

Syllabus

Title: MUSIC APPREC: WESTRN CULTURE

Course: MUSI D001A02Z

Term: 2024 Spring De Anza | CRN: 01333 |

Room: ONLINE

Instructor: Benett Zussman

zussmanbenett@fhda.edu

Office Hours Th 4:45-5:45 and by appointment

Welcome to Music Appreciation- Music in Western Culture!
This syllabus describes course policies and is a contract between you and your teacher.

Required Student Materials

Computer with internet access. Access code to open course content. You may purchase at the bookstore or on the C4E website:

<https://store.connect4education.com/product/onmusic-appreciation/>

Student Learning Objectives

- Employ a basic vocabulary of common music terms to describe observations of recorded and live music.
- Recognize individual instruments and voices and the various ensembles in which they are used.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the roles of music in human cultures and relate musical expression to other forms of artistic expression and to culture generally.
- Distinguish features of important musical style periods, forms, composers, and practices.
- Recognize, describe, and compare musical practices in contemporary society.

- Recognize basic distinguishing characteristics among a representative group of musical compositions.

Objectives describe skills and knowledge that students will acquire or develop in the course and demonstrate on assignments, quizzes, and exams.

Course Description

Music is art as well as science. To be able to comprehend it to the fullest we must, therefore, be able to appreciate both its emotional and intellectual content.

The aim of this course is very simple: To provide you with the tools for a basic understanding of music. It will not make you a musician or teach you how to write music. It will, however, give you the necessary background to understand what is going on technically when you are listening to music, so that your experience is not limited to a wash of sound that produces a certain feeling.

The class will concentrate on:

- The development of an attentive style of listening
- The introduction and systematic study of the building blocks of music, and
- Enhancing awareness of the main musical styles of selected western and non-western cultures.

There are four sections in this course:

Section 1: Basic Musical Concepts

This opening section explores the concepts that underlie the music listening experience with emphasis on the ideas of unity and variety, the performer's role, the structure of music, the

purpose of music, types of listeners, and finally, the differences and commonalities between folk music, art music, and jazz.

Section 2: The Building Blocks of Sound

The Building Blocks of Sound explains technical music concepts in an approachable, easy to grasp way so you can start using them to express your musical insights in accurate and relevant musical language: Duration and pitch, pitch names, notation and intervals, volume, instrumental and orchestral timbres prepare the groundwork for an overview of the different families of the traditional symphony orchestra starting with the strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, and ending with the keyboards and the modern synthesizer.

Section 3: The Organizing Elements of Music

The Organizing Elements of Music goes deeper into the music parameters that you will need to grasp as an intelligent, perceptive music listener: duration, pitch, volume, and timbre are presented and explained as they relate to rhythm, tempo, melody, dynamics, harmony, texture, and form. Each of concept is explored starting with a Listening Prelude with questions that encourage you to apply the knowledge and music vocabulary acquired in previous sections, and then moving on to a detailed analysis that includes a rich variety of examples, listening guides, composer profiles, and videos, with each example embodying concepts as they grow in depth and sophistication.

Section 4: Historical Periods

This final section of OnMusic Appreciation covers the main historical periods from the Medieval Period (1150-1450) through the Renaissance (1450-1600), Baroque (1600-1750), Classical (1750-1825), Romantic (1820-1910), and Contemporary (1910-present) periods. Each period is connected to the next by a Listening Bridge that allows you to compare and contrast musical examples, and build on the listening skills and vocabulary you have acquired up to that point. Period Maps emphasize the social,

political, cultural, and geographical environment of each period presented as a preamble to the rich discussion of the music characteristics and composers of the times.

Listening to Music

Sometimes, there will be a short excerpt for you to hear. Most frequently, however, you will be expected to listen to a musical selection that may last several minutes. In either case, you should concentrate on listening. Reading while the music plays in the background prevents you from focusing fully on the music.

A recommended sequence for attentive listening:

- Listen attentively to the music, focusing on what you hear.
- Read what has been written about the music.
- Listen again to verify that you have understood the musical content and concepts that the text described.

Repeat the listening as often as necessary to become thoroughly acquainted with the musical selection and the music concepts it embodies.

The course will concentrate on

- The development of an attentive style of listening,
- The introduction and systematic study of the building blocks of music
- Enhancing awareness of the main musical styles of selected western and non-western cultures.

Course Details

SECTION 1: BASIC MUSICAL CONCEPTS

Class 1: Unity and Variety

Class 2: The Performer's Role

Class 4: Structure of Music

Class 5: Types of Listeners

Class 6: Folk Music, Art Music, and All That Jazz

SECTION 2: THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF SOUND

Class 7: Music Notation & Duration & Fundamentals of Pitch

Class 8: Pitch Names and Pitch Notation

Class 9: Intervals and Volume

Class 10: Instrumental Timbre

Class 11: Vocal Timbre

Class 12: The Symphony Orchestra

Class 13: Strings and Woodwinds

Class 14: Brass and Percussion

Class 15: Keyboard

Midterm Exam

SECTION 3: THE ORGANIZING ELEMENTS OF MUSIC

Class 16: Rhythm and Tempo

Class 17: Meter and Melody

Class 18: Harmony

Class 19: Texture

Class 20: Form

SECTION 4: HISTORICAL PERIODS

Class 21: Medieval Period

Class 22: Renaissance Period

Class 23: Baroque Period

Class 24: Classical Period

Class 25: Romantic Period

Class 26: Contemporary Period

Final Exam

Evaluation & Grading

Evaluation

Course Activity	Percentage of Final Grade
35 Assessments	37%
5 Assignments	17%
Midterm Exam	23%
Final Exam	23%

Grading

A fixed grade scale is used, so that it is possible for everyone to do well.

A	90 - 100%
B	80 - 89.99%
C	70 - 79.99%
D	60 - 69.99%
F	Below 60%

Academic dishonesty regarding tests in this class is defined as using resources not made available by me to everyone in the class during the testing time. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism.

Extra Help and Support

At De Anza, you will find people who want to help you succeed, and programs designed for that purpose. Below are some of the resources

available for students for more information go to [Student Resources](#) for more information.

Important Dates:

- April 8 First day of classes
- April 19 Last day to add classes
- April 20 Last day to drop classes without a W
- April 22 Census
- May 27 Memorial Day – no classes, campus closed
- May 31 Last day to drop with a W
- June 19 Juneteenth holiday – no classes, campus closed
- June 28 Final Exam (no work will be accepted after this date)
- June 29 Graduation