MUSIC APPRECIATION FALL 2026
MUSI 1306 | Online Syllabus

Note: The syllabus presented below is subject to revision. Any revisions that are made will be emailed to the class roster in a timely manner by the instructor.

Updated 9/7/2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor	*Office Location*	*Office Hours*
Annie Nichols-Burge	Levelland Campus	TBD
Assistant Professor in Fine Arts	C. DeVitt Fine Arts 144	**I'll update once voice lessons are finalized*

E-Mail	*Phone*
anichols@southplainscollege.edu	(806)716-2892

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Selected composers and compositions will be studied through an interpretation of their historical, functional, and cultural significance. This course satisfies the core curriculum requirement for Visual or Performing Arts.

COURSE PURPOSE

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.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. A reliable computer and internet connection.
2. Read all assigned readings.
3. Complete all assignments, discussions and exams by the set deadlines.
4. Actively listen to all musical examples.
5. View audiovisual materials on selected topics
6. Complete all guidelines for Concert Attendance Project.

COURSE MATERIALS

You will need access to a reliable computer, reliable internet, and blackboard for this course.

TEXTBOOK: Music: An Appreciation, Brief Edition by Roger Kamien. You will need Connect access.

GRADING POLICY

Grading Breakdown

Quizzes	40%
Assignments/Listening Journal	30%
Discussion	20%
Concert Attendance Project	10%

Grading Scale

A: 90-100 B: 80-89 C:70-79 D: 60-69 F: 0-59

ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION

This is an online course. All work for this class will be completed and submitted through Blackboard. Log in often and complete your work by the due dates!

ASSIGNMENTS

Each week, you will have some sort of combination of the following:

- Reading (every week)
- Listening and/or Videos to watch related to the reading (every week)
- Listening Journal entry
- Discussion Board Topic
- Quiz (Only at the end of each unit)

LATE WORK

Late work will be accepted with a grade penalty. A penalty of 10 points per week late may be deducted from late work.
No late final projects (Concert Attendance Project) will be accepted.

DISCUSSION

Discussion Grades are divided as follows (a detailed grading rubric is available on Blackboard with each discussion)
60% Your Response to Discussion Topic
20% Your Response to Classmate 1
20% Your Response to Classmate 2
All posts should be thoughtful, detailed, and respectful.

If you only post your response to the discussion, the highest grade you can make for that discussion is 60%. You must complete all 3 posts for full credit.

Tip: You will usually have 2 weeks for discussion posts. Post your response in the first week of the topic being posted and then post your responses to your classmates in the second week.

FINAL EXAM

The final exam for this course is not technically an exam, but a final project that will encompass everything the student has learned in the course. The final project is a Concert Attendance Project.

- **CONCERT ATTENDANCE PROJECT**
    - The concert attendance project serves as the final exam for this course. The student will attend one **instructor approved** concert or performance in its entirety and write a detailed paper about the performance, music, and overall experience.
    - No late final projects will be accepted.
    - An approved list of performances will be posted on Blackboard. Examples of approved performances for this semester are:
        - Concerts from Texas Tech University School of Music ensembles

- Concerts by the Fine Arts department at South Plains College
- Concerts by Lubbock Symphony Orchestra
- Opera and Musical Theatre Performances
- Collegiate level or professional band, choral and orchestra concerts
- If there is a performance that you think would count for this project that is not on the approved list, you must contact your instructor for approval.
- Online options are also available with instructor approval

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STATEMENT

In this class, using AI to generate academic works, including essays, discussions, reports, quizzes or assignments will result in a grade of an automatic "0". I want to know your thoughts, not the thoughts of a database. If a response is flagged as AI generated, you will be informed individually. To help ensure that your work is not flagged, cite the sources you used for your answers.

STUDENT CONDUCT

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/

WEEK	START DATE	UNIT	READINGS	LISTENING	ASSIGNMENTS
1	Monday 8/24	Part 1: Materials of Music	❑ Music Fundamentals		Due Monday 8/31 by end of day 11:59pm ❑ Syllabus Agreement ❑ Intro to Listening Journal Due Soon ❑ Discussion #1
2	Monday 8/31	Part 1: Materials of Music	❑ Music Fundamentals continued ❑ Listening to Music: SHMRG		Due Tuesday 9/8 by end of day 11:59pm ❑ Discussion #1 ❑ SHMRG
3	Tuesday 9/8 (Monday 9/7 Labor Day Holiday)	Part 1: Materials of Music	❑ Listening to Musicians, Musical Roles, Contexts, and Categories	❑ The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra by Britten ❑ Flow My Tears by Dowland	Due Monday 9/14 by end of day 11:59pm ❑ Britten's The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra ❑ Quiz 1: Materials of Music
4	Monday 9/14	Part 2: The Middle Ages and Renaissance	❑ Ch 1 Music in the Middle Ages ❑ Ch 2 Music in the Renaissance	❑ Alleluia: Vidimus stellam ❑ O successors by Bingen ❑ A Chantar by Beatriz ❑ Estampie ❑ Puis qu'en oubli sui de vous and Agnus Dei by Machaut ❑ Ave Maria… by Desprez ❑ Kyrie from Pope Marcellus Mass by Palestrina ❑ As Vesta was Descending by Weelkes ❑ Flow My Tears by Dowland ❑ Terpsichore by Caroubel	Due Monday 9/21 by end of day 11:59pm ❑ The Middle Ages and Renaissance Smartbook Questions ❑ Modern vs. Medieval Due Soon ❑ Discussion #2

5	Monday 9/21	Part 3: The Baroque Period	❑ Ch 1 Baroque Music ❑ Ch 2 Music in Baroque Society ❑ Ch 3 The Concerto Grosso and Ritornello Form ❑ Ch 4 The Fugue ❑ Ch 13 The Baroque Sonata ❑ Ch 14 Antonio Vivaldi ❑ Ch 15 Johann Sebastian Bach ❑ Ch 16 The Baroque Suite	❑ Brandenberg Concerto No 5 by Back ❑ Little Fugue in G Minor by Back ❑ Trio Sonata in A Minor by Corelli ❑ Spring from The Four Seasons by Vivaldi ❑ Air from Suite No 3 by Back	Due Monday 9/28 by end of day 11:59pm ❑ The Baroque Period (Instrumental Music) Smartbook Questions ❑ Listening Journal: Four Seasons ❑ Discussion #2
6	Monday 9/28	Part 3: The Baroque Period	❑ Ch 5 The Elements of Opera ❑ Ch 6 Opera in the Baroque Era ❑ Ch 7 Claudio Monteverdi ❑ Ch 9 Henry Purcell ❑ Ch 18 The Oratorio ❑ Ch 19 George Frideric Handel	❑ Orfeo by Monteverdi ❑ Dido and Aeneas by Purcell ❑ Messiah by Handel	Due Monday 10/5 by end of day 11:59pm ❑ The Baroque Period (Vocal Music) Smartbook Questions ❑ Quiz 2: Middle Ages/ Renaissance/ Baroque
7	Monday 10/5	Part 4: The Classical Period	❑ Ch 1 The Classical Style ❑ Ch 2 Composer, Patron, and Public in the Classical Period	❑ Symphony No 40 in G Minor by Mozart ❑ Surprise Symphony by Haydn ❑ Eine Kleine Nachtmusik by Mozart	Due Monday 10/12 by end of day 11:59pm ❑ Part 4: The Classical Period (Part 1) Smartbook Questions ❑ Listening Journal: Symphony No 40

			❑ Ch 3 Sonata Form ❑ Ch 4 Theme and Variations ❑ Ch 5 Minuet and Trio ❑ Ch 6 Rondo ❑ Ch 7 The Classical Symphony	❑ String Quartet in C Minor by Beethoven	Due Soon: ❑ Discussion #3
8	Monday 10/12	Part 4: The Classical Period	❑ Ch 8 The Classical Concerto ❑ Ch 11 Classical Chamber Music ❑ Ch 12 Josephy Haydn ❑ Ch 13 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart ❑ Ch 14 Ludwig van Beethoven	❑ Trumpet Concerto in E Flat Major by Haydn ❑ Don Giovanni by Mozart ❑ Symphony No 40 in G Minor by Mozart (continued) ❑ Requiem by Mozart ❑ Symphony No 5 by Beethoven	Due Monday 10/19 by end of day 11:59pm ❑ Part 4: The Classical Period (Part 2) Smartbook Questions ❑ Listening Journal: Moonlight Sonata ❑ Discussion #3
9	Monday 10/19	Part 5: The Romantic Period	❑ Ch 1 Romanticism in Music ❑ Ch 2 Romantic Composers and their Public ❑ Ch 3 The Art Song ❑ Ch 4 Franz Schubert ❑ Ch 7 Frederic Chopin ❑ Ch 8 Franz Liszt	❑ Erlkonig by Schubert ❑ Nocturne in E Flat Major by Chopin ❑ Revolutionary Etude by Chopin ❑ La Campanella by Liszt	Due Monday 10/26 by end of day 11:59pm ❑ Part 5: The Romantic Period (Romanticism and Art Song) Smartbook Questions ❑ Schubert's Erlkonig ❑ Quiz 3: Classical Period

10	Monday 10/26	Part 5: The Romantic Period	❑ Ch 11 Program Music ❑ Ch 12 Hector Berlioz ❑ Ch 13 Nationalism in Nineteenth-Century Music ❑ Ch 14 Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky	❑ Symphonie Fantastique by Berlioz ❑ Romeo and Juliet by Tchaikovsky	Due Monday 11/2 by end of day 11:59pm ❑ Part 5: The Romantic Period (Program Music and Nationalism) ❑ Listening Journal: Tchaikovsky and the Nutcracker Due Soon: ❑ Discussion #4
11	Monday 11/2	Part 5: The Romantic Period	❑ Ch 15 Antonin Dvorak ❑ Ch 16 Johannes Brahms ❑ Ch 17 Georges Bizet ❑ Ch 18 Giuseppe Verdi ❑ Ch 20 Richard Wagner	❑ New World Symphony by Dvorak ❑ Symphony No 3 in F Major by Brahms ❑ Carmen by Bizet ❑ Rigoletto by Verdi ❑ Die Walkure by Wagner	Due Monday 11/9 by end of day 11:59pm ❑ Part 5: The Romantic Period (Operas in the Romantic Period) Smartbook Questions ❑ Ride of the Valkyries ❑ Discussion #4
12	Monday 11/9	Part 6: The Twentieth Century and Beyond	❑ Ch 3 Impressionism and Symbolism ❑ Ch 4 Claude Debussy ❑ Ch 7 Primitivism ❑ Ch 8 Igor Stravinsky ❑ Ch 11 Expressionism ❑ Ch 12 Arnold Schoenberg	❑ Prelude a l'apres-midi d'un faune by Debussy ❑ Le Sacre du printemps by Stravinsky ❑ A Survivor from Warsaw by Schoenberg	Due Monday 11/16 by end of day 11:59pm ❑ Part 6: The Twentieth Century and Beyond (Classical Music in the 1900s) Smartbook Questions ❑ Prepared Piano ❑ Quiz 4: Romantic Period
13	Monday 11/16	Part 6: The Twentieth	❑ Ch 17 George Gershwin	❑ Rhapsody in Blue by Gershwin	Due Monday 11/23 by end of day 11:59pm

		Century and Beyond	❑ Ch 19 William Grant Still ❑ Ch 24 Jazz	❑ Afro-American Symphony by Still ❑ Maple Leaf Rag by Joplin ❑ Hotter Than That by Armstrong	❑ Part 6: The Twentieth Century and Beyond (Jazz) ❑ Listening Journal: All Blues
14	Monday 11/23 (Thanksgiving Holiday 11/25-11/27)	Part 6: The Twentieth Century and Beyond	❑ Ch 25 Music for Stage and Screen	❑ West Side Story by Bernstein ❑ Hamilton by Miranda ❑ Interstellar by Zimmer	Due Monday 11/30 by end of day 11:59pm ❑ Part 6: The Twentieth Century and Beyond (Musical Theatre and Film) Smartbook Questions Due Soon: ❑ Discussion #5
15	Monday 11/30	Part 6: The Twentieth Century and Beyond	❑ Ch 26 Popular Music Genres	❑ Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds by The Beatles ❑ Purple Rain by Prince ❑ Break My Soul by Beyonce ❑ Anti-Hero by Taylor Swift ❑ Die Hard by Kendrick Lamar	Due Monday 12/7 by end of day 11:59pm ❑ Part 6: The Twentieth Century and Beyond (Popular Music Genres) ❑ Discussion #5 ❑ Final: Concert Attendance Project
16	Monday 12/7	Finals Week			