

**MUSIC APPRECIATION  
COURSE SYLLABUS  
MUSL 1324, CRN 24265  
MW 10:30-11:50am, FFA 402  
Spring 2024  
University of Texas El Paso**

**Instructor:** Dr. Sara Renner

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Office: FFA 132

Office Hours: Mondays 1:30-2:30pm; Thursdays 1:30-2:30pm; by appointment

\*Some weeks, office hours may need to be adjusted. Any adjustments will be communicated.

**Text:** *Listen* by Joseph Kerman and Gary Tomlinson, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition (E-book with Total Access)

**Publisher:** W. W. Norton and Company

**ISBN:** 9781324039440

The text may be purchased through the university bookstore or the W.W. Norton Publishing Company website. However, the quizzes and exams for this course will be through Blackboard, and NOT through the Ebook. The text serves as the basis for course lecture material and will assist in quizzes, studying for exams, and reinforcing the material covered in class. It is strongly recommended.

The UTEP Bookstore and W. W. Norton Publishing Company can provide assistance with purchasing and accessing the Ebook.

### **Course Objectives**

- Gain an understanding of musical concepts, genres, terms, and other foundational elements of Western classical and popular music.
- Describe the general characteristics of musical genres and the relationship to their cultural/historical settings.
- Learn how to identify different styles and genres of music by listening.
- Gain an understanding of music performance through reviews and observations of live and recorded performances.
- Critically evaluate the role of music in their lives.
- Develop critical thinking, writing, and listening skills.

### **Attendance**

- Come to class!
- If you are ill, do not come to class! Please communicate with the instructor as promptly as possible.
- If you miss a class, arrange with a classmate to get notes. Instructor notes/slides are not distributed.
- Attendance starts at 100%. Four unexcused/non-emergency absences are permitted without penalty to your grade. After the fourth unexcused absence, there will be a 5%

deduction from your attendance grade PER unexcused absence. For example, if you have five unexcused absences, your attendance grade will be lowered from 100 to 95.

- Work schedules do not constitute an excused absence- plan your schedules accordingly.
- Excused absences must be communicated to the instructor as soon as possible, preferably 24 hours in advance. Excused absences include but are not limited to documented illness, death in the family/family emergency, religious holy days and observations, military duty, jury duty, official university activities, etc. The instructor reserves the right to deem what is considered an excusable absence in accordance with university guidelines. A list of excused absences can be found under the Policies and Regulations in the UTEP Undergraduate Catalog.
- If you are unsure if your absence would be considered excusable, please ask!

### **Late Work/Deadlines**

- No late work will be accepted if the reason is not considered excusable. Work schedules do not count as an excusable reason or situation.
- The instructor reserves the right to determine what is an acceptable situation for any extensions or exemptions. Adjustments to deadlines may be made by the instructor. If so, the instructor will communicate all adjustments via Blackboard and email.
- The instructor reserves the right to deduct points for late submissions in the case of situations that may arise.
- Please use this course (and any course!) as an opportunity to learn time management and life balance skills for managing your deadlines and assignments.
- If there is an emergency or situation that will affect the submission of assignments/exams, please contact the instructor as promptly as possible.

\*\* Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions about emergencies or scheduling conflicts, but please do so as soon as possible. The sooner I know, the better I can help.

### **Communication**

- Check for Blackboard announcements and emails DAILY.
- Email and office hours are the best forms of communication for this course. Please send an email instead of a Blackboard message.
- Please include your full name, the course name, and CRN in your email.
- Please consult Blackboard announcements, in-class announcements, and the syllabus before you send an email.

### **Technology Requirements**

- You will need a stable internet connection and a trusted device (a computer is recommended) with a good audio source (headphones, external speaker, decent laptop speakers).
- I highly recommend using a computer for assignments and online activities- certain elements of Blackboard, file types, etc. do not always work on mobile devices.
- Word processor/Microsoft Office- written assignments and papers will need to be in a .pdf format.

- Technology errors happen! If there is an issue with an assignment submission, take a screenshot of the error for your records and let the instructor know as soon as possible.
- If you need any assistance or need to check out equipment for the course, please contact the UTEP Technology Center.

### **Method of Evaluation/Grading Scale**

- Quizzes: 30%
  - Quizzes will be on Blackboard after each lecture and need to be completed before the start of the following class.
- Concert Reviews: 20%
- Exams: 30%
- Final Reflection Essay: 10%
- Attendance: 10%

100-90% = A    80-89% = B    70-79% = C    60-69% = D    Below 60% = F

\*Sometimes the grading system for Blackboard only reflects submitted assignments and therefore may not be an accurate reflection. Please contact me if you would like a report on your grade.

### **Drop Course Policy**

If you feel that you are unable to complete the course successfully, please let me know, and contact the [Registrar's Office](#) to initiate the drop process. If you do not, you are at risk of receiving an "F" for the course. The Spring Drop/Withdrawal Deadline is March 28.

### **Incomplete Grade Policy**

Incomplete grades may be requested only in exceptional circumstances after you have completed at least half of the course requirements. Talk to me immediately if you believe an incomplete is warranted. If granted, we will establish a contract of work to be completed with deadlines.

### **Plagiarism Detecting Software**

Some of your course work and assessments may be submitted to SafeAssign, a plagiarism detecting software. SafeAssign is used to review assignment submissions for originality.

### **Accommodations Policy**

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, email them at [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal.

### **Scholastic Integrity**

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution \(OSCCR\)](#) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

### **Artificial Intelligence**

- The use of AI is prohibited in this course.
- Use of AI technologies or automated tools, particularly generative AI such as ChatGPT or DALL-E, is not allowed for assignments in this class. Each student is expected to use critical and creative thinking skills to complete tasks and not rely on computer-generated ideas. Any direct use of AI-generated materials submitted as your own work will be treated as plagiarism and reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).

### **Course Resources**

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support. Please refer to the QR code below for a listing of campus resources.



\*\*\*This syllabus is subject to change at any time. Changes will be communicated by the instructor.

## Course Calendar

<b>Week/Date</b>	<b>Unit/Chapter</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assignments (outside of BB Quizzes)</b>
Week 1: 1/17	Intro, Syllabus		
Week 2: 1/22	Begin Unit 1- Fundamentals of Music	Rhythm, Meter, Tempo, Pitch, Dynamics	
Week 2: 1/24	Unit 1: Ch. 2, Ch. 3	Tone Color, Scales/Melody	
Week 3: 1/29	Unit 1: Ch. 4, Ch. 5	Harmony/Texture/Tonality/Mode, Musical Form and Style	
Week 3: 1/31	Unit 2: Ch. 6, Ch. 7	Middle Ages	
Week 4: 2/5	Continue Unit 2- Ch. 7	Renaissance	
Week 4: 2/7	EXAM 1: NO CLASS MEETING		EXAM 1 Submitted through Blackboard
Week 5: 2/12	Continue Unit 2- Ch. 8	Baroque Styles/Music	
Week 5: 2/14	Unit 3: Ch. 9	Opera/Vocal Music, Rise of Instrumental Music	
Week 6: 2/19	Unit 3: Ch. 9, 10	18th Century- Late Baroque/Absolutism, Begin Instr. Music	
Week 6: 2/21	Unit 3: Ch. 10, 11	Cont. Instrumental Music, Vocal Music	
Week 7: 2/26	Unit 3: Ch. 12	Enlightenment, Classical Era	
Week 7: 2/28	Unit 3: Ch. 12, 13	Classical Era, Symphony	
Week 8: 3/4	Unit 3: Ch. 13, 14	Concerto, Chamber Music	
Week 8: 3/6	Unit 4: Ch. 15	19th Century, Beethoven	CONCERT REVIEW #1 DUE
Week 9: 3/11	NO CLASS: SPRING BREAK		
Week 9: 3/13	NO CLASS: SPRING BREAK		
Week 10: 3/18	Unit 4: Ch. 16, Ch. 17	Romanticism, Early Romantics	
Week 10: 3/20	EXAM 2		EXAM 2 Submitted through Blackboard
Week 11: 3/25	Unit 4, Ch. 18, 19	Romantic Opera, Late Romantics	
Week 11: 3/27	Unit 4, Ch. 19	Late Romantics, cont.	
Week 12: 4/1	Unit 5, Ch. 20	20th Century	
Week 12: 4/3	Unit 5, Ch. 20, 21	20th Century, cont., Impressionism	
Week 13: 4/8	Unit 5, Ch. 21	Rite of Spring, Expressionism	
Week 13: 4/10	Unit 5, Ch. 21, cont., Ch. 22	Schoenberg, American Modernism, Rise of Film Music	
Week 14: 4/15	Unit 5, Ch. 23	Post 1945	
Week 14: 4/17	Unit 5, Ch. 23 cont.	Post 1945, cont.	
Week 15: 4/22	Unit 5, Ch. 24	Jazz	CONCERT REVIEW #2 DUE
Week 15: 4/24	EXAM 3		EXAM 3 Submitted through Blackboard
Week 16: 4/29	N/A	Things You Never Knew Existed!	
Week 16: 5/1	N/A	Classical/World Music Crossovers	
FINALS WEEK			Final Reflection Essay
	**This calendar is subject to change.		
	All changes will be communicated.**		