San Jose State University  
School of Music and Dance  
MUSC 10B, Introduction to Music, Fall 2016

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Sharon Brook
Office Location: MUS 208
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Office Hours: TBA
Class Days/Time: TTh 9:30 – 10:20 am
Classroom: MUS 266
Prerequisites: Basic keyboard skills and note reading; completion of Music 9

Course Description

The introduction to music through piano playing, listening and discussion. Study including the analysis of expressive elements in music – qualities of sound, rhythm, pitch and structure.

The purpose of this introductory course is to develop in “non-music” students: (1) a basic understanding of music (including note reading) and (2) aural listening and music reading skills that lead to heightened perception. Piano playing is used as a vehicle for personal expression and exploring musical relationships and highlighting personal expression. The goal of Introduction to Music is to increase sensitivity to music in such a way as to enhance your aesthetic response and effect aesthetic values.

This course emphasizes three dimensions: (1) a perceptual-conceptual approach to the study of four musical parameters (sound, rhythm, pitch and structure), (2) the use of diverse music (old-new, Western-non-Western, popular-“art”), and (3) engaging students in several musicianly roles in the learning process: analyzing aurally and visually, performing, and evaluating. Approximately two-thirds of each class meeting will be devoted to listening and fundamentals/theory and one-third to experiences through the piano.
GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

1. Examine the interaction of analytical and creative processes through both listening to diverse music(s) and performing them.

2. Recognize aesthetic qualities and processes by studying and listening to significant works of art in both classroom and concert venues.

3. Discuss subjective reactions to musical examples and analyze the expressive qualities that evoke responses.

4. Examine the historical and/or cultural contexts of works studied in the classroom, programmed on concerts, and performed in class.

5. Write clearly and effectively in accordance with current GE guidelines.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) (Required)

1. Identify musical features in listening examples in both response and narrative formats.

2. Identify musical features in selected notated piano music.

3. Identify pitch names in the treble and bass clefs, major and minor keys, certain chords, note values and chord types from standard musical notation.

4. Construct scales, some chords, and diagram a counting system for passages from music literature.

5. Perform short pieces of diverse styles at the piano.

6. Complete at least 6 pages of concert reports using appropriate terminology, clarity of expressed ideas and correct spelling, grammar, syntax and organization.

Required Texts/Readings

Piano Lab: An Introduction to Class Piano, Carolynn Lindeman, 7th Edition, Thomson Schirmer

Other Readings

Manuscript Paper

Other technology requirements/equipment

Headphones and jacks (optional)