



**MUSI-1306-341I3-SP2025**  
**Music Appreciation**  
**(Spring 2025)**  
**Online**

**Instructor Information:** Ms. Melissa Dightman, mdightman@com.edu

**Student hours and location:** Online

**Required Textbook/Materials:** Listen, 10th Edition, Joseph Kerman and Gary Tomlinson, published by W. W. Norton (Note: previous editions of this text are by another publisher and will no longer give you access to the course site.)

**IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ IN DETAIL - ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENT**

Please also review the last page of this syllabus for due dates  
Important: Please read below in detail – additional assignment requirement  
Please also review the last page of this syllabus due dates.

Important Additional Assignment: Important: You will need the student set number I provided in Read Me First and my introductory email, along with a code from Norton (or your bookstore) to get to the online quizzes. You can choose your option; no matter what you will need access to the publisher's Inquizitive site to do most of the coursework, especially the quizzes.

The 3rd option is highly recommended for online coursework. 1. Paperback with access to Inquizitive or 2.3- hole punch with access to Inquizitive or 3. Ebook with access to Inquizitive: purchased at <https://digital.wwnorton.com/listen10>

There are bound to be a few mistakes here and there in the text. Please let me know of any problems you encounter so I can try to correct them and/or compensate your grade.

**Course Description:** This course is designed for students with no previous training in music that wish to explore the meaning and forms of music: classical, romantic, contemporary, jazz, folk, pop. The emphasis is on learning how to listen to and appreciate music. Attendance at three out-of-class concerts required. Out-of-class listening required. May be used for fine art credit. Benefits: In a nutshell, we will be listening to a variety of great music while developing listening skills and vocabulary for increased understanding and enjoyment. This is an academic class with specific assignments and goals, yet you may very well find it more fun than work – after all, who doesn't love music? This course will introduce the non-music major to (1) musical analysis, (2) a summary of the historical development of European musical heritage, (3) American music, and (4) the world's cultural diversity as seen through music.

**Course requirements:** Reading and quiz assignments will be due approximately daily/weekly. Don't

panic, you can get way ahead and many finish this course early. The chapters are short, and so are the quizzes. Discussions are easy to do but designed to be thought-provoking and interactive. DO panic if you get behind and catch up! I am doing something that students told me worked well: if you notice the available dates of the assessments, you will see that they are all open until a specific time during the last few weeks, but please go by the Calendar, if you get behind there will be no extensions beyond that final date—and no incompletes for this course.

1. Read your textbook whether hard copy or online. If you are really in a hurry during part of the course, focus on underlined terms and major headings. Be sure to read the biographies along the way! Also, you will really need to listen (hey, that's the title of your book!) since even some of the reading questions will make no sense to you otherwise. Three hours per week is often more than sufficient for doing all the coursework, but naturally this varies according to your reading/writing levels and prior music experience.

2. When you are ready, take the graded Listening/Reading Quizzes by clicking on the Inquisitive icon at Norton digital (these are like games you play and you can keep going until your score is what you want!!), and try to go by the Calendar schedule. If you get behind, catch up by the final week or you will forfeit grades.

3. Complete the online Discussions, including responding to your classmates as directed.

### **Learning Outcomes**

This course is part of the core curriculum and therefore satisfies our Creative Arts requirement. The following competencies are part of the core, and are listed below with information on their inclusion and means of assessment in this course as mandated by the state's Coordinating Board:

1)Critical Thinking (CT): Required (SLO #1—see above section) Assessment of your creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information is done through our final Discussion project in which you are to sum up by giving your rationale for choosing a favorite and least favorite work from the style periods studied during the semester.

2)Teamwork: Required (SLO #2) Assessment of your ability to consider different points of view and to work with others effectively to support a shared purpose or goal will be made through our Discussion project on the elements of music in which the class members work together to create effective definitions of the art form.

3)Communication Skills: Required (SLO #3) Your ability to develop, interpret, and express ideas through written communication is assessed through three concert reports.

4)Social Responsibility: Required (SLO #4) Intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities is assessed on a special Discussion in the Concerts area on concert decorum awareness and how it varies widely according to contexts.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus during the semester to make things clearer or to add additional opportunities for points but will notify the class in such cases.

**Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:** As described above, you will be evaluated on work by listening/reading quizzes, discussions, and reports.

75% Quizzes – over text and listening examples. Listening Quizzes are of course different from Reading Quizzes; a few chapters have no listening required and so you will have just one quiz then. Your semester quiz grade is calculated from a total of all points. (I will add points to compensate for any questions that everyone misses due to any mistakes made by the publisher or me, plus the entire class will be curved if necessary to create a perfect total by the top student or students.)

15% Discussion participation (0-5 points each discussion).

15% Final Music Project- Each student will choose a musical artist that we have discussed in class, or one they are passionate about themselves. They will then develop a creative assignment (album review, biography, video, PowerPoint) to highlight the chosen artist. The final day of classes will be the deadline to submit your completed project to the class. Musical artists must be approved by the professor.

### **Grading Scale**

90-100=A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C, 60-69=D, 0-59=F

**Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy:** Late Work and Make-Up assignments are up to professor discretion and case by case.

**Attendance Policy:** Because of the nature of your class being asynchronous (online), attendance will be recorded on completion of assignments in a timely manner (the due dates).

**Communicating with your instructor:** ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. (Faculty may add additional statements requiring monitoring and communication expectations via D2L or other LMS)

**Academic Dishonesty:** Any incident of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams is an extremely serious offense and will result in a grade of zero on that exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate disciplinary action. **PLAGIARISM:** Plagiarism is using someone else’s words or ideas and claiming them as your own – including using AI programs to “create” documents for you.

**Plagiarism** is a very serious offense. Plagiarism includes paraphrasing someone else’s words without giving proper citation, copying directly from a website, and pasting it into your paper, using someone else’s words without quotation marks. I always encourage students to use grammar learning programs, (such as Turnitin – or Grammarly), to help you - this is not the same as using an AI program to create and/or write a document. Any assignment containing any plagiarized material will receive a grade of zero and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate disciplinary action.

**Student Concerns:** If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please

contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Fine Arts Department Chair, Dr. Kristina Jantz at 409-933-8255 or [kjantz@com.edu](mailto:kjantz@com.edu)

Course outline:

Week 1: Course Navigation, Introduction to Listening Resources  
Discussion on Musical Preferences Readings and quizzes on basic elements/vocabulary

Week 2: Assignment and quiz: melody, harmony, tonality/modality, instrumentation  
Assignment and quiz: form  
Listening quiz on all elements

Week 3: Assignment and quizzes: Middle Ages  
Assignment and quizzes: Renaissance  
Assignment and quizzes: Baroque (early)  
Assignment and quizzes: Baroque (late)

Week 4: Assignment and quizzes: Baroque Instrumental Music  
Assignment and quizzes: Baroque Vocal Music

Week 5: Assignment and quizzes: Background: The Enlightenment  
Assignment and quizzes: The Classical Symphony

Week 6: Assignment and quizzes: Other Genres of the Classic Era  
Assignment and quizzes: Background: Romanticism  
Assignment and quizzes: Early Romantic Composers

Week 7: Assignment and quizzes: Beethoven  
Assignment and quizzes: Music after Beethoven

Week 8: Assignment and quizzes: Opera in the 1800's  
Assignment and quizzes: Late Romantic Composers

Week 9: Assignment and quizzes: Background: Modernism  
Assignment and quizzes: Early Modern Composers  
Assignment and quizzes: Other styles after 1900  
Discussion on Meaning of Music

Week 10: Assignment and quizzes: Music of the late 1900's  
Assignment and quizzes: Music in the U.S.  
Discussion on musical selections heard during the semester  
Readings, Listening, and Quizzes: Global (Multicultural) Perspective

Week 11- 13 Discussion board

Week 14-16 Check in online and work on Final Project

## **Institutional Policies and Guidelines**

**Grade Appeal Process:** Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook [https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student\\_Handbook\\_2024-2025\\_v2.pdf](https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2024-2025_v2.pdf). *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.*

**Academic Success & Support Services:** College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

**ADA Statement:** Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: [AccessibilityServices@com.edu](mailto:AccessibilityServices@com.edu)

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

**Textbook Purchasing Statement:** A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

**Withdrawal Policy:** Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week session is February 26. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 21. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is April 30.

**FN Grading:** The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

**Early Alert Program:** The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

### **Resources to Help with Stress:**

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click

here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at [deanofstudents@com.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@com.edu) or [communityresources@com.edu](mailto:communityresources@com.edu).

**Nondiscrimination Statement:**

**The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.**