

SYLLABUS: Music Appreciation

MUSL 1324 - University of Texas at El Paso

Fall 2017

Instructor: Dr. Lindsey Macchiarella: lmacchiarella@utep.edu

Office Hours: For those of you on campus, instructor office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from 2-3 pm in M234 (Fox Fine Arts Building), or by appointment.

Office Phone: 915-747-6630

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To learn how to listen deeply, describe, and discuss music in the Western classical tradition.
2. To discover some of the infinite variety of styles and genres in this tradition.
3. To discern some of the ways in which music and culture are intimately connected.
4. To develop writing, analytical, and critical thinking skills.

Required Texts:

Wright, Craig. *Listening to Music*, 8th ed. Cengage Publishing

Either the paper copy of the book that comes with recordings, or the e-book version that comes on Cengage's MindTap program will work for this course. I suggest that you purchase the 6 months access MindTap, because you will receive access immediately, and it is cheaper. This is a 6-month access to the full text of the book online, as well as access to all of the music recordings that go along with it.

Click here if you want to purchase the MindTap version:

<https://studentdashboard.cengagebrain.com/#/course-confirmation/MTPP7PJPMBD9/initial-course-confirmation>

When purchasing the MindTap version, the course key is: MTPP-7PJP-MBD9

IMPORTANT TEXTBOOK INFORMATION:

- **You must have the textbook by the beginning of the course. Assignments will not be accepted late because you cannot access the textbook.**
- You may be thinking to yourself "is this the kind of course where I really need the textbook?" The answer is "yes."
- You need to have access to the musical recordings that come with the textbook. The physical copies of this book come with an access code inside that lets you listen to the recordings on the internet. If you buy just any used copy, the previous owner will probably have already used the access code, and you will not be able to hear the music, and will have thrown your money away! Be wary of used books!
- You may also buy a paper copy of the textbook, new. It is pretty expensive, though it might be cost-effective if you plan on selling it after you're done with the course.

CLASS REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance - 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. *The final decision on whether an absence counts as excused is made by the instructor.*

Class Attendance Policy in a Nutshell

- Go to class! Don't be late!
- If you are late very late, the instructor may lose participation points for the day.
- It is your responsibility every day to mark yourself present through the Student Response System, or to speak with your instructor directly after class in order to be marked present.
- Showing up to class late will result in a half-credit attendance point for the day.
- Each unexcused absence will result in the loss of the attendance point for that 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.

Participation - This course will be using the electronic REEF Student Response System during class time. You will use your cell phone or laptop to respond to questions during the lecture. If you do not have one of these electronic devices, you need to check out a laptop from the main library (3-day loan period, usually).

Textbook Guided Questions – These will consist of reading a short excerpt from the textbook or an outside resource in addition to studying the corresponding recordings in the textbook. They are due most class periods. Answer guiding questions posted under “assignments” on Blackboard with complete sentences. These assignments can be typed or hand written (preferably typed), but must be legible.

Listening Quizzes – these are due on review days, and are intended to help you study for the aural portion of tests. You can take them as many times as you'd like until the due date/time. They are pass/fail, a score of 100% is needed to receive credit. They count for the same credit as a daily Textbook Guided Question.

Tests - There will be a midterm and a final, weighted equally. Tests will consist of identifying specific pieces from the textbook and lectures, identifying specific elements of music, and historical material from the reading and lecture. See the course calendar on blackboard for specific dates.

Brief Essays - There will be 3 throughout the semester, the Composition Comparison, Podcast Report, and Concert Report.

YOUR GRADE

Homework/Listening Quizzes: 40%

Tests/Pop Quizzes: 30%

Essays: 30%

100-90% = A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

Below 60% = F

REGARDING DEADLINES

Please see the Course Calendar within the first week of classes (available on blackboard) to familiarize yourself with project deadlines and exams. Let the instructor know in the first week of the semester if you foresee any legitimate conflicts with these dates. Unless you have a legitimate medical excuse, **under no circumstances** will exams or writing assignments be moved to accommodate individual preferences or vacation plans.

DEADLINES IN A NUTSHELL

- Writing projects and exam dates can be found on the course calendar on the blackboard website and are non-negotiable. Manage your time and travel plans accordingly.
- If you have a reasonable excuse, whether documented or undocumented, and you let the instructor know **before you miss class**, you may be allowed to turn in homework assignments the next class meeting, or schedule an appointment to re-take a quiz.

ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY

Plagiarism is not tolerated in the course. Suspected cases of plagiarism will be immediately turned over to the Dean of Students 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.
- Don't copy other people's work.
- You cannot invent historical facts.
- You must put information you've researched into your own words. It cannot be exactly copied from your sources.
- All work for this course must be original to this course. You cannot turn in assignments you've written for another class.
- Collaboration with other students or tutors on written assignments is prohibited unless the instructor says otherwise.

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.