

# SYLLABUS: Modern Classical Music

MUSL 3329 - University of Texas at El Paso  
Spring 2023

Instructor: Dr. Lindsey Macchiarella

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Office hours hybrid: zoom and in-person.

See blackboard and email for more information.

## Course Objectives:

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

1. Describe modern classical music with specific musical vocabulary.
2. Complete basic research on musical topics and properly cite it.
3. Summarize research, and discuss music history and style with others.
4. Develop opinions on, and preferences for styles and composers in modern classical music.

## Some Important Course Policies in a Nutshell:

(Explained in greater detail throughout the syllabus)

- Late work is not accepted
- Due dates are on the Course Calendar
- Check your email daily
- Computer and constant internet are required
- This class takes 3-6 hours per week
- Contact the Help Desk if you have problems with BlackBoard: 915-747-4357

## Required Texts:

NONE! 😊

## Required Materials:

Constant access to a computer and internet.

Video recording materials (most phones and computers do this)

## Course Units

- |                                      |                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Course Introduction               | 8. György Ligeti   |
| 2. Arnold Schoenberg                 | 9. Minimalism      |
| 3. Igor Stravinsky                   | 10. John Cage      |
| 4. Aleksandr Skryabin                | 11. Kaija Saariaho |
| 5. Dmitri Shostakovich               | 12. Tan Dun        |
| 6. 20 <sup>th</sup> c. Mexican Music | 13. Caroline Shaw  |
| 7. Astor Piazzolla                   |                    |

## 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. Please check your email, the announcements tab, 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.
- Creating a short video of yourself with video and audio and sharing that video with the class on a blackboard discussion board.

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](http://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

## In the Event of Computer Problems . . .

Technology problems are not a valid excuse for late assignments. Do not leave work until the last minute. You must allow yourself time (at least 2 hours) to adjust for emergencies - e.g. internet goes down, computer breaks, etc.

You should usually contact the Blackboard technical support for technical issues. Assess the situation and decide whether your issue is one for the instructor, or for the UTEP help desk.

[Helpdesk.utep.edu](http://Helpdesk.utep.edu)

## Class Requirements

Workload will vary, but you should plan on spending roughly 3-6 hours per week on this class. **If you do not have 3-6 hours per week to dedicate to this class, you should not be in it.**

## Regarding Deadlines

In this course, you are expected to develop professional skills, 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. Familiarize yourself with due dates for major projects and quizzes at the beginning of the semester. Let the instructor know in the first week of the semester if you foresee any legitimate conflicts with these dates. Unless you experience a legitimate and extreme emergency and inform the instructor about it either immediately before, or after an assignment is due, all deadlines are final.

**Personal scheduling conflicts, including work schedules, do not qualify for assignment extensions. If you have a busy and unpredictable personal schedule, you need to complete work in advance to avoid missed deadlines.**

## A Finite Number of Emergencies

Extensions may be granted in extreme emergency situations. No student will be granted more than 3 emergency extensions in a semester. Emergency extensions will not be granted covering more than 3 weeks. Students with problems that extend beyond these conditions should contact the registrar for an emergency medical withdrawal from the semester: <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/registrar/>

## Assignments

The types of assignments you will encounter in this class are:

- Quizzes on video lectures, documentaries, and video/audio interviews
- Written musical and description assignments
- Composer Reports, which require research, and filming a short video
- Discussion Boards

## Your Grade:

Quizzes: 20%

Written Assignments: 30%

Composer Report and Discussion Boards: 50%

100-90% = A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

Below 60% = F

**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 for disciplinary action. Refer to the Student Conduct Guide for further information <http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/>

### To Summarize:

- **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 information not completely original to your own experience must be cited correctly.
- Do not copy other people’s work.
- You cannot invent historical facts, but you can have opinions.
- 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).