

Department of Music
Aural Skills, Harmonization, and Composition Rubrics

Intended learning outcomes assessed with this instrument: “The ability to hear, identify, and work with musical elements: rhythm, pitch, harmony, structure, timbre, texture”

Student work assessed:

1. Music Theory and Aural Skills Dictation Quiz
2. Final Examination Harmonization - Students were given a melody to harmonize; they were asked to select chords to agree with the melody, and to reflect tonal harmonic norms.
3. Student Composition Assignment

Aural Skills

	Superior	Good	Adequate	Limited	Inadequate
Rhythmic Dictation (hear and notate/transcribe a rhythm pattern)					
Melodic Dictation (hear and transcribe a melody)					
Harmonic Dictation (Hear and identify a sequence of harmonies)					
Four-part dictation (hear and transcribe all four parts of a short chorale-texture example)					

Harmonization

	Excellent (1 error)	Good (2-3 errors)	Adequate (4-5 errors)	Poor (>5 errors)
Chord Choices: Agreement				
Chord Choices: Function				
Execution				
Chord Choices: Variety				
Harmonic Rhythm				

Composition

	Superior	Good	Adequate	Limited	Inadequate
Correctly notate figured bass symbols in agreement with music notation					
Use traditional voice- leading norms					
Construct a melody that demonstrates a sense of phrasing and intervallic singability					
Choose harmonic progressions that demonstrate tonal norms					

Use rhythm and melody features to set a text appropriately					
Use cadences appropriately and according to tonal norms					
Properly construct diatonic and applied chords, approach and resolve them correctly					
Demonstrate synthesis of musical elements into a convincing creative whole					