

Music Literature—MUS 1308 Spring 2021

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

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Class Meetings: Web-delivered

Office Hours: Tuesdays 10:00-11:00 a.m.; Thursdays and Fridays by appointment

Course Description

A course designed to acquaint students with representative music of different ages, styles, media, and forms; and to its historical background. This course completes the Creative Arts Core requirement for all students and completes a lower level degree requirement for music majors.

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 terminology to describe musical elements including pitch, rhythm, melody, harmony, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, and form. (*Knowledge*)
- 2) demonstrate a broad knowledge of musical time periods by including examples of major works and composers. (*Skills*)
- 3) implement critical thinking skills in order to identify and discuss the roots of current popular music, world music, and trends. (*Attitudes or Dispositions*)
- 4) critique live musical performances using appropriate terminology to describe the performance, repertoire, and characteristics of the performer. (*Attitudes or Dispositions*)

Marketable Skills (*music majors*)

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 **

Major Assignments with Matched SLOs

- Response assignments and quizzes will be given throughout the semester in order to assess students' understanding of the material and reflect upon music listened to for assignments. These include, but are not limited to, reflection papers on assigned listening and quizzes on terms and reading from the textbook. (1,2,3)
- One concert report will be completed during the semester. Students will be required to watch a live performance on the SRSU campus OR an online performance approved by the instructor, and will write a 500-750-word report about the concert. (3,4)
- One project will be completed during the semester that ties in with the Museum of the Big Bend's exhibit on *WWII Heroes* and the textbook chapter *Music and War*. (2,3)
- The final video presentation will be on a composer, famous performer, composition, or genre of music (symphony, song, etc.) chosen by the student. Each student will present information about their topic with appropriate research and citations in a format of their choice (PowerPoint, lecture, etc.) (1,2,3)

Required Materials

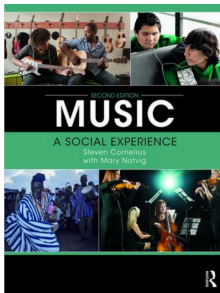
- Blackboard access and internet access (*these services provided on campus*)
- Textbook with companion website
- Spotify account (free)
- All work should be typed, either using a word processing program, or better still, a cloud-based web application such as Blackboard, Google Docs, Office 365, etc.

Textbook options

- 1. Hard copy: Music: A Social Experience, **Second Edition**
Authors: Steven Cornelius, Mary Natvig
ISBN-13: 978-0415789332
 - can be purchased at the SRSU Bookstore or online through Amazon, Routledge Textbooks, or other sites.

OR *I highly recommend...*

- 2. eBook version of the above text, found at:
<https://www.routledge.com/Music-A-Social-Experience/Cornelius-Natvig/p/book/9780415789332>



Class Attendance and Participation

Actively working in the course and completing assignments constitutes class participation, as does corresponding with the instructor via e-mail if you have difficulty with an assignment or technical problems.

If you are not actively participating and have not reached out to the instructor, you may be dropped from the course pending the University's Instructor Initiated Drop policy.
Late work will not be accepted *unless* accompanied by a written excuse such as a doctor's note,

military orders, or official University excuse. Unless an emergency, these should be discussed with the instructor **before** the due date passes. Due to the work-at-your-own-pace nature of this course, you should **NOT** need an extension on any work due except for extreme cases, to be discussed with the instructor on a case-by-case basis. If the student and instructor work out a late-work policy for one of the above listed reasons, work turned in any later than the agreed upon due date is subject to be lowered by one letter grade for every further day that it is late.

Grading Procedures

Your final grade will be determined by the following formula:

1. Listening Response Assignments/Quizzes – 30%
2. Weekly Assignments – 30%
3. Final Video Presentation – 20%
4. Concert Report – 10%
5. *Music and War* Project –10%

Grading Scale

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

The instructor will provide detailed information and due dates for assignments, concert report, project, and the final video presentation on a separate document.

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**.

Distance Education Statement

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

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 logging in with your LoboID and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837-8123).

Special Needs

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. Students with qualifying disabilities who seek accommodations must initiate a request for a meeting for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Rebecca Greathouse Wren, M.Ed., LPC-S, Counseling & Accessibility Services,

Telephone: 432-837-8203, or E-mail: rebecca.wren@sulross.edu. For more information see:
<https://www.sulross.edu/page/1384/accessibility-services>

Tentative Weekly Course Outline (Subject to change)

1. Week of January 11

Syllabus and course introduction

2. Week of January 18

Music Fundamentals (Chapter 1, 2-Elements of Music)

3. Week of January 25

Music Fundamentals (Chapter 2-Elements of Music, cont., Chapter 3)

4. Week of February 1

Quiz #1-music fundamentals; Musical Identities (Chapter 4)

5. Week of February 8

Musical Identities (Chapters 5); *jazz documentary response assignment*

6. Week of February 15

Musical Identities (Chapter 6)

7. Week of February 22

Musical Identities (Chapters 7); **Quiz #2**

8. Week of March 1

Musical Intersections (Chapter 8)

9. Week of March 8

Spring Break

10. Week of March 15

Musical Intersections (Chapter 9); *Music and War project*

11. Week of March 22

Music and War project, cont.; **Quiz #3**

12. Week of March 29

Musical Intersections (Chapter 10); *film: musical response assignment*

13. Week of April 5

Musical Narratives (Chapter 11)

14. Week of April 12

Musical Narratives (Chapter 14)

15. Week of April 19

Musical Narratives (Chapter 15); **Quiz #4**

16. Week of April 26

Musical Narratives (Chapter 12); *film: soundtrack response assignment*

17. Week of May 3, Finals

Final Exam: Video Presentation