

Music Appreciation Syllabus

MUSIC 131-06 | FALL 2018

Instructor	Prof. LeeSiow
Classes	Tuesday, Thursday 9:25-10:40 AM Simons Center for Fine Arts Room316
Officehours	Tuesday, Thursday 10:40 – 11:40 AM and byappointment
Office	Cato Center for the Arts, Room211
Contact	Email: siowl@cofc.edu .

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of music with the focus on practical musical forms and techniques, genres and thought in the major periods of music history. Central to the course is the development of perceptive listening through guided listening.

COURSE OVERVIEW

The course material is divided into 5 parts. Each module is approximately 2 to 2.5 weeks in length. The 5 parts are:

- Part 1:** Materials of Music
- Part 2:** The Middle Ages and Renaissance
- Part 3:** The Baroque Era
- Part 4:** Eighteenth Century Classicism
- Part 5:** The Nineteenth Century and Twentieth Century Modernism

The class schedule and assignment deadlines will be posted on OAKS.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, you will have developed:

- Stronger skills in the art of listening actively to music of all kinds.
- Familiarity with the most important genres and styles of Western art music, as well as knowledge and representative composers and pieces from each era.
- An increased ability to communicate your awareness of and feelings about music to others.
- A basis from which to continue being nourished and fulfilled by music throughout your life.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLO)

SLO1: Students analyze how ideas are represented, interpreted or valued in various expressions of human culture. This outcome will be evaluated by a paper of a minimum of three pages that analyzes the cultural significance and meaning of a musical work in the classical tradition.

SLO2: Students examine relevant primary source materials as understood by the discipline and interpret the material in writing assignments. This outcome will also be assessed by the paper, which examines an individual musical work within the classical tradition.

More guidelines on the paper is outlined in the section [Class Participation and Assignment Requirements](#) below.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Classroom attendance

Attendance is required for all classes for the full duration of the course. Students missing roll call will be counted as absent. Barring serious medical or personal reasons, students with more than **three** absences will receive **one letter grade reduction** of their final average. Documentation will be required in the case of medical necessity. Excused absences will only be accepted through the Office of Undergraduate Studies with documentation. *An excessive number of absences (excused or otherwise) may affect your grade.*

Concert attendance

Students are also required to attend **two** classical concerts. Students must choose from the following performance series presented by the College of Charleston:

- International Piano Series

- Magnetic South
- Charleston Music Fest
- Student Ensembles (Concert Choir, University Choir, Gospel Choir, Orchestra, Opera, The Wind Ensemble and Jazz Combos)
- The 2nd Monday Series

A concert review, ticket stub and copy of the program signed by a School of Music representative for EACH OF THE TWO CONCERTS ATTENDED will satisfy this requirement. See section [Class Participation and Assignment Requirements](#) below for concert review guidelines.

Updated concert dates can be found at <http://music.cofc.edu/concerts/> or by following C of C Concerts at <https://twitter.com/CofCConcerts>.

CLASS PARTICIPATION AND ASSIGNMENT REQUIREMENTS

Class participation

Every time I teach a class, the dynamics are always different. It's much like a concert. The audience plays an important role for the success of a concert. (You will learn WHY and HOW during this course.) Similarly, the success of this course depends on the quality of the class dynamics, discussions and participation. Your readiness to participate by active listening and thoughtful contributions to classroom discussions will enhance everyone's experience in this course. Remember I learn as much from you as you learn from me.

During classes, we will have various discussions and activities that will be graded. You must be present and actively participate in class discussions in order to receive these points.

Readings (Before Class)

All readings and listening assignments should be completed prior to coming to class. Listening assignments from the required text will be posted on OAKS. It is your responsibility to check OAKS and to meet the deadlines specified.

Listening

This course teaches you how to listen to music. You will need to spend much of your study time on active listening to the selections assigned. Active listening means concentrating on the listening without other interference, ie not as background music or when you are doing other tasks. Active listening is the equivalent of reading additional materials or working problems in other classes. Mastering any skill requires practice and repetition. Learning to listen is no exception.

Practice Quizzes

There will be numerous practice quizzes online available from the required text. Online quizzes can be taken multiple times in order to build understanding of course content.

Written Tests

Students will sit for a test administered through Oaks in class after we complete each Part of this course. All five written tests on each of the five parts of this course will be graded and your grades for the written tests forms 50% of your overall grade for this course. All tests must be taken on the dates announced in OAKS. Tests not completed by posted due dates will not be accepted except when there is official documentation to support medical reasons or serious emergencies.

Concert reviews

Students are required to write two concert reviews based on the two classical music performances attended during the semester. The goal is for you to reflect and connect what you have learned in class to a live classical concert. This activity allows you to participate in a cultural event that teaches you more about society and artistic expression and furthers your ability to listen to music more deeply.

Grade: The concert reviews constitutes 10% of your grade.

Deadlines: First review is due by mid term.

Second review is due by Reading Day.

Assignment guidelines: Two reviews from attending 2 live concerts as an audience member during the semester. The reviews should be approximately 2 typed, double-spaced pages in length (300 word minimum, 600 word maximum). You will use your newly acquired knowledge of musical elements and effective listening techniques to help you think critically and independently of the music. In attending the concert, you will evaluate the performance by conveying your experience through a short essay, describing the concert setting, comparing two or more works in some detail, and expressing your personal thoughts

about the performance. Your second concert review should reflect progress made and a better understanding of the skills and content covered (as outlined in the [Course Objectives](#) above). Many students find this to be one of the most beneficial aspect of the course because they are able to connect the skills learned in class to a real-world experience.

Submission of assignment:

For **EACH OF THE TWO CONCERTS ATTENDED**, you are to attach the following into **Dropbox** for this music appreciation class section **MUSC 131-06** found in **OAKS**:

1. The concert review,
2. a photo image of the ticket stub **with your name signed and printed** on it, and
3. a photo image of the program signed by a School of Music representative **with your name signed and printed.**

Paper

All students are required to complete a three-page paper which forms 10% of your grade.

This paper is due by December 4, 2018 at noon. You are to submit into Dropbox for this music appreciation class section MUSC 131-06 found in OAKS:

In an essay of **at least three pages**, present and defend a clearly articulated thesis regarding the cultural significance and meaning of a musical work in the classical tradition. The essay should examine one of the following works:

1. Vivaldi: *Winter*, from *The Four Seasons*
2. Tchaikovsky: *The Nutcracker Suite*
3. Chen/He: *Butterfly Lovers Violin Concerto*
4. Still: Suite for Violin and Piano
5. Gershwin: *Summertime*, from *Porgy and Bess*

Additional research about the work and its composer outside of the textbook will be necessary to complete this assignment.

The essay should be organized around a central thesis that is clearly stated in the introduction. **The essay should integrate the following issues and material into the development of this thesis:**

1. Identify a **cultural theme or value** exemplified by the work you have chosen, and link this theme or value to the **socio-political** context in which the work was produced. Why is this theme or value of relevance to the production of this work?
2. Who composed the work? Describe at least three **important aspects** of this composer's social and cultural environment that shaped his or her professional life.
3. To what period in music history does this work belong? Define at least **three important aspects** of the musical style of this period. In broad terms, how does this work reflect **the cultural, aesthetic, and/or political values** of this period?
4. What is the genre of the work (i.e. opera, cantata, program symphony, etc.)? What are the basic characteristics and historical background of this genre? What kinds of **expectations** might audience members have had when encountering a new work in this genre?
5. Select at least **one movement** or extended section of the work and describe its **distinctive stylistic, dramatic, and/or formal aspects** as they relate to the **cultural and aesthetic values of the period**.

The paper should be organized clearly by stating and developing a central thesis across the essay, supported by detailed description and examples. It should be proofread carefully and have no significant errors in grammar, syntax, and spelling. The **essay should be at least three pages** in length and should indicate any sources consulted in a **bibliography**.

REQUIRED TEXT

Forney, Dell'antonio and Machlis, *The Enjoyment of Music*, 13th shorter edition

These are the options and prices available in the bookstore:

Choose **ONE** of three options for purchase. Each of these options is complete in itself. You do not need to purchase more than one.

- **Printed text** (includes Total Access code) – if you prefer to read from a hard copy
ISBN: 9780393639032 \$126.65
- **3-hole punch printed text** (includes Total Access code): If you like having a printed copy but want the savings of not having it bound.
ISBN: 9780393639056 \$88.65

- **Total Access** - if you are comfortable with a fully digital option, you can buy Total Access standalone and you will have everything you need for the course.

ISBN: 978-0-393-63906-3 \$80.00

If you would like to purchase access to the digital materials (ebook, music, InQuizitive, etc) directly from Norton for \$55, you will be given the opportunity to purchase access the first time you click on any of the integrated links for the ebook or InQuizitive in our course.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

1. Students are expected to have access to a computer with high –speed internet access throughout the course. Students are also expected to have webcam microphone, external speakers or headphones for listening and viewing videos. **Computer failure/unavailability does not constitute an excuse for not completing assignments by the due date.**
2. Announcements on class schedules, assignment and tests deadlines are posted on OAKS, the College’s learning management system. Students are expected to login to OAKS to ensure that schedules and deadlines are met.
3. Each student is responsible for monitoring the CofC issued email address on a regular basis for official communications from faculty and administrators.

GRADING

The distribution of your grade will be as follows:

Results of 5 Tests	50%
Three-page Paper	10%
Course work	30% (in class participation, practice quizzes and assigned homework)
Concerts	10%

A 93-100	B+ 88-89	C+ 78-79	D+ 68-69	F 60 and below
A- 90-92	B 83-87	C 73-77	D 63-67	
	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to follow the guidelines for academic integrity as stated in the *Honor Code*. Students should consult the *Student Handbook* for more information.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Any student eligible for and needing accommodations because of a disability is requested to speak with the professor during the first two weeks of class or as soon as the student has been approved for services so that reasonable accommodations can be arranged.

The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students should apply for services at the Center for Disability Services/SNAP located on the first floor of the LightseyCenter, Suite 104.

This College abides by section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you have a documented disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see an administrator at the Center of Disability Services/SNAP, [\(843\) 953-1431](tel:8439531431) so that such accommodation may be arranged.

