

Music Appreciation MUS 140

Instructor:
Contact:

Office:
Office Hours:

Time:
Location:

SFA School of Music
Wright Music Building

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

For non-music majors or minors only, focusing on listening, understanding, and appreciating music literature of the Western and American musical heritage.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Kamien, Roger. *Music: An Appreciation*. Seventh Brief Edition. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2011.

Kamien, Roger. *Brief Set of Four Compact Disks to Accompany Music: An Appreciation*. Seventh Brief Edition. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2011. (suggested, not required)

GRADING:

SCALE:

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| Project/Concert Reports: | 20 % | 100 - 90 (A) | 69 - 60 (D) |
| Quizzes: | 20 % | 89 - 80 (B) | 59 - 0 (F) |
| Unit Tests | 60% | 79 - 70 (C) | |
| Total | <u>100%</u> | | |

ATTENDANCE:

The official University policy is that students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes. Students will, however, be excused from classes for university events and other causes at the discretion of the instructor, provided that they supply appropriate documentation. Each student will be allowed three unexcused absences; final grades will be reduced by one point for each subsequent unexcused absence. However, I will add three points to the final grade for perfect attendance! Students who are not present when attendance is taken will be marked absent.

Tests missed during unexcused absences will not be made up; Unit Tests missed during excused absences will be made up under the instructor's supervision. There will be no talking, eating, reading outside materials, or sleeping during class- all of these activities disrupt the learning process, and will not be tolerated. If these common courtesies are not observed, you will be asked to leave the class and receive an absence for the day.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES:

This is a general education core curriculum course and no specific program learning outcomes for this major are addressed in this course.

CORE CURRICULUM OBJECTIVES:

1. Critical Thinking: Creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
2. Communication Skills: Effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
3. Teamwork: The ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.
4. Social Responsibility: Intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Students will be able to understand and identify the basic elements of music.
2. Students will understand and appreciate the music literature and composers of Western "classical" music from the Baroque Period to the present.
3. Through critiquing live concerts, students will be able to respond critically and articulate an informed personal reaction to musical works and their performance.
4. Students will explore music in its relation to the other arts, the historical events of the times, and the conditions in which the music was created.
5. Students will be able to understand music as an expression of individual and human value within a historical and social context.
6. Students will demonstrate the ability to communicate visually, to function as a team, interact in civic life, and to think critically.

QUIZZES:

Quizzes (4) will be announced one class ahead of time only. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped at the end of the term, but quizzes WILL NOT be made up for unexcused absences. For an excused absence, arrangements will be made individually with the instructor for make-up options.

UNIT TESTS:

There will be four tests over the semester; each will count as 15% of your grade. Tests will be mainly multiple choice, with listening and possibly discussion components. The final exam is non-cumulative.

CONCERT REPORTS:

During the course of the semester, you must attend two live concerts and write reports on each of them (one will be part of the Civic Project described below). Discuss the hall the music is performed in, the audience, the music itself (you can often gather much information about the pieces being performed by reading the concert program, but you are also expected to record your own observations), and your reaction to the concert. The papers will be graded based on accurate observations, correct use of musical terminology, and basic writing skills such as grammar and sentence structure. The single report will be worth 5% and the Civic Project 15% of your grade.

PROJECT: Civic Engagement in Live Performance

This project is an integral part of experiencing music and participating in this course. All four of the core objectives listed above will be assessed, including three different forms of communication (aural, visual and written), teamwork, critical thinking, and social responsibility.

Each student will attend a live performance offered by the SFA School of Music. In addition, each student will invite a guest of their choosing to attend the concert with them. As part of the project, preparation materials and a post-concert report will be developed and turned in. In all aspects of this project creativity and imagination are strongly encouraged!

1) Group portion/ teamwork

- Class groups will be formed (4-8 students) to decide on a concert to attend.
- Preparation materials and post-concert questions will be developed specific to that event.
- Preparation materials might include: information about the ensemble, performers, instruments used, and/or pieces of music on the program (history, significance, etc.)
- Each student should come up with 5-8 post-concert interview questions, then the group will collectively decide on 6-10 questions to turn in and use.
- The following question must be included on the interview question list:
"How effectively did the concert etiquette presentation prepare you for the concert?"
- Turn in a copy of the group interview questions on D2L (**due: by April 1**).

2) PowerPoint Presentation/communication

- Each student will invite a guest (preferably from outside of class) to the concert.
- Each student will prepare a short PowerPoint presentation (5-7 slides) on concert etiquette and any defined concert preparation material.
- Each student will present their PowerPoint presentation to their guest prior to the concert. This presentation must be videoed.
- The video and PowerPoint presentation will both be uploaded to D2L (**due: prior to concert**).

3) Concert Attendance/ social responsibility

- Each student will attend the chosen concert with their invited guest.
- After the concert, each student will orally interview their guest using the group's defined list of questions.

4) Post Concert Report/critical thinking

- Each student will write a concert report sharing both their personal views of the event and those of their guest.
- Post the concert report on D2L (**due: by the last day of class**).

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----|
| Graded portions: | Group list of questions | 25% |
| | Individual video and PowerPoint | 25% |
| | Individual concert report and guest interview | 50% |

Additional Information

- The concert **MUST** be presented by the SFA School of Music.
- You can share/compare your personal views of the event with your guest. Ultimately however, you need to reflect **your** personal opinion of the music that was played, **your** observations, and **your** reaction to the concert. Discuss your overall performance experience. If you have anything to say about a particular piece, do so; otherwise do not feel obligated to talk about every piece on the program.
- Musical accuracy: Your description of the concert must be clear, and thorough.
- Musical terminology: Use musical language that you understand. Discussing elements such as rhythm, melody, harmony, texture, form, or any other information learned in class is encouraged.

- Grammar and sentence structure: As this is a college-level course, college-level writing is expected. Please proofread your papers carefully for errors.
- Concert Report (excluding the interview) must be between 650 and 750 words in length (or approximately two pages). Paper must be posted on D2L.
- Follow the format posted on D2L.
- If you encounter any difficulties with the syntax of your paper, resort to the Academic Assistance and Resource Center (AARC).
- You may NOT plagiarize.
- A Recital Card can be obtained from the music office. This card will grant you access to most paid concerts in the SFA School of Music. If lost, another card can be purchased.
- You must present your student ID card to an attendant to **check in** before the concert begins and again to **check out** after the concert is over. This is required for attendance verification.

As music deals with the expression of subtleties in a variety of ways it is very important to keep quiet during a performance. Any audible noise or visual distraction disturbs both the performer and the other listeners. Therefore, please follow polite etiquette behavior and refrain from making noise and unnecessary motions! Being considerate to the performers, and your fellow audience members, is a vital part of enjoying live music.

If I witness, or I am told by my colleagues about the presence of such disturbing activities during a concert event, I reserve the right to lower the final grade of the student by one letter!

COURSE OUTLINE: (Indicated only as a guide)

| Week | Unit | Topic | Reading |
|---------|--------|---|-----------|
| Week 1 | Unit 1 | Course Introduction/Elements of Music Instruction on the Core Curriculum Objectives (critical thinking, communication, teamwork, and social responsibility) and the Civic Engagement Project will be given at this time, and reinforced throughout the semester. | Ch. 1-3 |
| Week 2 | Unit 1 | Elements of Music | Ch. 4-10 |
| Week 3 | Unit 2 | The Middle Ages, Renaissance | Ch. 1-2 |
| Week 4 | Unit 3 | The Baroque Period/Opera | Ch. 1-8 |
| Week 5 | Unit 3 | The Baroque Period/Vivaldi, Bach, Handel - TEST | Ch. 9-15 |
| Week 6 | Unit 4 | The Classical Period | Ch. 1-6 |
| Week 7 | Unit 4 | The Classical Period/Haydn, Mozart | Ch. 7-11 |
| Week 8 | Unit 4 | The Classical Period/Beethoven - TEST | Ch. 12 |
| Week 9 | Unit 5 | The Romantic Period (early) | Ch. 1-9 |
| Week 10 | Unit 5 | The Romantic Period (middle) | Ch. 10-13 |

| | | | |
|------------------|--------|--|-----------|
| Week 11 | Unit 5 | The Romantic Period (late) - TEST | Ch. 14-18 |
| Week 12 | Unit 6 | The 20 th Century | Ch. 1-17 |
| Week 13 | Unit 6 | The 20 th Century continued | Ch. 1-17 |
| Week 14 | Unit 6 | Jazz/Rock/Theater | Ch. 18-20 |
| Week 15 | Unit 7 | Nonwestern Music/World Music | Ch. 1-3 |
| Final Exam Date: | | TBA | |

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporation the works or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations.

WITHHELD GRADES:

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.