



MUSI-1306-153H0
Music Appreciation
Fall 2025
Saturday class. Hybrid course.
Meets 8/23, 9/6, 9/13, 9/20, 9/27 and 10/4/25

Instructor Information: Marinna Carmichael, Adjunct Music Professor;
mcarmichael3@com.edu

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.

Please use the “Messages” feature in D2L Brightspace to communicate with me, or, alternatively, my COM email address.

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.) Make sure to check the How to access the course text book section on the START HERE tab on D2L the first week of classes. It will give you a code and directions on how to access to the book and the activities.

Course Description: Understanding music through the study of cultural periods, major composers, and musical elements, illustrated with audio recordings and live performances. Course does not apply to a music major degree. This course, which meets the College's fine arts core requirement 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. Prerequisite: TSIA2 ELAR <945 with Diagnostic 5-6 and Essay 0-4, <945 with Diagnostic 4 and Essay 0-8, or >945 with Essay 0-4, or equivalent developmental course with a grade of "C" or better.

Course Requirements:

1. Attend all 6 class meetings.
2. Take the Listening/Reading Quizzes via the InQuizitive icon at Norton Digital. These are game-like and allow unlimited attempts.
3. Participate in the 3 discussions on Brightspace and reply to classmates as directed.
4. Attend 3 online concerts and submit reports (details in Brightspace).

Note: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus during the semester. The instructor will notify the class in such cases.

Performance Analysis Reports: You'll complete 3 performance analysis reports in Brightspace. Each report will cover music from a different historical era. Online concert options are provided in the assignment details, along with instructions and rubrics. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me.

Format Requirements

- Length: 1–2 pages, double-spaced
- Font: 12-point
- Submit your report via the Performance Analysis Reports assignment area in Brightspace
- Submit reports as a Word document (.doc/.docx)

Originality & Plagiarism

- Do not copy and paste from online sources.
- Plagiarized work will receive an automatic F and may result in disciplinary action.

Helpful Resources

- A Concert Cheat Sheet is provided to help you take notes during the performance.
- The Virtual Librarian (linked under *Web Resources* in Brightspace) can assist with research through the COM Library.
- The Speaking, Reading, and Writing Center offers free tutoring—both in person and online—for writing, reading, and presentations.

Grading Formula/Scale: As described above, you will be evaluated on work in listening/reading quizzes in InQuizitive, reports, Brightspace discussions, and attendance at class meetings.

45% Quizzes – over textbook readings 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.

30% Performance Analysis Reports – 3 reports on different assigned online concerts. Each report receives 0-10 points.

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

10% Attendance

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

0-59=F

Make-Up/Late Work: Work completed after the final course deadline will not count. Incompletes are not given in this course.

Extra Credit: I will provide you with a list of upcoming concerts in the area. If you attend one, I will raise your lowest grade (excluding the InQuizitive grade) by two letter grades at the end of the course. Just bring me proof that you attended via a ticket or a program. Remember that it must be a concert from my list, however, I may accept another concert if you make the case for it.

Course Outline:

Week 1: Elements of Music

InQuizitive Chapters 1-3

Discussion 1 – 8/24/25

Week 2: Elements of Music

InQuizitive Chapters 4 and 5

Week 3: Early Music

InQuizitive Chapters 6-8

Discussion 2 – 9/7/25

Week 4: Baroque to Enlightenment

InQuizitive Chapters 9-12

Performance Analysis Report 1 – 9/14/25

Week 5: Classical Period

InQuizitive Chapters 13-15

Performance Analysis Report 2 – 10/21/25

Week 6: Romantic Period

InQuizitive Chapters 16-18

Discussion 3 – 10/28/25

Week 7: Modern Era

InQuizitive Chapters 19-21

Performance Analysis Report 3 – 10/5/25

Week 8: Jazz and more

InQuizitive Chapters 22-24

Attendance Policy: This course meets in person on six occasions, and attendance at these meetings accounts for 10% of your final grade. Students who need to miss more than one of the six meetings will be asked to withdraw from the course. Tardiness is also taken seriously—arriving late two or three times will translate to an absence in the gradebook, depending on the circumstances. For the online portion of this hybrid class, attendance is defined as active participation in the course, i.e. completing Brightspace and InQuizitive assignments on time.

Core Objectives: 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.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Identify styles of historic musical periods and current musical trends	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	InQuizitive quizzes, Performance Analysis Reports
2. Show effective teamwork through participatory group activity.	Teamwork (TW)	Discussions
3. Demonstrate through written communication your ability to analyze elements of music, especially genres, melody, rhythm, harmony, form, and expression.	Communication Skills (CS1)	Performance Analysis Reports
4. Demonstrate awareness of concert decorum appropriate to the venue/occasion/culture.	Social Responsibility (SR)	Discussions

Academic Dishonesty: Disciplinary actions will be taken for students who exhibit disorderly conduct, cheat on exams, submit plagiarized work (see below), or are involved in collusion (helping others cheat or plagiarize) as defined in the Student Handbook under the heading, “Discipline and Penalties.” The maximum penalty imposed for violations will be an F in the course. The student will

also be referred to the Dean of Students for further disciplinary action. Please read through the “Standards of Student Conduct” in the Student Handbook for a more complete discussion of these issues and your rights and responsibilities.

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 an 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. Avoiding Plagiarism-resources: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/>
<http://cmsw.mit.edu/writing-and-communication-center/avoiding-plagiarism/>

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, Fine Arts Department Chair, at 409-933-8255 or kjantz@com.edu.

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/student-handbook.html> *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 accommodation(s) 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 8-week session is October 1. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 14. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is November 25.

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.