



Syllabus for Music Appreciation - Spring 2021

MUS 1302 - 001

Credits: 3

Place: Lawrence Hall 300

Time: M/W/F - 11:00am - 11:50pm

Instructor:

Dr. Andrew Alegria

Office: FBA 200A

Phone: (432) 837-8216

Email: andrew.alegria@sulross.edu

Office Hours:

M/W/F 12:00-1:00pm or by appointment

Course Name: Music Appreciation: Film Music

Description

This course develops music appreciation through an exploration of film music from silent films to 21st century blockbuster films. This course will familiarize students with musical styles, pieces, composers, and instruments as they developed through each decade.

Required Materials

- Blackboard access
- Notebook and pencil/pen
- Textbook

Hickman, Rodger. *Reel Music: Exploring 100 Years of Film Music*, 2nd ed.
New York, W. W. Norton, 2017.

Mask Requirement

* All students are required to wear a mask when in class.

Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)

No prior musical training is required for this course.

After completing this course students should be able to:

- 1) use basic film terminology to describe musical elements including diegetic, non-diegetic, wall-to-wall, Romanticism, expressionism, avant-garde, minimalist. (Knowledge)
- 2) demonstrate a broad knowledge of film music periods by including examples of major movies and composers. (Skills)

- 3) implement critical thinking skills in order to identify and discuss the roots of current popular music and trends in film music. (Attitudes or Dispositions)
- 4) critique live musical performances using appropriate terminology to describe the performance, repertoire, and characteristics of the performer. (Attitudes or Dispositions)

Major Assignments with Matched SLOs

- Four exams will cover the use of basic terminology to describe and identify film music from the time periods covered. (1,2)
- Assignments and quizzes will be given throughout the semester in order to assess students' understanding of the material and reflect upon music listened to in class or for an assignment. These assignments include, but are not limited to, Blackboard Discussion Board homework activities, short movie reflection papers, and reading material such as current articles about movie music. (1,2,3)
- Two concert reflections will be completed during the semester. Students will be required to attend two live performances on the SRSU campus or the surrounding area and will write a reflection about the concert. (3,4)

Marketable Skills:

The music student graduating with a BM in music (instrumental or vocal performance; instrumental or vocal education; or music business) should have the following Marketable Skills:

1. Ability to collaborate and network with others to achieve a shared goal, utilizing problem solving, flexibility and improvisation, and consideration of others' thoughts and creative processes.
2. Proficiency in public speaking and writing about music, especially in teaching basic musical concepts to all ages and incorporating technology for presentation and production.*
3. Ability to prepare and perform a program of age-appropriate, relevant, and diverse repertoire, as an individual or part of an ensemble, to an audience, advocating for the arts through engaging with and serving the community.
4. Experience using problem solving skills and abstract thinking to analyze compositions and examine their aesthetic through musical and extra-musical concepts, such as historical context and text setting. *
5. Ability to create and disseminate basic marketing and public relations materials, as well as resumes, websites, and digital portfolios.

Marketable Skills specifically addressed by this course indicated with *

Grade Weighting

Grading Categories	Weighting
Exams	
Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Exam 3	20%
Final Exam:	20%
Pop Quizzes	20%
Class Attendance and Participations	10%

Class Attendance and Participation

- * Absences will be excused for medical emergencies, SRSU Class Trips, SRSU Sports Trip, or serious personal conflicts, **but prior approval or documentation is required.**
- * Every three tardies will equal one absence.
- * Please email prior to the start of class if you are going to be absent or tardy.
- * **Six absences** result in you being dropped from the course with a grade of “F” as per university policy. Upon the 3rd unexcused absence you will be dropped one letter grade. Upon the 4th unexcused absence you will be dropped another letter grade. And upon the 5th unexcused absence you will be dropped yet another letter grade.
- * DO NOT schedule doctor’s appointments, trips, etc. which conflict with class time. DO NOT take off early for or return late from scheduled college vacations.

Participation/Note Taking

- * Paying attention, asking relevant questions, giving constructive feedback when called upon will all be considered when determining the class participation grade.
- * The use of cell phones, pagers, beepers, iPods, iPads and any other personal electronic devices are strictly prohibited by students **during viewing of a film.**
- * You are responsible for notes, handouts, and all assignments from missed classes. Dr. Alegria will not repeat classes nor provide his lecture notes.

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 SRSU email on a regular basis.

Students with Disabilities

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the Student’s responsibility to initiate a request. Please contact me, Ms. Rebecca Greathouse Wren, M.Ed., LPC-S, Director/Counselor, Accessibility Services Coordinator, Ferguson Hall (Suite 112) at 432.837.8203; mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Students should then contact the instructor as soon as possible to initiate the recommended accommodations.

SRSU Library Services

The Sul Ross Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, library.sulross.edu. Off-campus access requires your LoboID and password. Check out materials using your photo ID. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837-8123).

Student Support Services

Academic support is available to all students through the SSS, housed in Ferguson Hall, Room 105. Call 432-837-8118 or email at sss@sulross.edu

Academic Integrity Policy

Principles of academic honesty are universally recognized as fundamental to scholarship. Consistent with the traditions and policies of SRSU, students are expected to be aware of and abide by these principles. Academic integrity specifically prohibits cheating, plagiarizing, and falsifying results of any work.

Cheating involves deception, as well as the provision or receipt of unauthorized assistance. Students are expected neither to receive nor to provide unauthorized assistance with academic work. This applies to, but is not limited to, written work, examinations, papers, reports, solutions to problems, computer programs, and art work.

Plagiarism is the use of another person's ideas, words or work without proper citation or acknowledgement. In order to avoid plagiarism, academic work should be produced by the student, giving credit for the help, words or ideas from other sources in the manner traditionally prescribed.

Academic integrity also prohibits the making of unauthorized copies of copyrighted material, including software and any other non-print media, as well as theft or defacement of print and non-print library materials. Any violation of this policy will be treated as a serious matter. Penalties ranging from failure of the assignment/exam to failure of the course will be enforced. In cases of repeated or flagrant violations, a student may be dismissed from the university. Cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the academic affairs office. (Refer to SRSU catalog)

COURSE CALENDAR

Each class day will have one or two chapter readings. While reading each chapter, you should take notes to prepare for class discussion. Pop quizzes and/or active participation in class will demonstrate to me that you have read the text.

Week 1 (Zoom Meeting)

Mon., January 11 - Syllabus

Wed., January 13 - Chapter 1: Drama and Film

Fri., January 15 - Chapter 1: Drama and Film

Week 2 (Zoom Meeting)

Mon., January 18 - No Class [Martin Luther King Day]

Wed., January 20 - Chapter 2: Elements of Music

Fri., January 22 - Chapter 2: Elements of Music

Week 3 (Face-to-Face Begins)

Mon., January 25 - Chapter 3: Listening to Film Music

Wed., January 27 - Chapter 3: Listening to Film Music

Fri., January 29 - Chapter 4: Forerunners of Film Music

Week 4

Mon., February 1 - Chapter 5: A New Art Form

Wed., February 3 - Chapter 6: The Foundations of Modern Filmmaking

Fri., February 5 - Chapter 7: Breaking the Sound Barrier

Blackboard: Exam I

Week 5

Mon., February 8 - Chapter 9: The Classical Hollywood Film Score

Wed., February 10 - Chapter 9: The Classical Hollywood Film Score

Fri., February 12 - Chapter 10: Lighter Musical Scores

Week 6

Mon., February 15 - Chapter 11: Hollywood and World War II

Wed., February 17 - Chapter 13: The Postwar Years

Fri., February 19 - Chapter 14: Expanding Modern Music, 1951–1959

Week 7

Mon., February 22 - Chapter 14: Expanding Modern Music, 1951–1959

Wed., February 24 - Chapter 15: Country, Rock, and All That Jazz, 1951–1959

Fri., February 26 - Chapter 15: Country, Rock, and All That Jazz, 1951–1959

Blackboard: Exam II

Week 8

Mon., March 1 - Chapter 17: The Tumultuous 60s

Wed., March 3 - Chapter 18: The Rockin' 60s

Fri., March 5 - Chapter 19: Emerging from the Crisis Years

Week 9 - Spring Break (March 8 - 12)

Week 10

Mon., March 15 - Chapter 19: Emerging from the Crisis Years

Wed., March 17 - Chapter 21: The Return of the Classical Score

Fri., March 19 - Chapter 21: The Return of the Classical Score

Week 11

Mon., March 22 - Chapter 22: Alternatives to the Symphonic Score

Wed., March 24 - Chapter 22: Alternatives to the Symphonic Score

Fri., March 26 - Chapter 23: Box Office vs. Critics

Blackboard: Exam III

Week 12

Mon., March 29 - Chapter 25: Historical Films

Wed., March 13 - Chapter 25: Historical Films

Fri., April 2 - No Class [Good Friday Holiday]

Week 13

Mon., April 5 - Chapter 26: Life in America

Wed., April 7 - Chapter 26: Life in America

Fri., April 9 - Chapter 27: Animations, Comedies, Romances, and Fantasies

Week 14

Mon., April 12 - Chapter 27: Animations, Comedies, Romances, and Fantasies

Wed., April 14 - Chapter 29: Blockbuster Fantasies and Adventures

Fri., April 16 - Chapter 29: Blockbuster Fantasies and Adventures

Week 15

Mon., April 19 - Chapter 30: Seeking Heroes

Wed., April 21 - Chapter 30: Seeking Heroes

Fri., April 23 - Chapter 31: Animations, Musicals, and Dramas

Week 16

Mon., April 26 - Chapter 31: Animations, Musicals, and Dramas

Wed., April 28 - Chapter 31: Animations, Musicals, and Dramas

Week 17 - Final

Tues., May 4 - Blackboard Final

10:15am - 12:15pm

I sincerely hope that you all find some film music that you love this semester. The tapestry of film music is so varied that a year course of study would not do it justice, let alone a one semester survey. Please excuse any omissions of film music and movies dear to you; you can teach us all something new and different concerning your favorites during your final presentation.

I recommend taking notes as you watch/listen. Write down the specific features that make each example unique. Listen with intent; don't use this assignment as background music for other activities. Active and critical listening is an indispensable habit for any student to appreciate music.