

Course Syllabus Spring 2023



Course MUSI 1306.001
Course Title Understanding Music
Professor Katrina Rushing, DMA
Term Spring 2023
Meetings MWF 9:00 – 9:50
JO 2.604 (Jonsson Performance Hall)

Professor Information

Professor: Katrina Rushing, DMA
Email: Katrina.Rushing@utdallas.edu
Office: JO 4.628
Office Hours: Tuesday 11:30-12:30, Friday 10:00-10:30, or by appt

TA: Dárē Akinwolé, oluwadaredare.akinwolé@utdallas.edu

TA: Jay Bennett, jason.bennett@utdallas.edu

Email is the best way to contact us! Students are required to use their UTD email to communicate with faculty.

TEXAS CORE CURRICULUM

This course fulfills a requirement in the Texas Core Curriculum as it is offered at UT Dallas. Thus, it shares characteristics and course objectives with other courses that fulfill the same requirement across the university and among other public colleges and universities in Texas. These objectives will be reflected in assignments and exam questions, as well as in the student learning outcomes specific to this course.

If you complete this course successfully, it is fully transferable among all Texas public colleges and universities. This information explains the statewide uniform requirements for General Core Area 050 Creative Arts:

Description:

Courses in this category focus on the appreciation and analysis of creative artifacts and works of the human imagination. Courses involve the synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and enable critical, creative, and innovative communication about works of art.

Objectives:

Critical Thinking (CT)—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information

Communication (COM)—to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication

Teamwork (TW)—to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

Social Responsibility (SR)—to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Pre-requisites, None
Co-requisites

Course Description An introduction to the elements and basic forms of music, with particular emphasis on the composer's creative process and the listener's participation. Methods of analytical and aesthetic appreciation will be applied to musical examples, with corollaries in literature, history, theater, and the visual arts. The course is designed to enable students to increase their understanding of music as a creative art form within historical context and focuses primarily on Western Art Music (European and American music).

Learning Outcomes Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- 1) Define the primary elements of music (pitch, harmony, rhythm, timbre, form, etc.) and identify characteristics of these elements in recorded musical excerpts and in while attending live performances (COM);
- 2) Use appropriate musical terminology to describe style attributes of music from various historical eras and recognize them in recorded excerpts and during live performances (CT);
- 3) Identify and describe genres and sub-genres of Western music in historical context (CT);
- 4) Consider and describe music as a form of expression that may reflect personal creativity and interpretation, and that may be influenced by social, historical, political, religious, and cultural contexts for both the performance and consumption of music (SR);
- 5) Identify principal composers from each era, their basic biographical information, and examples of their principal compositions, exemplified through the required listening examples (COM);
- 6) Identify the composer, title, genre, and stylistic features of required recorded listening excerpts (COM);
- 7) Compare and contrast the musical style and cultural characteristics of different musical compositions or performances, and defend those opinions in collaborative discussion with others (TW);
- 8) Write informed critiques of at least two music performances, using the understanding and insights gained through participation in the course (CT)

Required Texts Kamien, *Music: An Appreciation, 13th ed.*, McGraw Hill

& Materials ISBN10: 1264142935 | ISBN13: 9781264142934

- The eBook includes most of the musical recordings that will be on the listening exams.
- If you prefer a physical book, musical recordings are available online via YouTube, Spotify, etc.
- Students do NOT need Connect access.

Assignments & Academic Calendar

This schedule is subject to change according to the needs of the class and at the discretion of the instructor. Reading assignments, listening guides, discussions, and homework due dates are posted in eLearning.

Week 1 Jan 18-20	Introduction, Course Topics, Elements of Music: Sound
Week 2 Jan 23-27	Elements of Music: Melody, Harmony, Rhythm, Meter, Tempo Introduction to Western Music: Eras of Music History Middle Ages Online Quiz: Elements of Music
Week 3 Jan 30-Feb 3	The Middle Ages The Renaissance
Week 4 Feb 6-10	Early Baroque Era Writing Assignment/ Musical Analysis
Week 5 Feb 13-17	Late Baroque Era: Handel and JS Bach Review EXAM 1: Middle Ages, Renaissance, Early Baroque Era
Week 6 Feb 20-24	Classical Era: Haydn & Mozart What is a symphony? What is a concerto? What is a sonata?
Week 7 Feb 27-Mar 3	Beethoven
Week 8 Mar 6-10	Romantic Era: Character Pieces, Art songs, Virtuosity
<i>March 13-17</i>	<i>Spring Break</i>
Week 9 Mar 20-24	Nationalism; Program Music
Week 10 Mar 27-31	Romantic Era: Opera Review
Week 11 Apr 3-7	Exam 2: Eighteenth-Century Classicism & Nineteenth-Century Romanticism
Week 12 Apr 10-14	The 20 th Century Impressionism
Week 13 Apr 17-21	Expressionism, Neoclassicism, Primitivism
Week 14 Apr 24-30	Minimalism Jazz Living composers
Week 15 May 1-5	Review Concert Review Due
Final Exam week May 8-12	Final Exam: TBA

Exam Schedule

Exam 1: Feb 17
Exam 2: Mar 31
Final Exam: TBA

Course Policies		
Class Materials	In addition to your textbook, handouts and worksheets will be provided through eLearning. These materials may be downloaded during the course; however, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.	
Class Attendance & Participation	Attendance is required in this class. Class sessions will include interactive and team activities that require attendance and active engagement. Excused Absences: If you must miss a class because you are participating in another UT-Dallas approved event, you must provide Dr. Rushing with documentation at least one week in advance and in writing. Documented illness is also an excused absence. Please notify Dr. Rushing immediately to inform her of your absence and provide a doctor's note when you return to classes.	
Grading Criteria	<div>Exams (3): 40%</div> <div>Listening Quizzes (in class): 20%</div> <div>Attendance/Homework/Listening Guides/Group Discussions: 25%</div> <div>Analysis project & Concert Review: 15%</div> <div>TOTAL 100%</div>	<i>Your lowest 2 homework grades will be dropped when calculating your overall average.</i>
	Final Grades <div><div>A+ = 97–100</div><div>A = 93–96</div><div>A– = 90–92</div><div>B+ = 87–89</div><div>B = 83–86</div><div>B– = 80–82</div><div>C = 73–76</div><div>C– = 70–72</div><div>D+ = 67–69</div><div>D = 63–66</div><div>D– = 60–62</div><div>F = 0-59</div></div>	
Special Projects	1. Musical Analysis: Choose a piece of music that you enjoy – ANY type of music the appeals to you! (Pop, rock, country R&B, Movie/game music, classical, indie, etc.) Follow the guide in eLearning and complete the musical analysis. 2. Concert Review: Attend a LIVE concert of CLASSICAL music and complete the Concert Review form. The concert may be at UT Dallas or any professional music group in DFW. You will be provided with information about numerous on-campus performances as well as local symphony orchestras, operas, chorale groups, etc.	
Make-up Exams	Make-up exams may be scheduled in advance for those students who must miss a scheduled exam due to another UT-Dallas approved event. Make-up exams following an exam date are only permitted in certain circumstances. These circumstances include a serious documented illness or a serious emergency. The implementation of a make-up exam in these instances is at the sole discretion of the professor.	

Late Work	<p>All assignments, projects, and exams must be completed ON TIME!</p> <p>Unless you have made prior arrangements with your instructor, any missed homework, quizzes, and exams will receive a 0. Late homework is NOT accepted. Exceptions can be made in the case of a genuine emergency or significant illness if written documentation (e.g. a note from a health care provider, an accident report etc.) is shown to the instructor within one work of the due date.</p>
Classroom Citizenship	<p>The use of technology in the classroom is limited to the use of laptop computers and tablets for joining Microsoft Teams meetings and the use of laptops, tablets, or cell phones to respond to in-class polls. The use of personal devices for any other purpose is strictly prohibited. If you and/or your device are disruptive to the class environment, you will be asked to leave the room and will be marked absent for the day. Additionally, any student using one or more device for activity not assigned by the instructor (texting, social media, email, games, streaming, web-surfing, etc.), will be marked absent from class.</p>
Class Recordings	<p>Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.</p>
Comet Creed	<p><i>"As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do."</i></p>
Academic Support Resources	<p>Please go to http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources.</p> <p>Following federal law, UTD arranges academic accommodations for eligible students with documented disabilities. For accommodations in this class, the student will present a form to the instructor from the Office of Student AccessAbility (OSA). For additional information see http://www.utdallas.edu/studentaccess/</p>
UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures	<p><i>The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please review the sections regarding the credit/no credit grading option and withdrawal from class.</i></p> <p>Please go to http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies for these policies.</p>

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.