

## Music History and Appreciation I Course Syllabus

Three Rivers Community College  
Music History & Appreciation I  
Dr. Anne Berry, Instructor  
Syllabus - Spring 2015  
MUS\* K101 T2:  
CRN: 10760  
T 6:30PM-9:15PM  
Room: D-Wing 102

Office Hours: By Appointment Only  
Tuesdays 4:30PM-6:30PM  
Fridays 12:00PM-2:00PM  
email: [aberry@trcc.commnet.edu](mailto:aberry@trcc.commnet.edu)

### Description

This course is designed to introduce the student to the elements of music: melody, rhythm, harmony, tone, color, and form. A repertory of music literature is surveyed to trace both the development of Western music and the heritage of contemporary popular music.

### Course Objectives

In

an effort to enrich our experience as listeners we will be listening, reading, writing, and talking about music. By the end of the semester, you should be able to analyze music elements such as pitch, melody, harmony, rhythm, form, and musical texture. We will survey major Western musical style periods from medieval times to present day. We will attempt to make connections between various musical styles and complementary developments in the arts.

### Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course students should be able to demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental elements of music.

- A) Learn to perform research incorporating a variety of historical source materials.
- B) Summarize the social, political, and cultural differences between each period.
- C) Study the musical contributions from countries in Europe and America. Consider how the music is colored by the culture from which it originates.
- D) Study the biographical information of significant composers in the Western music tradition. Examine who these composers were writing music for and how their music is part of a broader historical narrative.
- E) Compare and contrast the stylistic trends from each major historical period from medieval times to present day.

Consider how we interpret historic music from a postmodern vantage point. Evaluate the connections drawn in music across the major historic periods in the Western music tradition.

- G) Develop a clear, formal writing style.
- H) Strengthen basic writing skills such as grammar, spelling, and mechanics.

### Required Text

Bonds, Mark Evans, *Listen to This*, Third Edition. Upper Saddle River: Pearson Education, Inc., 2015. You are also required to have the corresponding *Listen to This* CD's that come with the textbook.

### Class Discussion

This course is devised to promote the free exchange of ideas. You are all encouraged to participate by expressing your thoughts when appropriate, as well as respectfully listening to others during class time. Your level of involvement in class discussions will be evaluated by me in the form of a class participation grade that will count for 15% of your overall grade. Unexcused absences will affect your ability to participate in class, and will have a negative impact on your participation grade.

### Course Requirements

Attendance: Please plan to attend all classes and avoid absences except when absolutely necessary. Material from lectures and discussions will appear on the exams. **Attendance is mandatory for both the midterm exam and final presentations.**

Tardiness/Leaving Early: Most class announcements and quizzes are given at the beginning or end of class. Students who arrive late to class or leave class early may miss hearing important information and will also distract the class and the instructor. If a student leaves early or arrives late twice, this will be equivalent to one absence.

Deadlines: Students are expected to complete all assignments. **Assignments that are submitted after due dates will not be accepted, and students who submit late assignments will receive zero credit for their work.** If you are absent, please try to arrange to hand in your assignment before class.

Blackboard Email: **You are required to use Blackboard email in this course.** You must login to Blackboard and send an email to me from within Blackboard. When you email me, please remember to identify yourself. If you have problems logging into Blackboard, you must take your student ID and visit the Information Technology Service Office in C-Wing, Room 113. You may also contact the IT Help Desk at (860) 885-2334 or email at: TR-IT Help [Desk@trcc.comnet.edu](mailto:Desk@trcc.comnet.edu) . I will post important announcements and documents on Blackboard and will communicate with you through Blackboard email. You are required to check Blackboard frequently in order to stay up-to-date with what is going on in the course.

## Assignments

**Reading Assignments:** These assignments must be completed before the beginning of each class period. From time to time, quizzes will be administered on the reading assignments. The reading assignments should be done before you do your short listening write-ups for your group work. Additionally, students can expect for the material in the reading assignments to appear on all assessments.

**Listening Assignments:** These assignments should be completed before the beginning of the class period. The textbook comes with CD's containing the musical selections that will be assigned for you to listen to.

**Listening Assignment Write-ups:** These assignments are short, typed, written responses to the listening and reading assignments. These write-ups should be completed before class and will be shared with a small group and presented to the class. Please refer to the writing packet document separate from the syllabus for detailed information on how to complete this assignment.

**Group Work:** You will be working in small groups regularly throughout the term. You will be graded individually based on your level of preparation and participation within the group.

**Quizzes:** Quizzes on the information from reading assignments will be administered throughout the term. Quizzes will be given at the very beginning of the class period. **Students who are late to class and who have not discussed the reason for being tardy/absent in advance of the class period will not be able to make-up the quiz and will receive a zero grade.**

**Exam:** The midterm will be in three parts: multiple choice, short answer and essay. **Attendance is mandatory for the midterm exam. The midterm exam will occur on March 31, 2015 at 6:30PM. If you are late for the midterm, you will not be permitted to take the test and will receive a zero grade.**

**Final Presentations:** On the last day of class, you will be responsible for giving a ten-minute presentation on a work of music (TBA). During the presentation, you are free to play musical examples and/or perform, but must focus on the most significant musical features of your topic. You will be asked to also provide a brief historical synopsis, and describe major influences of the chosen artist(s)/composer. **Attendance is mandatory for the final presentations which will occur on May 12, 2015 at 6:30PM.**

Concert Review: During the course of the term, you will be required to attend one concert outside of class and submit both a concert program or ticket stub and a 2-page, doubled-spaced written review of the concert. This concert must be one that you attend during the Fall 2014 term. You must concentrate on describing the music in great detail and critiquing the performance. This concert must include live musicians, and you can attend an event from any genre of music, keeping the live music component and ticket stub/program requirements in mind. You may hand in the review anytime up until May 12, 2015 at 6:30PM.

(Concert Review Continued) \*When you are choosing an event to attend, remember that a **program or ticket stub is mandatory**. I will not except a flier as validation. Also, DJ shows and/or theatrical performances with “canned” (recorded music) will not count, though musical theatre and ballets with live music are all acceptable choices for the assignment. If you are not sure if a concert meets the parameters of the assignment, please feel free to ask me. For more information on how to compose a concert review, please refer to the concert review handout that includes a sample review and a list of links for area concert information. **\*Extra Credit. You may attend one extra concert and write a second one-page concert review during the semester for extra credit. This will count as for an extra 5% of your overall grade. The extra credit concert review will be due on May 12, 2015 at 6:30PM.**

TRCC Writing Center: Please utilize the writing center at TRCC. It is a wonderful student resource, and it is always helpful to have an extra set of eyes look over your writing assignments before you hand in your work. Call (860) 892-5773 to make an appointment.

Digication: All students are required to maintain an online learning portfolio in Digication that uses the college template. Through this electronic tool students will have the opportunity to monitor their own growth in college-wide learning. The student will keep his/her learning portfolio and may continue to use the Digication account after graduation. A Three Rivers General Education Assessment Team will select and review random works to improve the college experience for all. Student work reviewed for assessment purposes will not include names and all student work will remain private and anonymous for college improvement purposes. Students will have the ability to integrate learning from the classroom, college, and life in general, which will provide additional learning opportunities. If desired, students will have the option to create multiple portfolios.

## Grading

Breakdown of Overall Grade:

Exam: 15%

Quizzes: 20%

Listening Write-ups/Group Work: 25%

Class Participation: 15%

Final Presentations: 15%

Concert Review: 10%

Numerical Components:

A 93-100

A- 90-92

B+ 87-89

B 83-86

B- 80-82

C+ 77-79

C 73-76

C- 70-72

D+ 67-69

D 63-66

D- 60-62

F 0-59

## Office Hours

My office hours are by appointment only on Fridays from 12PM-2PM and from Tuesday 4:30PM-6:30PM. Otherwise, please email me if you have a question or concern. I will try to work with you if you let me know about any issues prior to class.

## Academic Dishonesty

Academic Dishonesty shall in general mean conduct which has as its intent or effect the false representation of a student's academic performance, including but not limited to (a) cheating on an examination, (b) collaborating with others in work to be presented, contrary to the stated rules of the course, (c) plagiarizing, including the submission of others' ideas or papers (whether purchased, borrowed, or otherwise obtained) as one's own, (d) stealing or having unauthorized access to examination or course materials, (e) falsifying records of laboratory or other data, (f) submitting, if contrary to the rules of a course, work previously presented in another course, and (g) knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above, including assistance in an arrangement whereby any work, classroom performance, examination or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed.

### Academic Dishonesty Policy Continued

If academic dishonesty is suspected by me, I will ask for a meeting to discuss the situation with the student. If I determine that academic dishonesty has been committed, the student will receive a zero on the assignment on the first offense, and I will report the incident to the Academic Dean at TRCC. Upon second offense, the student will receive an "F" for the course. Every incident of academic dishonesty must be reported to the Academic Dean.

### Weather

To check the status of cancellations and delays at TRCC due to weather, students should check the college's website: [www.trcc.commnet.edu](http://www.trcc.commnet.edu). There will be a message on the home page indicating whether or not classes are being held.

### Electronic Devices

Cell phones and other electronic devices are allowed in class only if they are turned off or turned to silent mode unless I give permission for certain assignments. Phones may not be answered in class and text messaging is never acceptable during class. No headphones are allowed to be on a student's head during class. If there is an emergency situation whereby a student must be available by electronic device, the student should speak to the instructor prior to class.

### Revisions to Syllabus

The information contained in this syllabus may be revised during the course of the semester. Students will be notified of any changes that are made.

### College Withdrawal Policy

A student who finds it necessary to discontinue a course once class has met must provide written notice to the Registrar. Withdrawal forms are available at the Registrars on all campuses. Nonpunitive "W" grades are assigned to any withdrawal requested before the various unrestricted withdrawal deadlines listed in the calendars published in front of each session's course listings (May 11, 2015). Withdrawal requests received after these deadlines must bear instructor signatures. No withdrawals are permitted after the last class preceding the final exam. Students who do not obtain an official withdrawal, but simply stop attending classes, run the risk of receiving an "F" grade for the course.

### Disabilities Statement

If you have a hidden or visible disability which may require class modifications, please let me know as soon as possible. Students with Learning Disabilities and Physical Disabilities should contact Chris Scarborough in Student Services at 860-892-5751 or at [cscarborough@trcc.commnet.edu](mailto:cscarborough@trcc.commnet.edu) as soon as possible to ensure timely accommodations.