

## MUSIC APPRECIATION MUS 1030 301- Fall 2008

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### COURSE MATERIALS

John Chiego, *The Musical Experience*, 1st Edition, Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co., 2007.

Online Music Library that accompanies text.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Readings from the text corresponding to the accompanying schedule of classes.

Listening to the music under discussion outside of class. An Online Music Library account is necessary to access the music for this course. A subscription to this service is included with the purchase of a new text. Familiarity with the music presented in class will be necessary for successful completion of the course.

There are four papers required for this class. See Writing Assignments below.

Attendance at lectures and participation in class discussion is necessary in order to successfully complete the course. Absence from class does not relieve the student from the responsibility to know the material presented and discussed. See Attendance Policy below.

#### **Completion of all tests and writing assignments is required to receive a passing grade.**

Please make sure you understand this requirement. Even if you have a high average on your test scores you will not pass the course if you are lacking any of the written assignments, or if you choose not to take one of the tests. There will be five content tests and five listening tests during the semester. Each content test will count 12% in grading and each listening test will count 4%. Each of the Writing Assignments will count for 5%.

### CONCERT ATTENDANCE

Attendance at three concerts is required during the semester. At least one of these concerts must be of professional caliber. A professional concert would include the Memphis Symphony, Opera Memphis, a faculty ensemble concert at the U of M, etc. Only concerts that are usually considered “classical music” concerts are acceptable for this requirement. It is assumed that most students are already familiar with most popular styles of music. Since broadening the student’s exposure to a wide variety of music is one of the goals of this class, only attendance at classical music concerts will be acceptable. Attendance must be verified by submitting a ticket stub and a program for each concert attended. If you are unsure whether a concert would be acceptable please ask the instructor before attending the concert.

## **WRITING ASSIGNMENTS**

There are four writing assignments for this class, each approximately 750 words in length. These papers will be based on material presented in the Perspective essays found in each chapter of the text. The topic for each assignment should somehow be related to, or inspired by, the content of the Perspective essay it is based upon. For example, the title of the Perspective essay for Chapter 1 is “Art and Music”, in which the concepts of the basic elements of music and art are compared and the historical periods by which we classify music and art are discussed. A possible topic for a Writing Assignment regarding this chapter might be the music of one particular historical period. Or it might be a comparison of the basic elements of music with their counterparts in English grammar and how they come together to produce complete compositions. Another possibility is to explore, somewhat in depth, one of the basic elements of music. These are only a few possible topics related to this Perspective essay and illustrate how these writing assignments should allow you to be creative in your thinking about music. If you have a question about a topic you would like to explore, but are unsure if it is acceptable, just ask your instructor before you begin.

The writing assignments, and the chapters they are based on, should be chosen from the following:

Writing Assignment #1:	Chapter 1 or Chapter 2
Writing Assignment #2:	Chapter 3, Chapter 4 or Chapter 5
Writing Assignment #3:	Chapter 6, Chapter 7 or Chapter 8
Writing Assignment #4:	Chapter 8, Chapter 9 or Chapter 10

As with all written work, appropriate citations of sources is required. Please do not copy anything, either from a written source or a web site, without the required citations. Excessive copying is not acceptable as a substitute for your own carefully considered words. These Writing Assignments should be considered primarily essays rather than research papers. As such, they should reflect your own ideas and thoughts rather than a compilation of facts from outside sources.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

For every three unexcused absences the semester grade will be reduced by one grading increment. For example, if the earned grade for the semester is an A and the student has three unexcused absences, the final grade will be A-. If the earned grade is an A and the student has six unexcused absences the final grade will be a B, and so forth. An unexcused absence is any absence without adequate documentation, such as a doctor’s note for an illness, a copy of a traffic ticket or a summons for a court appearance, etc. The instructor will be reasonable in assessing the validity of absence documentation but it is the student’s responsibility to provide appropriate certification.

## TESTING POLICY

Chapter content tests in this class are given online at prescribed times, on the test dates specified in the Schedule of Classes. The tests will be available during times set by the instructor and will have a time limit once the test begins. The tests can be taken from any computer with a Web browser but it is strongly suggested that the tests be taken on a computer you are familiar with and have set up with a link, whether a desktop shortcut or a link within a saved e-mail, so there will be no question of the computer's compatibility with the textbook Web site.

The length of time each test is available is up to the instructor but it is the student's responsibility to begin the test with enough time left in the window of availability to complete the test. For example, if the instructor makes the test available from 8:00 am until 3:00 pm, with the test length set to be 30 minutes, the student should begin the test at least 30 minutes before the end of the window of availability. In this hypothetical case that would be 2:30. If you begin the test after 2:30 you will not have the full 30 minutes in which to complete it. So please be aware of the window of availability as well as the length of the test.

Since the window of availability for these online tests is rather generous, taking a missed test will not be allowed except in extraordinary circumstances.

Listening tests will be given in class at the beginning of the class following a chapter content test. For example, if a chapter content test is given online on Monday students can expect a listening test covering the same material at the beginning of class on Wednesday.

## SCHEDULE of CLASSES

### August

25 -First day of class instructions

27 - Introduction (Elements)

29 - Historical Overview

### September

3 - Historical Overview

*Chapter 1 question assignment due*

5 - Music of the Religious Experience

8 - Music of the Religious Experience

10 - Music of the Religious Experience

12 - Music of the Religious Experience

*Chapter 2 question assignment due*

**15 – Test #1**

17 - **Listening Test #1** Music for the Stage

*1<sup>st</sup> Writing Assignment Due*

19 - Music for the Stage

22 - Music for the Stage

*Chapter 3 question assignment due*

24 - Music for Dancing

26 – Music for Dancing

29 - Music for Dancing

### October

1 - Music for Dancing

*Chapter 4 question assignment due*

**3 – Test #2**

6 – **Listening Test #2** Songs  
8 – Songs  
10 - Songs

*Chapter 5 question assignment due*

15 - Music for Mourning  
17 - Music for Mourning

*2<sup>nd</sup> Writing Assignment Due*

*Chapter 6 question assignment due*

20 - Music for Celebration, Inspiration and Commemoration  
22 - Music for Celebration, Inspiration and Commemoration

*Chapter 7 question assignment due*

**24 - Test #3**

27 - **Listening Test #3** Music for the Concert Hall  
29 - Music for the Concert Hall  
31 - Music for the Concert Hall

**November**

3 - Music for the Concert Hall

*Chapter 8 Part One question assignment due*

5 - Music for the Concert Hall  
7 - Music for the Concert Hall

10 - Music for the Concert Hall  
12 - Music for the Concert Hall

*3<sup>rd</sup> Writing Assignment Due*

*Chapter 8 Part Two question assignment due*

**14 – Test #4**

17 - **Listening Test #4** Music for the Movies  
19 - Music for the Movies  
21 - Music for the Movies

*Chapter 9 question assignment due*

24 – Improvisation  
26 – Improvisation

**December**

1 – Improvisation

*4<sup>th</sup> Writing Assignment Due*

*Chapter 10 question assignment due*

**3 - Test #5 and Listening Test #5**