

SYLLABUS
MUSIC APPRECIATION -- ONLINE
MUSI 1306
PROFESSOR: AL GARDNER

Office: FA 114A, Band Hall - Fine Arts Building

Office Hours: VIRTUAL for ONLINE CLASSES: 7:00PM-9:00PM M-Th

Office Hours for F2F Classes: 2:00-4:00 M-Th

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COURSE DESCRIPTION: One Semester, 3 credit hours.

This course satisfies a core curriculum requirement: YES – Fine Arts.

For non-music majors only. Pre-requisite-NONE. Selected composers and compositions will be studied through an interpretation of their historical, functional, and cultural significance.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS COURSE:

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the masterpieces of music literature from Western Art Music and the names of famous composers and titles to some of their most well known compositions. It is essential that the student develop a fundamental vocabulary of musical terms and gain a sight and sound recognition of the instruments of the modern orchestra. Developing focused listening skills is yet another objective of this course; you must listen to the music and more than just once for much of it!! I hope you enjoy this class! Have a great semester!

FACULTY EXPECTATIONS: I will be available to answer emails and questions most evenings between the hours of 7-10pm. I will do my best to get back to you within 24 hours. You may also refer to my actual office hours posted above. You must log in on a regular basis and participate in class discussions

LEARNING MODULES

This course is divided into 8 Units covered over 16 weeks for Fall and Spring semesters and 5 weeks for Summer Terms and 8 weeks for an 8 week term. Each Unit explores an Era of music, except for the first Unit, which covers Music Fundamentals. All of the Units will be accessible from the Course Contents tab. *****IMPORTANT***. You must proceed through the modules for each week/unit in sequence before you can continue to the next Week or Unit.** You had better watch ALL Videos and read ALL Textual information within each Unit because the Test Questions are drawn from them!!

HOW MUCH SHOULD I STUDY FOR THIS CLASS?? You should study about 2 hours a day, four days a week for Summer Terms or about 75 minutes a day two times a week for Fall and Spring terms or 75 minutes four days a week for an 8-week term; the same amount of time you would if you were taking this class F2F (Face to Face).

GENERAL OUTLINE OF THE COURSE:

Unit 1: Music Fundamentals

Unit 2: Middle Ages

Unit 3: Renaissance

Unit 4: Baroque

Unit 5: Classical

Unit 6: 19th Century

Unit 7: 20th Century and Beyond

Unit 8: Popular Music in the US

COURSE CALENDAR

Week 1 and 2: Music Fundamentals

8/24 - 9/6. Applying Basic Music Principles to Movie Music

Week 3 and 4: Middle Ages

9/7 - 9/20. Connecting Gregorian Chant and Early Polyphony to Modern Music

Week 5 and 6: Renaissance

9/21- 10/4. Advancements in Renaissance Instruments Compared to Modern Developments

Week 7 and 8: Baroque

10/5 - 10/18. Ornaments in Modern Music

Week 9 and 10: Classical

10/19 - 11/1. Classical Music in Modern Context

Week 11 and 12: 19th Century

11/2 - 11/15. Nationalism in Romantic and Modern Music

Week 13 and 14: 20th Century and Beyond

11/16 - 11/29. Pioneers vs. Contemporary Artists

Week 15 and 16: Popular Music in the US

11/30 - 12/7. How Has Popular Music Served as a Tool for Social and Political Commentary Throughout Its History?

GRADING:

Grading will be based on the results of ALL 8 UNIT TESTS, 8 UNIT DISCUSSIONS and the ICEBREAKER DISCUSSION. The Discussions and Tests are weighted evenly: TESTS = 50% and DISCUSSIONS = 50%. There will be NO Final Exam. IF A TEST OR DISCUSSION IS NOT COMPLETED BY ITS DUE DATE, AN AUTOMATIC ZERO WILL BE ASSIGNED.

GRADING SCALE:

A: 90-100

B: 80-89

C: 70-79

D: 60-69

F: 59 and below

DISCUSSION BOARD

Please don't forget your discussion questions for each Unit. Please DO NOT use AI for your Discussion Responses. I do not expect 'perfect' responses (generated by AI) to the discussions, especially for the first few. I would rather see you struggle somewhat in your first few attempts at describing your listening experiences through the application of appropriate musical vocabulary. Please think more of these Discussions as exercises in writing about your listening experiences. Familiarize yourselves with the **VOCABULARY LIST** found in UNIT 1. I have included this list in each Unit for you to continually reference to expand your familiarity with these terms. You are expected to use as many of these terms as possible to describe your listening experiences with the music covered in this course. By Mid-Term, you should have a greater mastery of these terms. The best way to start is by learning and understanding and applying these 5 fundamental terms: Melody, **Harmony**, **Rhythm**, **Tempo**, and **Dynamics**. Use these terms to describe how you hear the music. For example: Melody--is it easy to sing along with or is it complicated? Is it short or long? Does it go very high or very low? Does it move in steps, or does it skip around? **Harmony**: Is it **Major** (bright, cheerful, happy) or is it **Minor** (dark, gloomy, sad)? **Tempo**: Is it fast, slow, or moderately paced? Does the tempo change (speed up or slow down)? **Dynamics**: Is it loud, soft, or medium loud? (**F**=loud, **P**=soft, **MF**=medium loud). I expect the incorporation of the Vocabulary terms, proper grammar; correct spelling; complete sentences; and above all, more than just a one or two sentence response to the discussion question so please take some time and think your answer through before you compose it.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

In order to view multimedia elements and documents, you will need specific plug-ins. These are the ones needed to view specific files in this course:

- Windows Media Player
- Quick Time Player (Mac)

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- SPC username and password
- SPC email address
- Regular access to a computer
- Regular access to reliable internet service Free Access to Microsoft Word Office 365 (southplainscollege.edu)

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Windows URL: [Windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/windows-media-player](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/windows-media-player)

Apple URL: www.apple.com/accessibility

Acrobat URL: www.adobe.com/accessibility/products/acrobat.html

Blackboard URL: <https://en-us.help.blackboard.com/Learn/9.1>

Blackboard Technical support is available to all students enrolled in Internet-based courses. The first place to go for help is your course instructor. He or she will be able to answer any questions you have about the content of the course, assignment due dates, quiz dates, etc.; however, for technical assistance please see the AskSPC link within [MySPC](#). If you do not find your solution, submit a ticket for assistance through AskSPC.

You can learn more by logging into [MySPC](#), click on "My Academic Services" and visit the Distance Education link. You will find various tutorials, the READI assessment, and other helpful tools.

In addition, support hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Student support is available by e-mailing blackboard@southplainscollege.edu or calling [\(806\) 716-2180](tel:8067162180). When e-mailing a request for help, include your full name, course(s) enrolled in, name of instructor(s) and a phone number where you can be reached.

LIBRARY: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/information-for/current-spc-students/library.php>

TESTING: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/information-for/current-spc-students/advisingcurrent/tsi-advising.php>

Phone: [806-716-2368](tel:806-716-2368)

SPC SYLLABUS STATEMENTS : <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

FOR STUDENTS IN THE CLASSROOM:

1. ABSOLUTELY NO CELL PHONES IN CLASS!!! Use of a cell phone in class will result in an unexcused absence and if it becomes excessive, the student will be dropped.
2. IT IS UNACCEPTABLE TO GET UP IN THE MIDDLE OF CLASS AND WALK OUT. Please make sure to use the restroom before coming to class. Leaving class in the middle of a lecture will result in an unexcused absence and if it becomes excessive, the student will be dropped.
3. ATTENDANCE POLICY: You are permitted 3 unexcused absences. For each additional unexcused absence, your semester grade will be dropped one letter grade.
4. NO SLEEPING IN CLASS!!! Please do not put your head down on your desk. It creates the appearance that you are sleeping. Any student found sleeping in class will be dropped from class.