

SYLLABUS: Graduate Music History Seminar

MUSL 5311 - University of Texas at El Paso

Fall 2020

Instructor: Dr. Lindsey Macchiarella
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Course Objectives:

1. To engage creatively with performance practice by producing original reviews, analyses, and narratives.
2. To communicate original ideas about music and performance in written and verbal form.
3. To deconstruct, discuss, and emulate academic writing about music theory.
4. To create a professional online presence.

Required Texts:

NONE! 😊

Concerning Communication

You are expected to check your UTEP email at least once a day. Since this class takes place entirely online, it is vital that you read all course-related emails carefully. Most course-related emails are archived under the “announcements” tab on Blackboard. Please check the announcements, syllabus, and course calendar before contacting your instructor with questions!

A Word on Computer Literacy

This course takes place entirely online. This means that in order to take this course, you must have:

- Constant access to a working computer throughout the semester.
- Your computer must have internet access and Microsoft Word.

You must be capable of accomplishing the following tasks on a computer:

- Accessing the course website.
- Accessing the library website and databases.
- Creating a word document.
- Uploading a document to a blackboard.

If you are unable to complete any of these tasks, contact the technology center in the library for assistance during the first week of classes. www.helpdesk.utep.edu

Save your work!:

- Do not upload the only copy of your assignment to blackboard. You are responsible for saving a copy of every assignment you write to your computer.

File Types:

- Acceptable:
 - .doc
 - .docx
 - .pdf
 - .jpeg
 - .png
- Not Acceptable:
 - .pages
 - (It is particularly common for people to try to submit this one! Mac users: I cannot read these files)
 - .heic
 - .plist

Coursework

Article Outlines: Hierarchical outlines of the author's argument and evidence. Depending on the reading, supplemental observations about the authors thesis, supporting examples, and writing quality may also be required.

Blog Posts: Short essays that will be posted to the public course website. All blogs must be revised by the end of the semester to remove technical writing errors. Any blogs that remain unrevised by the end of the semester will result in removal from the website and a reduced grade for that assignment.

Discussion Board: Write and answer questions about articles, and post videos summarizing blogs or interesting topics. Comments to other students should be both detailed and original, adding to the class discussion.

Final Paper, Presentation, and Video: The project consists of a presentation in the form of a video, go up on the public course website, and a final paper. The topic should be related to the seminar area of study.

Concerning Late Work

Late assignments will be given a 0 and will not be graded, except in extreme emergency situations. However, if the instructor is contacted at least 24 hours in advance about a conflict that may make an assignment impossible to complete on time, an extension may be granted at the instructor's discretion.

Concerning the Class Website

This class will post work publicly on the seminar website. Each student has the power to edit or delete their website contributions as soon as the semester is over, if they wish. Since your writing will be made public and become a part of your internet presence, it is strongly recommended that you exercise this right and carefully edit your work.

Your Grade:

Outlines and other Assignments: 55%

Blogs: 15%

Discussion Boards: 15%

Final Project: 15%

Knowing Your Grade: I find the blackboard grading program overly complex and inconsistent, so I will not calculate grades on that website. You will see grades for individual assignments under the “my grades,” but your current and final grade are calculated on my computer, not on blackboard. You will receive regular, automatically generated grade updates to your UTEP email.

Academic Honor Policy

The state of Texas has particularly harsh punishments for Academic Honor transgressions, so think very carefully before breaking any of the rules listed here. Plagiarism is not tolerated in the course. Suspected cases of plagiarism will be immediately submitted to the Student Conduct office for evaluation and possible disciplinary action. Refer to the Student Conduct Guide for further information <http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/>

To Summarize:

- All information not completely original to your own experience must be cited correctly.
 - For example, even if you (think you) know Beethoven died in Austria in 1827, but you were not there to watch it happen (!) you should cite someone who was, or someone with compelling evidence of it. Peer-reviewed academic sources are a safe choice.
- Do not copy other people’s work unless it is required as part of a group project assignment.
- You cannot invent historical facts, but you can have opinions.
- You must put information you’ve researched into your own words. It cannot be exactly copied from your sources unless it is properly cited and clearly in quotes.
 - This includes outlines! When outlining an article you must summarize it in your own words or your work will be sent to the student conduct office.
- All work for this course must be original to this course. You cannot turn in assignments you’ve written for another class.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities will be made. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Center for Accommodations and Support services Office. CASS can be reached in the following ways: <http://sa.utep.edu/cass/> 915-747-5148, or via email, cass@utep.edu.