

UNDERSTANDING MUSIC
MUS 131-12
Fall 2017

1. General Course Information

Facilitator(s): Christine Guarino
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Course Title: UNDERSTANDING MUSIC- MUS 131-12 (071293)
First Day of Class: September 5, 2017
Last Day of Class: December 21, 2017

2. Course Software

Title: *OnMusic Appreciation*. This software, put out by **Connect4Education**, can be purchased at the college's bookstore or online through www.Mywebtext.com. At the top of the page, look for the link for Student, and that should offer options for both purchasing and registering. After purchase is complete, please follow directions to the site, log in with your special registration code, and you will immediately show up on my roster.

3. Course Description

Lecture and directed listening on the elements, forms and historic chronology of Western music.

This is a survey course designed to introduce the non-music major to the basic building blocks of musical composition, the instruments of the orchestra, musical styles of the Great Periods of Western Art music and the lives and major works of representative composers from each period. Along the way, my hope is that you will develop critical listening skills, which will enhance your enjoyment of music.

The course is divided into 4-basic sections after the Introduction:

1. Basic Musical Concepts
2. Building Blocks of Sound
3. The Organizing Elements of Music
4. Historical Periods

Each of the four sections section is divided into daily assignments, all on Monday – Friday, but those are just for organization and a ***recommended pace of study***. The course will be presented in its entirety when the class opens. ***It is very much a self-guided, study-on-your own class, which you can access at your own speed.***

There is much material covered, and my recommendation is not to wait until the last minute to get the assignments done. It is up to you to read, study, listen and complete each day's assignment on your own. Submissions will be sent to me automatically.

4. Course Outcomes

As a result of successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- Name, define and describe the elements of music
- Name, define and identify the instruments of the orchestra
- Name, define and describe the absolute forms utilized in one of the Great Period Styles of Western Art Music
- Listen to randomly played works and identify four features of each

5. Instructional Methods Used to Attain Objectives

1. Online digital course completely self-contained
2. Online quizzes and Listening Activities
3. Listening guides, self-guided tests, web-queries
4. A concert experience with follow up reflection paper
5. Discover Videos
6. Written assignments

6. Attendance

Attendance in an online course is measured by active participation. The expectation is that you will work at a pace that is comfortable for you, while making sure you are staying on top of the assignments. The entire course will open up when the class opens, and you have completed your registration. You will have all of the assignments available during the entire 16-week semester. ***The dates corresponding to the assignments and lessons are there to serve as guidance, but you can move at your own pace.*** Given the widespread availability of the Internet, you will be expected to keep up with your assignments and participate in the course regardless of where you might be. You will also find it easier to keep up with the course material when you participate on a regular basis.

7. Technical Support

Technical Support Hours: Monday through Friday 9AM-6PM Eastern Time

If you have a technical problem in the course, please follow the steps below:

1. Visit the [Student Support](#) website and select the *Troubleshooting* page. It provides detailed description/s of technical problems and suggested solutions. If the *Troubleshooting* page does not solve your problem, please go to Step 2.
2. Majority of the technical problems can be resolved quickly by visiting the *Troubleshooting* page at the [Student Support](#) website. We highly recommend you visit the *Troubleshooting* page first. If the *Troubleshooting* page does not solve your problem, please contact us via email at the [Student Support](#) website. Emails are generally answered within 24 hours during our support hours. If you do not receive a response from us within 24 hours, please email us again.

8. Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is highly valued at Jackson Community College. It is important to submit work that represents your original words or ideas. Whenever you use another's words or ideas, please cite all relevant sources and the extent these sources were used. Words or ideas that require citations include all hardcopy or electronic publications (copyrighted or not); all verbal or visual communication; and all submissions to public meetings or mailboxes.

Academic dishonesty in an online environment could involve:

- Having a tutor or friend complete a portion of our assignments
- Having a reviewer make extensive revisions to an assignment
- Copying work submitted by another person to a public class meeting
- Turning in assignments that are similar to another's assignment in the course
- Using information from online information services without proper citation

For additional information, please refer to Jackson's policies on the Integrity of Academic Work: <https://www.jccmi.edu/wp-content/uploads/1004>.

<http://www.library.cornell.edu/resrch/citmanage/mla> **This site will assist in understanding how to cite your sources.**

9. Grading Policies & Scale

4.0 =	94-100
3.5 =	89-93
3.0 =	84-89
2.5 =	78-83
2.0 =	72-77
1.5 =	66-71
1.0 =	60-65
0.5 =	55-59
0.0 =	0-54

The determination of the final grade is a simple process. Each assignment or test is assigned a point value. Points are totaled at the end of the course and converted to percentages. The point value for the entire course is 100 possible points.

10. Assignment/Points Breakdown

35 Assessments	37%
4 Assignments	12%
Concert Report	5%
Midterm Exam	23%
Final Exam	23%

11. Guidelines for a Successful Online Learning Experience

1. Online learning is not a spectator sport. All students in an online course must be self-motivated and responsible for getting the assignments completed in an independent fashion. It is advised that you check in regularly (5 out of 7 days each week is recommended) to stay on top of the coursework.

2. Practice good *netiquette* (network etiquette or the etiquette of cyberspace).

The Core Rules of Netiquette: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

3. *The course will open completely on the start date and you will be able to go at your own pace. The dates that are recorded on the assignments are suggestions for you. I would encourage you to not get too far behind and leave all of the assignments until the last week.*

4. It is always good practice to have a contingency plan for any unanticipated technology-related problems that you may encounter. I certainly hope that doesn't happen to you; however, technology problems tend to occur at the most inconvenient times. Having a back-up plan will save you a lot of stress. So, what will you do when an unexpected technology problem surfaces?

12. What You Can Expect of Me

I value your time and applaud your commitment to continuous learning. Please let me know whenever I can be of any help or assistance to you. You can reach me by email guarinochristim@jccmi.edu. and I will do my best to respond within 24 hours. Since this class is held completely online, I am also available for virtual office hours via Facetime, Google Chat or Skype. Please email me that request and we will work offline to secure a good time to chap virtually.

