San José State University  
School of Music and Dance  
MUSC 010A, Music Appreciation, Section 1, Fall 2018

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Kate Johnson-Metcalf, MA  
Email: kate.metcalf@sjsu.edu  
Office Location: Music 185  
Office Hours: M/W 10:15-11 am  
Class Days/Time: M/W 9-10:15 am  
Classroom: Music 250  
GE/SJSU Studies Category: Humanities and Arts: C1 (Arts)

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging
Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on Canvas at http://sjsu.instructure.com. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU at http://my.sjsu.edu (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates.

Course Description
This course is a general survey of Western music focusing on recorded and live performances. We will expand on our understanding of Western music by discovering and discussing music throughout the world, and focusing in particular on our diverse experiences of music today.

Music is a masterpiece of human imagination, ingenuity, and intellect and we will learn to recognize that as we encounter a wide range of musical traditions. Students will learn to recognize themes, concepts, and patterns in the music they hear, and will discover how music reflects personal creativity as well as social, political, religious, and cultural change. Students will gain a vocabulary for discussing music with others and for understanding music in relationship to other forms of human expression including art, architecture, philosophy, religion, and politics. Students will experience music in and outside of class through audio recordings, videoed performances, and attendance at two live concerts.

Course Goals
My goals and responsibilities as your instructor are:

1. Point you in the right direction and guide your learning
2. Provide assignments, lectures, and projects that support your learning
3. Steer you toward additional help, should you need it
Your responsibilities as students are:

1. Complete assignments and projects on time and in full
2. Come to class prepared and with any questions you encountered during your reading and listening
3. Track your progress and study regularly
4. Ask questions! Especially if you do not understand the material
5. Participate in class discussions

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Recognize aesthetic qualities and processes that characterize works of the human intellect and imagination, by studying and listening to significant works of musical art in both classroom and concert venues.
   **Graded by:** written assignments, exams, and concert reviews

2. Respond to works of musical art both analytically and affectively, by discussing subjective reactions to musical examples and analyzing the expressive qualities that evoke responses
   **Graded by:** written assignments and concert reviews

3. Examine the diverse historical, social, and cultural contexts of works studied in the classroom, programmed on concerts, and demonstrated in class
   **Graded by:** written assignments, exams, and concert reviews

4. Write clearly and effectively in accordance with the current GE guidelines, on topics related to music
   **Graded by:** written assignments and concert reviews
   1. Regarding written assignments, please be aware that the School of Music and Dance subscribe to the university policy that “All student writing should be distinguished by correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation; appropriate choice and use of words and syntax; and well-organized paragraphs. Instructors will comment on and grade the quality of students’ writing as well as the quality of the ideas being conveyed.” If you have questions or difficulty meeting these requirements regarding written assignments, you will be directed to the SJSU Writing Center.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Examine music as a form of expression that reflects personal creativity as well as social, historical, political, religious, and cultural changes and influences.
2. Recognize the various roles or functions of the musical arts in society, and examine music as a process and component of culture from several points of view - that of the composer, performer, producer, and listener.
3. Examine and discuss music in relationship to other forms of human expression, including art, architecture, philosophy, religion, and politics.
4. Attend a concert of any kind with an appreciation of its context and cultural origins.
5. Identify the style periods of the Western musical canon and the country or cultural origin of works studied or similar works.
Required Texts/Readings

Textbook and Materials
Available at the campus bookstore as well as at books.wwnorton.com

Readings
Readings will be available on Canvas and will be clearly marked as “required” or “supplemental.”

Music Library Liaison
Toby Matoush (toby.matoush@sjsu.edu)
The music library at SJSU is an incredibly rich resource for you in your studies, and the music librarian is one of your best allies in finding the information and sources you need.

Course Requirements and Assignments
- Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ Syllabus Information web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/

With better than 70% accuracy, students will be expected to:
1. Complete 2 written reports on required concerts
2. Complete online quizzes as assigned
3. Complete a research assignment and a final comprehensive examination

Concert attendance and concert reports:
1. All students are required to attend two live concerts this semester, and to write a 750-word concert report reacting to each concert.
2. These concerts must be of live music and must be in two different genres, one of which must be Western art music, and the other of a genre of the student’s choice.
3. Further details and requirements will be provided in a separate document; for lists of upcoming on-campus concerts visit the Music Department’s Calendar at http://events.ha.sjsu.edu/musicanddance/events/.

Quizzes:
1. Online quizzes will be assigned covering course material including reading assignments and lectures. These quizzes will be short and will be designed to assess how well you have grasped new material.
2. If you require assistance with online quizzes, please contact me.

Research assignment:
1. The research assignment will be a 1500-word essay exploring a specific genre or era and its social, cultural, political, historical, and aesthetic implications. We will discuss exact prompts further in class.

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will generally work on this class in equal thirds. One third of their time spent in lectures each week (approx. 2 hrs/week), one third spent on textbook and online readings (approx. 2 hrs/week), and one third spent on research and writing (approx. 2 hrs/week).
Final Examination or Evaluation

The final exam will be comprehensive, covering eras, concepts, and themes discussed throughout the semester.

Grading Information

- University Syllabus Policy S16-9 (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf)
- University Attendance and Participation policy F15-12 (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf)

Determination of Grades

1. The grading rubric for written assignments is attached at the end of the syllabus
2. If at any point you are concerned about your grade or performance in this class, please come see me during office hours.
3. Course work weightings:
   - Class participation: 10%
   - Quizzes: 10%
   - Concert Report 1: 15%
   - Concert Report 2: 15%
   - Research Assignment: 25%
   - Final Exam: 25%
4. Assigned homework, concert reports, and exams will be graded. Homework and other written work such as quizzes may be given at any time. A grade of 0 will be entered for any missed assignments and exams.
5. In class participation includes participation in discussions during class and online, which are each graded as pass/fail.
6. Written assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. Assignments submitted late (unless excused in advance in writing by the instructor) will receive a 20% penalty. Late assignments will only be accepted up to one week after the due date.
7. Grades will not be curved.

Grading Information for GE/100W

This course must be passed with a C- or better as a CSU graduation requirement.

Classroom Protocol

1. Class will start every day on time. If you arrive late, please find the nearest seat and avoid disturbing those around you. Leaving early from class will not be accepted, without my prior permission, as it disrupts the class and your fellow classmates.
2. Electronic devices must be silenced and put away while in class. This includes all electronic devices such as cell phones, laptops, iPads, etc. If you need special accommodations, please let me know.
3. Absolutely no use of headphones, earbuds, etc. in class.
4. Attendance at all class sessions is essential. I expect your active class participation and class discussion as critical thinking is a vital part of deepening your understanding of music. It is also absolutely essential that you complete each new reading and listening assignment before attending the next class, so you are prepared to participate in the lecture. Finally, please remember that success in this course will not come from simply
attending lectures and handing in assignments. To master the material, you must spend sufficient time outside of class for preparation, listening, and study.

5. Bullying, intimidation, offensive language, and verbal attacks will not be tolerated. Respect your fellow classmates, even if you disagree with them.

**University Policies**

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ Syllabus Information web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/. Please read the material on the site, as you will be held responsible for the policies explained there.