



MUSI 1306-054I2
Music Appreciation
Fall 2025 (2nd 8-week)
October 13-December 4
ONLINE

Instructor Information: Mr. Ethan Fasnacht, efasnacht@com.edu, (409) 933-8946

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. Generally, I answer all inquiries within 48 hours or sooner.

Course Textbook (Required):

Introduction to Music Appreciation, by Bethanie Hansen, David Whitehouse and Cathy Silverman. Edited by Kimberly Jacobs. The link to the book is already on the Content tab on D2L.

COURSE DESCRIPTION/BENEFITS:

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. Login to Brightspace regularly to complete course assignments.
2. Take the Listening/Reading Quizzes.
3. Participate in the 3 discussions on Brightspace and reply to classmates as directed.
4. Complete and submit 3 performance analysis reports (details in Brightspace).

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, discussions, and reports.

10% Quizzes from the course textbook found in the INQUIZITIVE link in Brightspace
30% Discussion participation
60% Performance Analysis Reports

GRADING SCALE

| | |
|---|---|
| A | 450 to 500 points earned |
| B | 400 to 449.99points earned |
| C | 350 to 399.99 points earned |
| D | 300 to 349.99 points earned |
| F | below 299.99 points earned |
| W | Withdrawal on or before the “W” date as specified in the College Calendar.* |

MAKE-UP/LATE WORK: The final due date are final. Incompletes are not given in this course. Work completed after the final deadline will not count. Do not wait until late in the semester to “catch up” since you may encounter difficulties that we will not have enough time to work through together.

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

COURSE OUTLINE:

Note: The following is a general outline of the schedule as planned. Schedule is subject to change.



Course Schedule

- Week 1: Course Navigation, Introduction to Music appreciation and basic elements. Quiz and Discussion 1 on Musical Preferences
- Week 2: Read chapter 2, pages 29-57 from the book. Check presentation about the chapter and take the quiz.
- Week 3: Read Chapter 3 pages 62-88 from the book. Check presentation about the chapter and take the quiz. Discussion 2, reply to a least two classmates' posts.
- Week 4: Read Chapter 4 pages 99-108 from the book. Check presentation about the chapter and take the quiz.
- Week 5: Read Chapter 5 pages 117-144 from the book. Performance analysis report 1.
- Week 6: Read Chapter 6 pages 154-174 from the book. Check presentation about the chapter and take the quiz.
- Week 7: Read Chapter 7 pages 182-201 from the book. Check presentation about the chapter and take the quiz. Performance analysis report 1.
- Week 8: Read Chapter 7 pages 207-260 from the book.
Discussion 3 and Performance analysis report.

Reminders and Due Dates

- Discussion 1 – 10/15/25 (Peer responses due end of day 10/19/25)
- Discussion 2 – 10/29/25 (Peer responses due end of day 11/02/25)
- Performance Analysis 1 -11/13/25
- Performance Analysis 2 – 11/28/25
- Performance Analysis 3- **12/02/25**
- *Discussion 3 – **12/02/25** (Peer responses due end of day **12/04/25**)



ATTENDANCE POLICY: For an online class, attendance is defined as the active participation in the course, not just logging into the learning management system. Make sure that you complete your assignments on time and submitting the discussions and concert reports before the due date. The course is designed to have a weekly mechanism for student participation, which can be documented by records in D2L of completion of assignments, and the discussions and concert reports.

STUDENT LEARNER OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion, you will be able to:

- 1) Identify musical works and elements in a variety of styles. (See Critical Thinking objective below.)
- 2) Analyze the elements and structures of music using appropriate terminology - especially genres, melody, rhythm, harmony, form, and expression. (See Teamwork objective below.)
- 3) Critically evaluate the influence of social, political, technological, and/or cultural ideas on music. (See Communication Skills objective below.)
- 4) Articulate the significance of music as an art form within historical, cultural and social contexts. (See Social Responsibility objective below.)



CORE OBJECTIVES

| 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) | Discussion Project |
| 2. Show effective teamwork through participatory group activity. | Teamwork (TW) | Discussion Project |
| 3. Demonstrate through written communication your ability to analyze elements of music, especially genres, melody, rhythm, harmony, form, and expression. | Communication Skills (CS1) | Concert Reports |
| 4. Demonstrate awareness of concert decorum appropriate to the venue/occasion/culture. | Social Responsibility | Discussion Project |



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 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/>

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.