



**MUSI 1306-101CL**  
**Music Appreciation**  
**Summer 2023**  
**M, T, W, Th, 12:00-2:15pm**

**Instructor Information:** Dr. Steven Termini; [stermini@com.edu](mailto:stermini@com.edu); (409) 933-8943

**Student hours and location:** M-Th 11:40-11:55am, F-111

**Required Textbook/Materials:** Music, An Appreciation, Brief 10th edition.  
Roger Kamien, McGrawHill: NY

**Course Description:** This course is designed for students with no previous training in music who wish to explore the meaning, history, and structural forms of music: classical, romantic, contemporary, jazz, folk, etc. The emphasis is on learning how to listen to, and appreciate, music at a deeper level. Students will explore a wide variety of music—primarily music of the Western Hemisphere—while developing the specific vocabulary and listening skills that are most conducive to increased understanding, insight, and appreciation. This course will introduce non music majors 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 such music.

**Course requirements:** Upon successful completion, students should be able to:

- 1) Identify styles of historic musical periods including current musical trends. (See Critical Thinking objective below.)
- 2) Demonstrate through written communication your ability to analyze elements of music, especially genres, melody, rhythm, harmony, form, and expression. (See Communication Skills objective below.)
- 3) Show effective teamwork through participatory group activity. (See Teamwork objective below.)
- 4) Demonstrate awareness of concert decorum appropriate to the venue/occasion/culture. (See Social Responsibility objective below.)
- 5) Demonstrate awareness of significant composers and compositions.

**Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:** A student cannot make an 'A' in the class if they do not complete and submit ALL assignments by announced deadlines, even if they seem to have a high-enough average to skip an assignment or two. Students will not only receive a zero on any unsubmitted assignments, but even if their class average would ordinarily remain an 'A' (even after a zero was averaged in), their overall grade will nevertheless be lowered to 'B' (or to a 'C' if it were currently a 'B', etc.). The general grading scheme is as follows:

<b>Final Average:</b>	Class attendance	25% of overall grade
	Exams (Quizzes)	30% of overall grade
	Midterm Exam and Final Exam	30% of overall grade
	Concert Review Assignments	15% of overall grade

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

A Superior achievement of course objectives.

B Outstanding achievement of course objectives.

C Achievement of minimum course objectives. (Not recommended in your major!)

D Marginal achievement of course objectives.

F Failure to achieve course objectives.

W Withdrawal on or before the “W” date as specified in the College Calendar. However, PLEASE NOTE, this instructor does not award incompletes for this compact summer course. If you do not complete the course, you will regretfully have to enroll again, and start over.

**Attendance Grade:** Students begin with an attendance grade of 100. A student who misses a class session (without having given the professor prior warning of an approved and legitimate reason to miss) will receive an ‘absent’ for that class, and a five-point deduction from their attendance grade. Each unexcused late arrival to class results in a three-point deduction from that attendance grade. Multiple ‘absents’ or ‘lates’ do indeed affect a student’s final grade. Decisions as to whether an absence is justifiable or not are subject to the professor’s weighed judgment. Personal concerts, vacations, or work conflicts do not constitute excused absences. Please make arrangements in advance to fully-reserve (or “block off”) all the required class times, Monday through Thursday, during the entirety of the five-week course.

The instructor reserves the right to alter a student's final grade based on evident effort and attitude during the semester.

**Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy:** This is a highly-condensed class, and make-up assignments/exams are not ordinarily allowed. *Missing an Exam for any reason without prior arrangement (allowed only in highly-exceptional circumstances), will result in a 0 (zero) on that Exam. If sickness is the cause for missing the exam, students must provide an official written doctor’s excuse to the professor before any credit will be given.* Those who must miss (only in highly exceptional circumstances) still have to submit a six-page essay (hand-written, not typed; topic of professor's choice) in addition to completing the Exam in order to receive any credit. Failure to submit the essay by the agreed-upon date will result in a 0 (zero) on the Exam. Personal vacations, concerts, visits from family and friends, failure to wake-up on time for whatever reason, and failure to get a ride to school (with the availability of carpooling, taxis, and public transport now in the area) do not count as just causes for missing a quiz or exam. No exceptions.

**Attendance Policy:** Students are not permitted a set number of absences. Excessive absenteeism or tardiness may result in a student failing the course. More than two absences during this highly-condensed summer course is considered excessive, especially since each day missed during this summer course is equivalent to missing three or more days during a Fall or Spring semester. If a student decides to withdraw from the class (usually as a last resort), it is their responsibility to do so ‘officially’ through the Admissions Office before the drop date found in the college's Academic Calendar. It is not the professor's responsibility to initiate a 'drop', nor does it constitute a 'drop' if the student merely stops attending class. Students that do this will simply continue to rack-up unexcused absences and receive zeros for any missed assignments. A Final Grade of **F** will be

submitted for that student at the end of the semester. In the state of Texas, students are only allowed 6 W's during the course of their entire academic career. Attend all class sessions, and arrive on time.

**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 statement requiring monitoring and communication expectations via D2L or other LMS)

The following competencies are part of the course, 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) **Communication Skills: Required (SLO #2)**  
Your ability to develop, interpret, and express ideas through written communication is assessed through concert reports.
- 3) **Teamwork: Required (SLO #3)**  
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 definition of music in which the class members work together to create effective definitions of music.
- 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.

<b>Student Learner Outcome</b>	<b>Maps to Core Objective</b>	<b>Assessed via this Assignment</b>
Identify styles of historic musical periods and current musical trends.	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Discussion Project, Quizzes
Demonstrate through written communication your ability to analyze elements of music, especially genres, melody, rhythm, harmony, form, and expression.	Communication Skills (CS1)	Concert Reports
Show effective teamwork through participatory group activity.	Teamwork (TW)	Discussion Project

Demonstrate awareness of concert decorum appropriate to the venue/occasion/culture.	Social Responsibility	Discussion Project
Demonstrate awareness of significant composers and compositions.	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Discussion Project, Quizzes

**Academic Dishonesty:** Any incident of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with college policy. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams or plagiarism (or the use of ChatGTP or other A.I. systems to write research papers) is an extremely serious offense and will result in a grade of zero on that exam and the student will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct for disciplinary action.

**Student Concerns:** If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact the professor using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with the professor, you continue to have questions, please contact the Department Chair, Dr. Paul Boyd, at (409) 933-8342, or pboyd@com.edu

**Course outline:** Please Note, with such an immense amount of material to be surveyed in such a compact amount of time, the class outline must necessarily remain fluid. Dates of Tests and other assignments will be announced during regularly-scheduled class times, and at least two class sessions ahead of time. The Final Exam will take place on the last day of class.

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Week 1:

Elements  
The Middle Ages & Renaissance

Week 2:

The Baroque Period  
The Classical Period

Week 3:

The Romantic Period  
The Romantic Period

Week 4:

The Twentieth Century and Beyond  
Jazz

Week 5:

Nonwestern Music  
Final Exam

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## 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 [Student Handbook 2022-2023\\_v4.pdf \(com.edu\)](#). *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 at 409-933-8919 or [klachney@com.edu](mailto:klachney@com.edu). The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the 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> 5-week session is June 30. The last date to withdraw from the 10-week session is July 31. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 5-week session is August 4.

**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).

The professor reserves the right to update this syllabus, and will alert students of any changes during normally-scheduled class sessions.