GE ANNUAL COURSE ASSESSMENT FORM for AY 2012-2013

MUSC 10A: Music Appreciation
Sections: 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 11, 12
Instructors: D. Simi, J. Stubbe, G. Lease, T. Harris
Course Coordinator: Janet Averett

GE AREA: C1-ARTS

(1) What SLO(s) or course components (for example, diversity, writing, etc.) were assessed for the course during the AY?

This course has undergone a complete cycle of SLO evaluation. Thus, the following SLO’s were re-examined. GE assessment schedules will be reviewed during the upcoming Program Planning Cycle.

SLO 1: Arts courses will enable students to recognize aesthetic qualities and processes that characterize works of the human intellect and imagination.

SLO 2: Arts courses will enable students to respond to works of art both analytically (in writing) and affectively (in writing or through other forms of personal and artistic expression).

(2) What were the results of the assessment of this course? What were the lessons learned from the assessment?

(SLO 1 and 2) To measure the recognition of aesthetic qualities and processes students are assessed on their increasing aural and verbal understanding and perception of the processes involved in music. They learn terminology to describe music that is heard and/or seen. They also learn to recognize style changes as well the major works composed over the last millenium of Western Art music.

To do this takes practice. Thus, they listen repeatedly to selections and excerpts and apply terminology learned. Several short writing assignments prepare them for writing three concert reports. Several short assessments (quizzes) prepare them for a midterm and final. In these reports, students must learn to hear and respond both objectively and subjectively what they hear. Thus, they get a chance to respond both intellectually to processes at work as well as affectively to what they felt about the music performed. They do this to recordings as well as to three live performances. Students receive feedback from the instructor on all parts of the course. Since they get three chances at concert reports, feedback from each assists with the next.

Most instructors feel that there is some improvement in baseline writing tasks over prior semesters, perhaps due to the higher admission standards in place at
SJSU. As well, all instructors have attempted to improve SLO2 by encouraging use of the (1) SJSU Writing Center, (2) giving verbal and written feedback, (3) presenting clinics on writing, (4) providing examples of good and bad writing.

Thus, 93% met these SLOs with a 70% or higher, while 7% failed to meet them (generally because of lack of submission of the assignments or lack of preparation for quizzes/exams). 47% met the SLOs with a 90% or higher, while 80% reached 80% or better.

(3) What modifications to the course, or to its assessment activities or schedule, are planned for the upcoming year? (If no modifications are planned, the course coordinator should indicate this.)

There are no modifications planned for this year although more instructors will be advising students to use the SJSU Writing Center.

(4) Are all sections of the course still aligned with the area Goals, Student Learning Objectives (SLOs), Content, Support, and Assessment? If they are not, what actions are planned?

All sections of MUSC 10A are in full compliance with area goals, SLOs, content, support, and assessment.

Joseph Frank, Director
School of Music and Dance