



**FACULTY OF MUSIC**  
**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

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**RESEARCH PROJECT**

**Music students' perceptions toward Aural training courses at UiTM**

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## **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.

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# 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