

Montgomery County Community College
 MUS 110
 Music Appreciation
 3-3-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Music Appreciation is a chronological survey of Western music from classical antiquity through the 20th century. Throughout the course, music will be examined for its own intrinsic characteristics in addition to being used as a means for achieving a greater understanding the society, politics, philosophies, and aesthetics of each historical period. Whenever possible, relationships between the music of Western culture and the music of other world cultures will be examined. In addition to the in-class activities, every student may be required to attend a live concert (approved by the instructor) and, following specific guidelines, prepare a written review of that concert experience.

REQUISITES:*Previous Course Requirements*

- ENG 010A Basic Writing or ENG 011 Basic Writing II or ESL 011 Basic Writing II
- REA 011 Fundamentals of College Reading or REA 017 Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension Development II

Concurrent Course Requirements

None

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Explain the sociological, historical, cultural, and cross-cultural trends that influenced the development of Western music.	Assigned Readings Written Homework AV/Multimedia Materials Attendance at Live Musical Events Lecture/Discussion Research Resources Student Presentations Written Examinations	Quizzes (Objective and Essay Questions) Homework Assignments Research Paper

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
2. Identify the basic elements of music: rhythm, harmony, melody, timbre, form, dynamics, tempo.	Assigned Readings Written Homework AV/Multimedia Materials Attendance at Live Musical Events Lecture/Discussion Research Resources Written Examinations	Quizzes (Objective, Essay and Listening Questions) Homework Assignments Research Paper
3. Identify examples and specific musical characteristics of various musical styles through listening to recordings and/or live performances.	AV/Multimedia Materials Attendance at Live Musical Events Lecture/Discussion Research Resources	Quizzes (Objective, Essay and Listening Questions) Homework Assignments Research Paper
4. Describe the similarities and differences between musical genres from the various stylistic periods in Western music.	Assigned Readings Written Homework AV/Multimedia Materials Attendance at Live Musical Events Lecture/Discussion Research Resources Written Examinations	Quizzes (Objective, Essay and Listening Questions) Homework Assignments Research Paper

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. How to listen analytically to music
 - a. Properties of sound: Pitch, Dynamics, Timbre
 - b. Properties of time and Rhythm: Beat, Accent, Meter, Syncopation
 - c. Putting pitched sounds together: Melody and Harmony
 - d. Putting layers of activity together: Musical Texture
 - e. The structure of a musical event: Form
 - f. Types and purposes of music: Genres, Periods, Styles
2. Music and culture in Ancient Greece and Rome
 - a. Music and philosophy: Plato and Aristotle, the doctrine of Ethos and imitation.
 - b. Music and mathematics: Pythagoras and others
 - c. Music in everyday life: Poetry, Theater, Cultural history, Competitions
3. Music and culture of the Medieval period
 - a. The decline of Rome and the ascendance of the church

- b. Church and society in post Roman times
 - c. Sacred music of the Medieval period
 - i. Monophonic chant (Gregorian and others)
 - ii. Polyphony (Organum, Notre Dame, Ars Nova)
 - d. Secular music of the Medieval period
 - i. Court life and the code of chivalry
 - ii. Troubadour/trouvere poetry and music
 - iii. Secular polyphony
4. Music and culture of the Renaissance
- a. The rise of Humanism and the transition to the Renaissance: Scientific inquiry, exploration, new realism in the arts, new passion for literature and poetry, new interest in history
 - b. Sacred music of the Renaissance
 - i. High renaissance polyphony
 - ii. The Reformation and Counter-Reformation
 - iii. Palestrina and the Council of Trent
 - c. Secular music of the Renaissance
 - i. Humanism and court life
 - ii. Madrigal and instrumental music
 - iii. National differences in style
5. Music and culture of the Baroque Period
- a. New ideas and philosophies arising from renewed study of Greek texts (continuation of Humanism) Doctrine of Affections, art and emotional content
 - b. Age of Absolutism and its influence on the arts: Arts as propaganda/PR, Louis XIV, the Medicis, and others
 - c. New musical genres
 - i. Vocal: Opera, Oratorio, Secular and Sacred Cantatas (especially the Lutheran Chorale Cantata)
 - ii. Instrumental: Sonatas, Concertos, Overtures, Fugues, Suites
6. Music and culture of the Classical Period
- a. New ideas inspired by a re-examination of the Greeks: Architecture, painting, sculpture, philosophy,
 - b. New social order: The rise of the middle class, political revolutions, and the influence on artistic trends
 - c. New musical style and genres
 - i. Formal clarity, balance, order, variety (Sonata form)
 - ii. Symphony, Sonata, Concerto, Chamber music, new directions in Opera.
7. Music and culture of 19th century Romanticism
- a. New social and philosophical themes give rise to new artistic style: Nationalism, empathy for the misfortunes of others, reverential attitude toward nature, individual emotional expression, gothic themes, historical themes (especially the Medieval period), and the artist as societal hero.
 - b. New genres: Program music for orchestra, music for solo piano, the art song, Romantic Opera
8. Music and culture of the Twentieth Century

- a. Modernism in society, the arts and music
 - i. Music: Stravinsky, Schoenberg, Debussy and others
 - ii. German expressionism and French impressionism in art, music, theater, and poetry.
- b. Multiculturalism
 - i. Balinese influence on Debussy; Latin-American influence on Copland, Bernstein, Crumb, and others; Eastern influences on Glass and the minimalists, Africanist influences on Reich, Cage and others.
- c. Traditionalism (Neoclassicism)
 - i. Traditional and popular elements: Copland, Bernstein, others

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Forney, Kristine and Joseph Machlis. (2015). *The Enjoyment of Music* (12th Shorter edition) W. W. Norton : [Text, plus multimedia and web resources]

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: Andrew Kosciesza Date: 2/18/2009

Revised by: Andrew Kosciesza Date: 2/25/2013

VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:
Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D. Date: 8/9/2013

Revised by: Andrew Kosciesza Date: 12/27/2017

VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Date: 1/10/2018



This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.