



Syllabus for American Music - Summer 2026

MUS 1309 - 1W1
Credits: 3

Place: Web-Delivered Course
Time: N/A

Instructor:

Dr. Andrew Alegría
Office: FAB 200A
Phone: (432) 837-8216
Email: andrew.alegria@sulross.edu

Office Hours:

Email the instructor to schedule a virtual meeting at any mutually convenient time.

Description

A general survey of various styles of music of the Americas, including but not limited to jazz, folk, rock, and contemporary music. This course fills a core curriculum requirement in the Language, Philosophy, and Culture core.

Student Learning Outcomes:

No prior musical training is required for this course.

After completing this course students should be able to:

- 1) use basic music terminology to describe musical elements in American music. (Knowledge)
- 2) demonstrate a broad knowledge of American music periods by including examples of major events and composers. (Skills)
- 3) implement critical thinking skills in order to identify and discuss the roots of current popular music and trends in American 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)

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 *

Required Materials

- Crawford, Richard and Larry Hamberlin. *An Introduction to America's Music*. 3rd ed. New York, W. W. Norton, 2013.
 - o **ISBN** 9780-3934-2804-9
- Access to blackboard
- Reliable internet connection

Grade Weighting

Grading Categories	Weighting
Exam I	25%
Exam II	25%
Exam III	25%
Exam IV	25%

Grading Scale

A = 90-100 C = 70-79.99 F = below 59.99
 B = 80-89.99 D = 60-69.99

Exams:

- * All exams are **timed**, and you only have **one chance** to take them.
- * You will have **two hours (2 hrs)** to complete each exam.
- * You will have a 48-hour time period to complete each exam, starting at 12:00 AM. Be sure to schedule yourself two hours to complete each exam on either day.
- * Once the exam is open, it will remain open until it is completed or until the next exam.
- * One letter grade will be dropped once it passes onto the third day of the exam.
- * **PLEASE NOTE:** Only Exam #4 must be completed on **Wednesday, July 01**. No extra days will be given because the Summer I session will be over at 11:59 PM. Because of this, I will open the exam on **Tuesday, June 30**, at 12:00 AM.

- * As you know, summer session courses go by very quickly, so keeping up with the daily reading is critical to your success in the course.

Professional Communication Policy

- * All communication with me should be done through email or virtual meetings. I am an off-campus instructor, so electronic and virtual communication will be how to reach me.
- * You are expected to check your email and the course Blackboard page regularly.

SRSU Library Services

The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial 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).

Distance Education Statement

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as 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 a secure login. 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. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

SRSU Disability Services

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 each semester for each class. Alpine students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mary Schwartze Grisham, M.Ed., LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email mschwartz@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

COURSE CALENDAR

Week 1

Wed., May 27 - Read Chapter 1

Thurs., May 28 - Read Chapter 2

Fri., May 29 - Read Chapter 3

Week 2

Mon., June 01 - Read Chapters 4

Tues., June 02 - Read Chapters 5

Wed., June 03 - Read Chapters 6

Thurs., June 04 - Exam I (Chapters 1-6)

Fri. June 05 - Read Chapters 7

Week 3

Mon., June 08 - Read Chapters 8

Tues., June 09 - Read Chapters 9

Wed., June 10 - Read Chapters 10

Thurs., June 11 - Exam II (Chapters 7-10)

Fri., June 12 - Read Chapters 11

Week 4

Mon., June 15 - Read Chapters 12

Tues., June 16 - Read Chapters 13

Wed., June 17 - Read Chapters 14

Thurs., June 18 - Read Chapters 15

Fri., June 19 - Exam III (Chapters 11-15)

Week 5

Mon., June 22 - Read Chapter 16

Tues., June 23 - Read Chapter 17

Wed., June 24 - Read Chapter 18

Thur. June 25 - Read Chapter 19

Fri., June 26 - Read Chapter 20

Week 6

Mon. June 29 - Read Chapter 21

Tues., June 30 - Read Chapter 22

Wed., July 01 - Exam IV (Chapters 16-22)