

**The University of Texas at El Paso**  
**MUSG 5335: Special Topics in Music**  
**Fall 2021**

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Dominic Dousa    OFFICE: FFA 401    OFFICE HOURS: (TBA)  
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For information about the instructor, please click [here](#) (UTEP Department of Music website).

**Prerequisites:** Approval of department

### **Course Description**

- This course involves a rotating special topics seminar. Topics can include all areas of music.

### **Course Objectives**

- Students will explore in depth a specialized topic that contributes to the student's musical knowledge and program of study.
- Students will complete the assignments and projects that demonstrate an understanding of the topic covered.

### **Course Outline**

Regular weekly meetings will be held for class presentations and discussion. The meeting format will be determined by the nature of the topic covered and the size of the class, and will conform to the expectations for a 3-credit graduate course.

### **Grading**

Grades will be based on the successful completion of the curriculum associated with the specialized topic.

The following are general guidelines in determining the final grade.

A: Assignments and projects are completed with careful attention to detail to given guidelines, with neatness and accuracy in notation.

B: Assignments and projects are completed, and the work meets general expectations; some level of detail may be missing, though overall the standards specified in the guidelines have been met.

C: Assignments and projects are completed, and the work meets general expectations; more detail lacking than that of 'B' level work; the scope and substance of any project is limited.

D: Some evidence of work shown, though the amount and quality of work falls below expectations and guidelines.

F: The amount and quality of work falls below acceptable standards.

- For topics that involve exercises that can be assessed quantitatively (e.g., # of points earned / # of points possible), the standard grading scale will be used (e.g., 90% and above = A / 80% up to 90% = B / 70% up to 80% = C / 60% up to 70% = D / below 60% = F).

- For topics that involve written projects, a grading rubric will be provided.

- Once the specific assignments and projects have been determined, based on the nature of the topic studied, an overall grading rubric will be provided at the beginning of the semester.

- A grade of “W” will be reported only if the student withdraws from the course by the Course Drop Deadline (Friday, October 28).
- *Academic Dishonesty.* Cheating is a serious matter. Any cases of academic dishonesty will be dealt with according to UTEP policy (<https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/osccr/student-conduct/academic-integrity.html>)
- *Special Needs.* I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please see me personally before or after class in the first two weeks or make an appointment to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148 or at [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or stop by at Room 106 in the Union East Building.

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: The information on this syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be announced in individual lessons and/or via email.**