



MUSI-1310-051I4 (3945)
American Music
Summer 2025
June 2 – July 3, 2025 : Online

Instructor Information:

Name: Mr. Timothy Kochen

Email: tkochen@com.edu

Phone: (832) 971-8709

Office Hours: Thursday 6-7 (ALWAYS email first)

Student hours and location: Fully Online (asynchronous)

Required Textbook/Materials:

An Introduction to America's Music, Third Edition
Richard Crawford and Larry Hamberlin
W. W. Norton & Company, Inc.
ISBN: 978-0-393-66828-5

I recommend using the Ebook. You will need access to the online resources.

Course Description: (catalog description):

This course is open to all students and is designed to give the student a general survey of the principal styles, form, composers and their works of American music including blues, ragtime, jazz, and contemporary art music. Out-of-class listening required. May be used for the fine art credit for education majors. Prerequisite: CPT Reading 62/ READ 0340.

In addition, this course meets the College's fine arts core requirement is open to all students and is designed to give the student a general survey of the principal styles, forms, composers and their works of American music including blues, ragtime, jazz, and contemporary art music. Out-of-class listening required. May be used for the fine art credit for education majors. Prerequisite: TSI 346 reading or equivalent developmental course.

Course requirements: (including description of any special projects or assignments)

Students are expected to work through each course module including reading, journal assignments, discussions, quizzes, and module exams. In addition, students will do one paper (concert report) and a group project (groups to be assigned later in the semester).

Important note: You are not allowed to stop and restart the timed assessments. They MUST be completed in a single sitting.

You are allowed two attempts on each of the quizzes, and the higher grade is the one you will receive.

All assessments are timed!

- Quizzes are 45 minutes.
- Module exams are 90 minutes.

You are allowed only one attempt on module exams.

Be prepared for technical issues while taking assessments. If you have a problem with blackboard or your internet you need to contact support and/or myself right away. I will help as best I can. Don't start any timed quiz or exam unless you are certain of a good connection. You should never try to take them on your phone.

Writing in an academic fashion:

When answering questions, journal prompts, or any other kind of writing assignment, you must write as if I do not know the question.

Do not begin any answers with yes or no. You must thoroughly explain your position and support it with examples or facts.

You must use one of two formats. You may number your answers and separate them with a space or you may indent and use paragraph format. Either is acceptable as long as you follow the previous instructions.

It is important to write in an "academic" fashion. Do not use text speak or any kind of short hand. You must use complete sentences, proper grammar, and punctuation. How you speak to your friends is not how you should write. Think of how something might be written in a text book for a college class.

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula: (methods of evaluation to be employed to include a variety of means to evaluate student performance)

Grading Formula and Course Requirements:

- 15 Journal Entries and participation in 2 discussions: 25% (**This may change**)
- 20 Chapter Quizzes 20%
- 5 Unit Exams: 40% (Tests will be multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the blank, and essay. For each minute you take over the allotted time, 1 point will be deducted from your score.)
- Concert Report: 10%
- Group Project: 5%

Grading Scale:

90-100 points = A

80-90 points = B

70-80 points = C

60-70 points = D

Below 60 points = F

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy:

You will be allowed 1 late break for 1 journal entry and 1 unit exam (excluding the Unit exam). Your late break allows you to submit your assignment/exam up to 1 week past the original due date with no penalty. It is your responsibility to email me your decision to use a late break.

• Journal Entries: I will take journal entries up to 1 week past the original due date (excluding Journal #15). For each calendar day the assignment is late, you will lose 2 points from your score.

• Unit Exams: For each minute you take over the allotted time, 1 point will be deducted from your score. Late submissions must adhere to the late break policy listed above.

Attendance Policy:

Students at College of the Mainland are expected to attend every session of all classes for which they are registered. Students are not permitted a set number of absences or “cuts.” Absences are not classified as “excused” or “unexcused.” It is expected that you will login to your class a minimum of 1-2 times a week. Excessive absences may result in your being dropped from the course.

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)

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Students will evaluate a given musical composition.	Critical Thinking Skills	Exam
2. Prepare multiple journal entries.	Communication Skills	Journals
3. Students will choose several journal subjects and will comment/discuss each other's	Teamwork	Classroom performance Discussion
4. Demonstrate awareness of online decorum appropriate to the discussion boards	Social Responsibility	Discussion

Academic Dishonesty: (Describe your academic dishonesty policy and state consequences if it is violated)

Any incident of academic policy 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 discipline 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 Dr. Kristina Jantz at kjantz@com.edu.

Course outline:

Start Date 06/02/25 End Date 07/03/25

ALL WORK MUST BE SUBMITTED BY 07/01/25 AT MIDNIGHT

Assignments are due Sunday by midnight at the end of each week.

Week 1: Course Basics, Quiz Read Unit 1, Journal Entry #1 Due, Unit 1 Quiz Due

Read Unit 2, Journal Entry #2 Due, Unit 2 Quiz Due

Read Unit 3, Journal Entry #3 Due, Unit 3 Quiz Due

Read Unit 4, Journal Entry #4 Due, Unit 4 Quiz Due, Module I Exam Due

Week 2: Read Units 5-6, Journal Entry #5 Due, Unit 5&6 Quiz Due

Read Units 7-8, Journal Entry #6 Due, Units 7&8 Quiz Due, Module II Exam Due

Read Units 9-10, 14: Journal Entry #7 Due, Units 9&10 Quizzes Due

Read Unit 11, Journal Entry #8 Due, Unit 11 Quiz Due

Week 3: Read Unit 12, Journal Entry #9 Due, Unit 12 Quiz Due, Module III Exam Due

Read Unit 1, Journal Entry #10 Due, Unit 13 Quiz Due,

Read Unit 14, Journal Entry #11 Due, Unit 14 Quiz Due

Read Unit 15-16, Journal Entry #12 Due, Units 15&16 Quiz Due, Module IV Exam Due

Week 4: Read Unit 17, Journal Entry #13 Due, Unit 17 Quiz Due,

Read Unit 18, Journal Entry #14 Due, Unit 18 Quiz Due

Read Units 19-20, Journal Entry #15 Due, Unit 19&20 Quiz Due

Module V Exam Due

Group Project Due TBA

Concert Report Due TBA

This is a 4 week course. There are V modules and a total of 20 units. If you follow the calendar you will keep pace and complete the materials on time.

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. *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

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 1st 5-week session is June 30. The last date to withdraw from the 10-week session is July 29. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 5-week session is August 1.

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 or 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.