4. **EVALUATION:** There will be a weekly test with a value of 10 which is cumulative. These tests will comprise 80% of the final mark. There will be four "quarter" tests with a value of 20%.

5. **PREREQUISITE:** This course is intended for first year B. Mus. majors. In order to enroll in this course, students should have completed MU200/201. If not, the students will be requested to take a diagnostic theory test. The students should be able to read bass and treble clefs and should know the key signatures for all major and minor keys. The students should be able to visually and aurally identify intervals.

COURSE CO-REQUISITE: MU250

6. **REQUIRED TEXT:** Benjamin, Thomas et al. MUSIC FOR SIGHT READING. Wadsworth, New York, Pbk. 1984.