

# SYLLABUS: Introduction to Music History

MUSL 2321 - University of Texas at El Paso  
Spring 2020

Instructor: Dr. Lindsey Macchiarella  
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Office Hours - in M234  
○ T, TH 10-11 am  
○ Or by appointment

## Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, the student should be able to:

1. Describe music of any style using specific and appropriate musical vocabulary, both verbally, and in writing.
2. Identify the style era of a classical piece of music.
3. Aurally recognize some major works in the classical music canon.
4. Read and analyze scores.
5. Apply basic techniques of musical research and citation.

## Required Textbook

Bellman, Jonathan. *A Short Guide to Writing About Music*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York: Pearson, 2007.

## Hybridization:

This is a hybrid course, in that some hours of face-to-face discussion have been replaced with assignment hours. "Online Study" days have been applied with the following criteria:

- Assignments larger than the course credit hours can validate.
- There are multiple assignments that merit a single day of in-class discussion
- The instructor is absent, i.e., at a conference or workshop.

## Class Conduct and Assignments

Students are expected to conduct themselves professionally including, but not limited to: coping with conflicts between your personal, work, and school life, planning your week's schedule in advance, practicing clear email communication, and submitting work on time.

Lecture Quizzes: Timed quizzes on class lectures.

Style and Score Study Assignments: Compare and contrast pieces of music, with, or without a score, to describe their style using music vocabulary: Scoring, Dynamics, Rhythm, Melody, Harmony, Texture, Form, and Lyrics (if applicable).

Canonical Information Quizzes: Study facts sheets with basic facts about famous composers, pieces, and genres.

Writing and Reading Assignments: Read excerpts from Bellman's *Writing About Music*, and write brief paragraphs about music for a variety of functions and audiences.

Final Essay: Write the program notes for a recital you will give (or imagine you could give), using music-descriptive vocabulary, references to style, and information from Oxford Music Online.

Tests: Will cover canonical works, facts, aural identification, and music vocabulary.

## Your Grade:

Written Assignments: 30%

BlackBoard Quizzes: 30%

Tests: 20%

Final Paper: 20%

## Attendance:

University Attendance Policy - Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness. Final decisions on whether or not an absence counts as excused is made by the instructor.

### Class Attendance Policy

- Go to class! Don't be late!
- It is your responsibility every day to either make sure you are marked present with i-clicker, or to speak with the instructor after class. Otherwise, you will be marked as absent for the day.
- **After the third unexcused absence the student's final grade will go down 2% per unexcused absence (so 4 unexcused absences would mean a loss of 2%, 5 would mean 4% etc.). It is the student's job to keep track of absences, though you can check with the instructor at any time concerning your grades and number of excused or unexcused absences.**

## 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 for 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.**
- 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](mailto:cass@utep.edu).