

COURSE OUTLINE **Music Appreciation**

Course Description

MU 100. Music Appreciation. 3 hours credit. This course will enable the student to identify music materials, forms and styles. The student will understand music and improve skills needed to listen to music effectively.

Course Relevance

Music permeates our culture. Music is an important means of learning about and transmitting cultural heritage. Music and the arts encapsulate what it is to be human and what it means to belong to any of the variety of cultures on this earth. When one is able to understand and experience the great works of music, one is more able to experience the richness and beauty of life in its highest form.

Required Materials

Hoffer, C. (2009). *MUSIC listening today*. (3rd ed.). Belmont, CA: Thomson.

Enhanced CDs (comes with text)

Learning Outcomes

The intention is for the student to be able to:

1. Identify the three fundamental building blocks in music, i.e., melody, rhythm and harmony.
2. Demonstrate differentiation between the main musical ensembles found in a musical performance.
3. Develop an appreciation for a selection of music and explain why he/she enjoys that particular choice.

Learning PACT Skills that will be DEVELOPED and/or documented in this course

Through involvement in this course, the student will develop ability in the following PACT skill area(s):

Analytical Thinking Skills

1. Critical thinking
 - Through attendance at a musical concert, written work, and class discussion reflecting on the performance, the student will critically analyze the components of the performing environment.

Communication Skills

1. Reception and interpretive messages
 - Through attendance at a musical concert and in-class exercises, the student will develop listening skills.

Technology Skills

1. General computer use

- Through use of technology to complete assignments and exams, the student will improve basic computer skills.

Major Summative Assessment Task(s)

These learning outcome(s) and the Learning PACT skill(s) will be demonstrated by

1. A computer generated (T skill) critical analysis (A skill) of a musical concert which the student attended (C skill) to demonstrate knowledge of performance medium and style following a prescribed writing paradigm.

Course Content

- I. Skills/Competencies – Actions that are essential to achieve the course outcomes:
 - A. Demonstrate basic music knowledge as applied to listening
 - B. Demonstrate a knowledge of music critique and discussion
 - C. Demonstrate knowledge of differing styles of music
- II. Themes – Key recurring concepts that run throughout this course:
 - A. Importance of music through the ages
 - B. Importance of the basic elements of music to music understanding
 - C. Importance of the six artistic time periods in shaping the music we hear today
- III. Issues – Key areas of conflict that must be understood in order to achieve the intended outcome:
 - A. The role of music in everyday society
 - B. The role of the active listener
 - C. The understanding of music in European and American History
 - D. The multi-cultural influences in today's musical society
- IV. Concepts – Key concepts that must be understood to address the issues:
 - A. The elements of music
 - B. The six artistic time periods in music history
 - C. The importance of listening skills in music listening

Learning Units

- I. Elements of music
 - A. Melody
 - B. Rhythm
 - C. Harmony
- II. Listening skills in music concepts
 - A. Active listening
 - B. Passive listening
 - C. Identification of ensembles, solo instruments, etc.
- III. Instruments of the orchestra/choir
 - A. Sections of the orchestra
 - B. Individual solo instruments
 - C. Sections of a choir
- IV. Six artistic time periods in music history

- A. Middle Ages
- B. Renaissance
- C. Baroque
- D. Classical
- E. Romantic
- F. Contemporary

V. Multi-cultural music

- A. Music of the Far East
- B. Music of Latin America/Cuba
- C. Music of Eastern Europe

Learning Activities

Learning activities will include readings, discussion, quizzes, tests, videos, concert attendance, music listening and essay writing.

Grade Determination

Grade determination will be based on class participation and completion of assessment tasks and learning activities.