

MUSC 0101: Music Appreciation

fall 2022

Instructor: Dr. Melissa Goldsmith

Office Hours: TTh, 8-10AM
Online



Catalog Course Description

The study of masterpieces of music from each era, from the Middle Ages through contemporary times. Emphasis is on directed listening and music is analyzed with reference to style characteristics.

What Will I Learn by Taking This Course?

While taking this course, students will be able to do the following:

- ❖ Understand some basic music rudiments and history;
- ❖ Attain a musical terminology that will allow you to communicate your thoughts about music—what you like, dislike, and why—to others;
- ❖ Know the differences between a variety of musical—from classical music to jazz and today's Western Art Music (including some World Music);
- ❖ Gain a new musical repertory that will broaden your appreciation of music;
- ❖ Explore creative musical techniques that composers have employed in pieces throughout history;
- ❖ Examine many issues that critics and scholars face when reviewing music.

Course Readings and Listening

All course readings are posted in PLATO, but there is no required textbook purchase.

Recordings will also be assigned, but there is no required compact disc or download purchase.

*No previous
background
in music required!!!*

Work Expectations

Music Appreciation consists of four specific units: 1. Foundations; 2. Jazz; 3. Music History 1 (covering music of the Middle Ages to the Classical Era); and 4. Music History 2 (covering music of the Romantic Era to the Twenty-First Century). Music Appreciation is a non-major general Core Appreciation of the Arts course. This course requires exams, writing, reading, and active listening. The instructor will provide the students with required listening lists for each unit of the course.

Outline of Course Content and Required Assignments

This course consists of three *non-cumulative* exams, eight assignments, two writing assignments (two- to three-pages each), and participation in the form of responding to five main discussion posts. The point breakdown follows here:

REQUIREMENT	PERCENT BREAKDOWN	TOTAL PERCENT OF GRADE
Assignment 1 (Foundations and Jazz)	4%	27%
Assignment 2 (Jazz)	3%	
Assignment 3 (Music History 1)	3%	
Assignment 4 (Music History 1)	4%	
Assignment 5 (Form)	3%	
Assignment 6 (Music History 2)	3%	
Assignment 7 (Music History 2)	3%	
Assignment 8 (Compositional Techniques)	4%	
Exam 1 (Foundations and Jazz)	10%	40%
Exam 2 (Music History 1)	15%	
Exam 3 (Music History 2)	15%	
Concert Review Essay 1	10%	23%
Concert Review Essay 2	13%	
Participation (Discussion Posts)	10%	10%

About the Instructor

Dr. Melissa Goldsmith

Phone: (413) 270-4582; Please contact me via PLATO Email.

My PhD in musicology is from Louisiana State University, and my areas of specialization include film music, American popular music, and 20th-century music aesthetics. I enjoy teaching this course by using a variety of music, including popular, folk, and traditional songs to relate to Western Art Music.

