

Montgomery County Community College  
MUS 112  
African-American Traditions in American Music  
3-3-0

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

African-American Traditions in American Music is an introductory survey of the history of African-American music in the United States. Consideration will be given to the music's origins and practice in West Africa; the relationship of the music's evolution to the major tradition in western music; and examination of the religious, social, political and economic forces which helped to shape the music; and representative musical forms in specific genre of American music.

**REQUISITES:***Previous Course Requirements*

- ENG 010A Basic Writing or ENG 011 Basic Writing II or ESL 011 ESL Basic Writing II
- REA 011 Fundamentals of College Reading or REA 017 Vocabulary and Reading Comprehensive 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. Identify specific genres of American music that have been influenced by the musical traditions of West Africa and African-Americans.	Readings In-Class Discussion Film Viewing Listening to Recordings	Written Tests
2. Explain the religious, social, political and economic forces that helped to shape the music.	Readings In-Class Discussion Film Viewing Listening to Recordings	Written Tests Essay Assignments
3. Identify through listening representative musical styles.	In-Class Discussion Film Viewing Listening to Recordings	Written Listening Tests
4. Explain how African-American music both reflected and helped to shape the American	Readings In-Class Discussion Film Viewing Listening to Recordings	Written Tests Essay Assignments

experience.		
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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. West African Musical Traditions
2. African Music in New World Colonies
3. African-American Music during the Revolutionary and Post Revolutionary War Periods
4. The Ante-Bellum Period
5. The Music of the Civil War
6. Ministry, Black Nationalism, Gospel, Reconstruction and the Great Migration
7. The Early Development of Jazz
8. The Jazz Explosion
9. Music of the Romantic Period
10. The Harlem Renaissance
11. Popular Trends
12. African-American Trailblazers in Classical Music
13. Loose Ends

**LEARNING MATERIALS:**

Southern, Eileen. (1997). *The Music of Black Americans*. W.W. Norton & Co.

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: Judith Willoughby Miller	Date: 6/1998
Revised by: Andrew Kosciesza	Date: 3/28/2013
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 3/29/2013
Revised by: Andrew Kosciesza	Date: 12/28/2017
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.*