



FACULTY OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

MUF655
RESEARCH PROJECT

Music students' perceptions toward Aural training courses at UiTM

EVA JESSESCA STEPHEN

2014327873

Sem Sept – Jan 2017

Acknowledgements

First and foremost, I must thank God for giving me strength to carry out this research. If it was not for my committed roots and my belief in God, I might never have the energy and strength to complete this project. I would like to show my greatest appreciation to a very important person which are my Research Project supervisor, Prof. Madya Dr. Hj Ghaziah Mohd Ghazali for the guidance, patience, and encouragement during the completion of this project and a gratitude for not giving up on me.

Very special thanks to my parents, Mr _____ and Mrs _____ for being very patient towards me, give full support on my research project and become the backbone throughout the years of my study in Bachelor of Music Education for my degree study in Faculty of Music, UiTM Shah Alam. For my siblings, I would like to say thanks because giving me a support through the words of encouragement to finish this research.

Special thanks also goes to the family of Faculty Music which were lecturers, academic staff, friends, respondents, and everyone that I had not mention here that had helped me indirectly to make this research project possible. Without their kind help, support, and willingness, I will be having a tough time to complete this project. From the bottom of my heart, again, thank you.

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to find out music students' perceptions toward Aural training courses at UiTM. The sample for this study was degree music students from the Faculty of Music, UiTM Shah Alam of various programmes and semester. The questionnaire was created through Google form and then was distributed through Whatsapp messenger application. Specifically, this study looked at three elements which were to describe music students' perception toward the importance, usefulness, difficulties of the Aural skills courses at UiTM as well as the sort of preferred help they would have liked to receive. The research was conducted at the Faculty of Music, University Teknologi Mara, Shah Alam. The sample for this study are degree students from the Bachelor of Music Education (MU220), Bachelor of Music Composition (MU221), Bachelor of Music Performance (MU222) and Bachelor of Music Business (MU223) programmes regardless of semester or year of study. The total respondents for this study were 100 music students in the degree programme which comprised of 51 males and 49 females. The overall finding showed that respondents strongly agree that Aural skills courses are important, usefulness for develop sense of hearing. Regarding the difficulties section, the findings showed that respondents are agree that they actually have difficulty in sight-singing and harmonic dictation. Lastly, the respondent's reported that they prefer having a software that would help them improve their Aural skills.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgements.....	ii	
Abstract.....	iii	
Declaration of Authorship.....	iv	
List of Tables.....	vii	
List of Figures.....	viii	
Chapter 1	INTRODUCTION	1-5
1.1	Background of the Study.....	1-2
1.2	Statement of the Problem	3-4
1.3	Research Objectives.....	4
1.4	Research Questions.....	4
1.5	Significance of the Study.....	4-5
1.6	Scope of the Study.....	5
Chapter 2	LITERATURE REVIEW	5-14
2.1	Benefits of aural training through listening.....	5-7
2.2	Aural training through Sight-singing.....	7-8
2.3	Aural training in tonal memory and practice.....	8-9
2.4	Talent and Aural skills.....	9-11
2.5	Aural training in creating music.....	11-12
2.6	Aural skills through practice.....	12-13
2.7	Method to improved Aural skills.....	12-14

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) at Shah Alam is one of the public universities that offer programmes in music which consists of a selection of music programmes that focuses on the development of academic competence, professional skills with critical and creative abilities. Five undergraduate programmes are offered, namely the Diploma in Music, Bachelor of Music Education, Bachelor of Music Composition, Bachelor of Music Performance and Bachelor of Music Business. For the Postgraduate programmes, the Master of Music (by Research), Master of Music Education (by Coursework) and PhD in Music (by Research) are offered.

Many students apply into this faculty to learn music formally. However, most new intake students are from among those who do not have any or much background in music. Therefore, new students would have many new things to learn especially in the core music courses. Many courses are included in the curriculum, which includes music and non-music courses. For example, students in the music education programme, take a total credit hours of 134 hours to graduate.

In all the major programmes at the UiTM Faculty of Music, the core courses comprise of music theory, music history, aural training, instrumental or vocal study and participation in performance ensembles. All of these core courses are mostly taken during the first three semesters at least and is meant to provide students with a solid foundation in music. Especially important is the theory and aural courses as it helps music students to apply what they learned in class to their music performances on their instrument. Learning this subject is meant to help music student develop their sense of hearing and be able to play their instruments with more sensitivity