

South Plains College
Department of Fine Arts

MUSI 1306 – Music Appreciation (online)
Course Syllabus

Instructor

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Office

Fine Arts Building-Levelland-FA 142
Office hours as posted on office door and Blackboard or by appointment

Course Description

Understanding music through the study of cultural periods, major composers, and musical elements. Illustrated with audio recordings and live performances. (Does not apply to a music degree.)

This course satisfies a **050 Creative Arts** Core Curriculum requirement.

The purpose of the Creative Arts component in the core curriculum is to provide the student the opportunity to develop an appreciation for the arts through an analysis of creative artifacts and works of the human imagination. This will involve the synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and enable critical, creative, and innovative communication about works of art.

Core Objectives Addressed:

- Critical Thinking: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information
- Communication Skills: To include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
- Teamwork: To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.
- Social Responsibility: To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, the student will show competence in the course objectives listed below:

- Identify musical works and elements in a variety of styles
- Analyze the elements and structures of music using appropriate terminology
- Critically evaluate the influence of social, political, technological, and/or cultural ideas on music
- Articulate the significance of music as an art form within historical, cultural, and social contexts

Required Materials

- All instructional materials, including reading, prescribed listening, instructional videos, etc. will be contained within the Blackboard modules.
- Many audio/video examples will utilize embedded YouTube videos. In some cases these may require an external link to YouTube
- We will be using an Open Educational Resource for this class, so students are NOT required to purchase a textbook.

Hardware Requirements

- You will need a computer or tablet capable of creating/editing documents, playing audio and video, joining video chats, etc.
- Smart Phones, while adequate for some course activities are not recommended for completing assignments, or taking tests within Blackboard
- Headphones or earbuds are recommended for listening exercises

Software Requirements

- Microsoft Word or equivalent software for creating document files to submit. All SPC students have access to Office 365 for Free!
- Students will need to use their official SPC student email for communication and to receive course announcements or alerts.

Course Requirements

- Read all reading materials included in instructional modules
- Listen/watch all audiovisual materials included in instructional modules
- Complete assignments or discussion boards and submit by designated due dates
- Complete and submit tests on the specified dates

Participation

- Students registered in this class are expected to participate by regularly accessing the course, completing submitting coursework by the due dates.
- Neglecting to access the course or turn in work may result in student being dropped from course. (Email warnings will be issued prior to a student being dropped)

Dual Credit Course Schedule

- ****IMPORTANT**** High School students enrolled in this Dual Credit course should be aware that the semester calendar may or may not align with your High School's calendar. This course will follow the SPC academic calendar and important deadlines such as final due dates and end of semester will likely occur at different times than those at your high school.

Grading Policy

Grades will be calculated based on the following weighted criteria:

- Tests - 50%
- Assignments, essays, activities - 50%

Late Work

- Assignments will be accepted after the due date with the following penalty: -10% within first week of due date, -10% for each additional day
- Tests will not be accepted after the due date, unless there are extenuating circumstances that are approved by the instructor

Gradebook

- Grades will be available in the Blackboard Ultra Gradebook
- Gradebook will be updated weekly

Academic Dishonesty

Cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. A first offense will result in zero credit for that graded activity. Any subsequent offense will result in being dropped from the course with a grade of F. More information can be found in the Student Conduct area of the SPC Student Guide.

SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE STATEMENTS & INFORMATION:

For information regarding **official South Plains College statements** about *Diversity, Disabilities, Non-discrimination, Title V Pregnancy Accommodations, and Campus Concealed Carry*, please visit: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

COURSE CALENDAR (FALL 2026)

Week 1 - Introduction/Unit 1 Overview - Performing Forces	Assignment - Introductory Essay (due 8/30)
Week 2 - How music works - Melody	Assignment - Critical Listening #1 (due 9/6) - Critical Listening #2 (due 9/6)
Week 3 - Rhythmic & Meter - Harmony & Tonality	Assignment - Critical Listening #3 (due 9/13)
Week 4 - Musical Form - Expression	Assignment - Discussion #1 (due 9/20) - Test #1 (due 9/20)
Week 5 - Music of the Middle Ages - Music of the Renaissance	Assignment - Crit. Listening #4 (due 9/27)
Week 6 - Vocal Music of the Baroque Period - Instrumental Baroque Music	Assignment - Critical Listening #5 (due 10/4)
Week 7 - Music of the Classical period - Classical Genres	Assignment - Curated listening (due 10/11)
Week 8 - The Classical Symphony - Late Classical and Beethoven	Assignment - Discussion #2 (due 10/18) - Test #2 (due 10/18)
Week 9 - Music of the Romantic Period	Assignment - Critical Listening #6 (due 10/25)
Week 10 - Romantic Orchestral Music - Romantic Program Music	Assignment - Program music essay (due 11/8)
Week 11 - Romantic continued - Romantic Opera	Assignment - Opera listening (due 11/8) - Test #3 (due 11/8)
Week 12 - The Modern Period - Impressionism	Assignment - Impressionism essay (due 11/15)
Week 13 - Mid 20 th Century music - American and late 20 th century	Assignment - Discussion #3 (due 11/22)
Week 14 - Jazz	Assignment - Critical listening #7 (due 12/4)
Week 15 - Popular Music	Assignment - Discussion #4 (due 12/6)
Week 16 – FINAL EXAM	FINAL EXAM (due 12/8)