

**Sul Ross State University
Music Appreciation (FA 1302)
Fall 2015**

Professor: Mary-Elizabeth Thompson, D.M.A.

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Office: FAB 206A

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Class Meetings: T/Th 11:00am-12:15pm, Briscoe Administration 305

Office Hours: TBA

Description

This course develops music appreciation through an exploration of music from antiquity to modern times. This course will familiarize students with musical styles, pieces, composers, and instruments as they developed through each major historical period.

Objectives

No prior musical training is required for this course.

After completing this course students should be able to:

- use basic terminology to describe musical elements including pitch, rhythm, melody, harmony, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, and form
- demonstrate a broad knowledge of musical time periods by including examples of major works and composers
- implement critical thinking skills in order to identify and discuss the roots of current popular music and trends
- critique live musical performances using appropriate terminology to describe the performance, repertoire, and characteristics of the performer

Required Materials

- Text: The Enjoyment of Music, Twelfth Shorter Edition
Authors: Kristine Forney, Andrew Dell'Antonio, Joseph Machlis
ISBN: 978-0-393-93638-4

Class Attendance and Participation

- Absences will be excused for medical emergencies or serious personal conflicts, but prior approval or documentation is required.
- A tardy of no more than 10 minutes will equate to one third of an absence.
- A tardy of more than 10 minutes will be recorded as an absence. (I still encourage you to come to class if you'll be more than 10 minutes late- you will be less likely to miss information that way.)
- Please call or email if you are going to be absent or tardy to class. Call *prior* to the start of class.
- Students with nine unexcused absences will be dropped from the class with an F as per university policy.

Grading Procedures

Your final grade will be determined by the following formula:

1. Attendance and participation 10%
2. Exams (midterm and final) 30% (15% each)
3. Assignments 20%
4. Concert Reviews 20%
5. Final Project 20%

--No late assignments will be accepted without a doctor's note or professor's prior approval.

Concert Review Assignment

- Attend **two** (or all) concerts given during the semester and write a concert review for each.
- Due date: **December 1**
- Requirements:
 - Each concert review *after the two required* can replace **one** low *assignment* grade. (Grades for exams or the final project cannot be replaced.)
 - You are required to attend the *entire* concert. At the end, I will sign your program. This must be turned in with your concert review.
 - You will write a 500-750 word review of the concert you attended. Include what ensemble(s) performed, what music was performed, and your opinion of the performance. There are no right or wrong answers, but the papers must be reflective and insightful.
 - The paper should typed, 12-point Times New Roman, double-spaced.
 - A list of concerts that you can attend will be provided at the beginning of the semester.

Professional Communication Policy

- All communication with me should be done either in person, by office phone, or through email.
- You are expected to check your email on a regular basis.

Students with Disabilities

- Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartz in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-171, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8203. Email: mschwartz@sulross.edu.

Tentative Weekly Course Outline (Subject to change)

1. Week of August 24

Syllabus and Introduction; Part 1 (Chapters 1-3; Chapter 9; *Halt, or I'll Play Vivaldi* discussion)

2. Week of August 31

Part 1 (Chapters 10-12; Chapter 8; Chapter 5-7)

3. Week of September 7

Part 2 (Prelude 2 and Chapters 13-16)

4. Week of September 14

Part 2 (Chapters 17-19)

5. Week of September 21

Part 3 (Prelude 3 and Chapters 20-23)

6. Week of September 28

Part 3 (Chapters 24-27)

7. Week of October 5

Part 4 (Prelude 4 and Chapters 28-31)

8. Week of October 12

Part 4 (Chapters 32-35)

9. Week of October 19

Midterm Exam; Part 5 (Prelude 5 and Chapters 36-42)

10. Week of October 26

Part 5 (Chapters 43-51)

11. Week of November 2
Part 6 (Prelude 6, Chapters 52-56)

12. Week of November 9
Part 6 (Chapters 57-61)

13. Week of November 16
Part 7 (Prelude 7 and Chapters 62-65)

14. Week of November 23
Part 7 (Chapters 66-67); **Thursday-No class, Thanksgiving Break**

15. Week of November 30
Projects due; Concert Reviews Due; Part 7 (Chapters 68-69)

16. Tuesday, December 8
Final Exam: 10:15am-12:15pm