



Arts and Communication Division

MUS103
Course Number

3
Credits

15 weeks
Length of semester

Catalog Description:

Designed to enhance the student's knowledge and enjoyment of music of a variety of styles and historical contexts through listening and discussion. Attendance at live concerts will be required. No prior musical training necessary.

Text: Listening to Music, Craig Wright, 3rd edition (with CD set)

Prerequisite: None

Corequisites: None

Coordinator: James Kelly
Ext. 3716

Course Outline

Introduction to Music
Course Title

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Laboratory Hours

Latest Review: Spring 2005

A. COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Student will acquire a basic knowledge and understanding of the technical terms used to describe music.
2. Student will become acquainted with the fundamental elements of music, such as rhythm, melody, harmony, dynamics, texture, etc., and will gain a basic ability to isolate and hear those elements at work in music of a variety of styles and historical periods.
3. Student will acquire an understanding of the various ways in which composers' structure specific pieces of music and will cultivate the ability to hear these forms as he/she begins to listen to more extended pieces of music.
4. Student will be able to identify, both aurally and visually, the various musical instruments -- brass, woodwinds, strings, percussion, as well as electronic instruments -- in isolation and in combination with one another.
5. Student will learn to identify the various ensemble groupings of instruments -- string quartets, woodwind quartets and quintets, jazz ensembles -- as well as the configuration of the modern symphony orchestra.
6. Student will become acquainted with the historical evolution of Western classical music from the Middle Ages through the 20th century and will become familiar with major composers of each period and will learn to recognize representative samples of their major works.
7. The student will become a more intelligent, informed, and sensitive listener, able to respond aesthetically to a much broader spectrum of music, and will gain a greater appreciation of music as an art form and not merely a medium of entertainment.

B. COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR TESTING AND EVALUATION

1. Attendance at two live concert performances and a two page report on each.
2. Completion of weekly reading and listening assignments, as well as related written reports.
3. One test and possible unannounced quizzes.
4. Final research paper on a composer or musical group 5 pages in length, plus bibliography **or** ten minute class presentation on a composer or musical group (both assignments require instructor approval of outline submitted in advance)
5. Complete all reading assignments prior to class.

6. Concert reports: **Due on October 6th and October 27th**
 - a. Complete 2 concert reports of live performances, no rock concerts, mall concerts, operas, musicals or nightclub performances.
 - B. Concert reports will be **typed** - 1 1/2 to 2 pages double-spaced. Attach a copy of program/newspaper advertisement/ticket stub. **NO HANDWRITTEN PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**
7. Test - approximate date: **September 20th**.
8. Class presentation and/or research paper beginning **December 6th**.
Topic due **November 29th** and outline due **December 1st**.

C. MISCELLANEOUS

1. No smoking, food or drink in classroom.
2. one (1) cut (three hours) allowed. Additional absences and/or habitual lateness to class regardless of reason may affect your grade.
3. If you have problems of any kind see the instructor before or after class.

D. IMPORTANT ITEMS

1. If you are late to class, see the instructor at the end of class to remove absent symbol from grade book. Do it at the end of that class, not later.
2. You are responsible for getting materials and assignments given when you are absent. Do not wait until the next class to find out what you missed! Make two friends and exchange phone numbers.
3. Music office Secretary Hours - Monday through Thursday 11am - 3pm.
Telephone: (609) 586-4800 extension 3735

E. TOPICAL OUTLINE

Week

1. Basic overview of course - Why we listen to music and how to listen. Introduction to the **Elements of Music**. Rhythm and rhythmic notation, pulse, meter, tempo, melody, pitch level, phrase, cadence, contour, intervals.
2. **Elements** cont. Harmony, texture, key and tonality, dynamics, form and structure.
3. **The Instruments** - voices, bowed strings, plucked strings.
4. **Instruments** cont. - woodwinds, brass, percussion, the orchestra, chamber ensembles.
5. **The Art of Listening.**
6. **The Middle Ages** - Gregorian Chant, secular songs of the troubadours and trouveres, organum, the origins of polyphony, the motet, Machaut and Landini.
7. **The Renaissance** - The mass, motet, and secular songs; Josquin Desprez, Palestrina; England, Thomas Morely and William Byrd, the madrigal, instrumental music; Gabrieli.
8. **The Baroque Era** - origins, forms, Monteverdi and the development of opera, Purcell; Corelli, Vivaldi and the Concerto Grosso; French Baroque, the overture and dance suite.
9. **Bach and Handel.**
10. **The Classical Era** - sonata form, rondo form, the symphony, chamber music, piano sonata, minuet and trio form; early masters -- Stamitz, Pergolesi.
11. **Haydn and Mozart.**
12. **Beethoven.**
13. **The Early Romantics** - Schubert, Schumann, Berlioz, Mendelssohn, Chopin, Liszt, the Lied, piano music, the symphony, program music.
14. **The Romantic Era** cont. - Wagner, Verdi and the romantic opera; Brahms, Tchaikovsky, Mahler and the post-romantics.
15. **The 20th Century** - Debussy, Stravinsky, Schoenberg and his disciples, Bartok, Ives; the twelve-tone system, the breakdown of tonality, the avant-garde
16. **Final Evaluation**