

MUSC 2055 Music History Survey II (3 credits)

Spring 2010 • TTh • 10:00-11:20 AM

Whitney 112 • Music Department • Fine Arts Division

proferickson.com/cke/musc2055

login: musc

password: 2055

Instructor and Contact Information

Dr. Christian Erickson

Office: Whitney 107

Office hours: TTh 1:00 PM-2:00 PM (additional hours by appointment)

(307) 674-6446, extension 3050

chris@proferickson.com (preferred method of contact)

Course Description

This course examines the music and aesthetics of Western art music from the Classical through the Contemporary eras. Major composers and their works are put into historical context. Critical listening, thinking and analytical skills are developed.

Prerequisites

None, however completion of MUSC 2040 Written Theory III is encouraged.

Co-requisites

None

Purpose

This is a required course for music majors and minors. The skills practiced and learned will provide the student with the fundamental knowledge of music history required for further study in the discipline. It may also fulfill the Visual and Performing Arts general education requirement.

Course Format

Lecture

Grading

Letter

Texts/Materials

- Wright, Craig, and Bryan R. Simms. *Music in Western Civilization* (1st edition). Boston, MA: Schirmer, 2009. ISBN-13: 978-0495572732
- Wright, Craig, and Bryan R. Simms. *Anthology for Music in Western Civilization* (1st edition). Boston, MA: Schirmer, 2009. ISBN-13: 978-0495572749
- Dickreiter, Michael. *Score Reading: A Key to the Music Experience*. Pompton Plains, NJ: Amadeus Press, 2003. ISBN-13: 978-0495008668
- Pens, pencils, erasers, notebook, etc.
- Access to a computer with an internet connection and a browser, or equipped with a CD-ROM drive and media player software that can play AAC audio files (e.g. iTunes)
- Two blank CD-R discs

Minimum Student Outcomes

Upon completion of MUSC 2055 Music History Survey II, the student will:

- identify major composers, genres and works associated with stylistic periods studied.
- summarize the musical aesthetics of each stylistic period studied.
- apply knowledge of musical stylistic content to identify musical excerpts both visually from scores and aurally from recordings or performances.
- distinguish musical works based on personal stylistic traits of individual composers.

Approximate Final Grade Evaluation

40% – Unit Exams

30% – Homework Assignments

20% – Quick Quizzes

10% – Analytical Paper

Descriptions of Graded Course Components

Unit Exams: [Four total, each 10% of your final grade] Three unit exams will be administered at regular periodic intervals throughout the semester. Exams may cover any material from the text, handouts, class activities, videos, assignments, and lectures. Please make immediate note of exam days on our attached course schedule and resolve any conflicts you may have ASAP.

Homework Assignments: [26 total, each worth around 1% of your final grade] These assignments will reinforce concepts and techniques discussed in class. This component involves listening to assigned recordings and answering specific questions about the musical works you hear and follow with the score. Some of the questions will be handed in and graded by the instructor, while others will be addressed in class discussions. See course schedule for specific assignments.

Quick Quizzes: [22 total, each worth around 1% of your final grade] Timed quick quizzes based on the prior meeting's reading assignment will be administered daily during the first five minutes of class meetings (except for exam days). These quizzes cannot be made up, and they will be collected at five minutes after the hour. Therefore, please be punctual for our meetings.

Analytical Paper: [Worth 10% of your final grade] An historical-analytical paper focusing on a common-practice period piece of the student's choosing will be assigned. Guidelines for formatting, annotations, etc. will be distributed early in the semester

Attendance & Participation: While not directly factored into your grade, attendance and participation are vital to learning. Students are expected to attend class regularly, arrive on time, and stay for the entire session. Students are also expected to answer homework discussions when called on. Excessive unsatisfactory responses or unwillingness to participate may result in a penalty applied to your homework grade. Likewise, consistent correct responses and regular participation may be awarded bonus points in the case of borderline grades at the end of the semester. You are responsible for learning all material covered in class whether you are present or not. If you do miss a meeting or a portion of one, please ask a classmate if you may review his or her notes.

Websites

You have two online resources available to you. Our class companion website for this course is available at proferickson.com. Here you'll find printable documents (such as the syllabus and other handouts), links to useful sites, and audio files. As the class site contains copyrighted material, the audio files are posted in a password-protected directory. You can access them using the login information at the top of the first page of this syllabus. The second site is a text-specific companion website that includes flashcards and tutorial quizzes for each chapter, along with other useful links. It is highly recommended you utilize the flashcards and quizzes. A link to this site can be found on our class webpage, or by typing this shortcut into your browser: <http://www.hurl.ws/2xzy>.

Late and Incomplete Assignments

Students are expected to complete all assignments by prescribed due dates. The "due date" is the beginning of the meeting following an assignment unless otherwise noted on the course calendar. Assignments submitted after the due date will be assessed a flat 35% penalty. I will accept late work up until the final day of class, so do not simply "blow off" an assignment because the due date is past and it's subject to a late penalty. Partial credit is always better than no credit at all.

Absences and Make-up Exam and Quiz Policy

In cases of school-sponsored activities or illness resulting in an absence by the student, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor *in advance* of the missed class. Absences with advance notice are considered "excused." Students are responsible for all reading, listening and other homework assigned during the absence. Absences *without* prior notification to the instructor ("unexcused") will automatically result in forfeiture of any possible points associated with the missed class.

Make-up exams are administered at the instructor's discretion. A maximum of one exam may be made up (subsequent missed exams will result in a zero for each one missed). Typically, exams missed as a result of an excused absence (see above) will be administered in advance of the exam date or as soon as possible after the exam date associated with the missed exam.

Exams missed due to an unexcused absence will be subject to the 35% late penalty described above, and will administered at a time mutually convenient to the instructor and student. As an incentive for students to make in-class exams a priority in this course, all make-up exams, whether excused or not, are in a formal essay format that most students find more difficult than the regular in-class exams. Exams are marked in **bold** on your course calendar for your planning convenience. Please resolve any conflicts with these dates as soon as possible, and see me promptly if you have a scheduled obligation that conflicts with an exam date.

Quick Quizzes over the previous meeting's listening assignments are also marked on the calendar. Unlike exams, these quizzes cannot be made up or completed in advance due to absence (excused or otherwise) or tardiness. There are no exceptions to this policy. Fortunately, each individual quiz counts for a very small percentage of your final grade, missing one or two of them will not substantially effect your final score in the class. However, missing several of them will effect your final score. Please arrive a few minutes before class begins so you're ready when the quiz commences.

Course Withdrawal/Petition for Incomplete Grade

On occasion, unforeseen circumstances may interfere with a student's ability to complete a course or to accomplish a satisfactory level of personal academic achievement. If you find yourself in this situation, I encourage you to visit with me regarding your options. Rarely is a grade unsalvageable if a student is willing to take the steps necessary to rectify it. If, however, a student is ever unable to fully devote his or her energies to the coursework, withdrawal may be the best option. Consult the college's academic calendar for the withdrawal deadline. Paperwork for withdrawals can be obtained from the Office of Records and Admissions.

A temporary grade of "I" or "incomplete" is available to students who cannot finish the course due to an emergency situation that arises late in the semester. The administration of an incomplete is at the instructor's discretion. Although I can be flexible depending on the circumstances of the student, my general policy is that the student should have at least 75% of the course completed and have a current grade of C or better at the time of the request for the incomplete grade. The incomplete portion of the course must be completed by the end of the semester following the request (summer sessions excluded) or the "I" will revert to an "F."

Northern Wyoming Community College District Policies

- **Academic Honesty Statement:** Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Academic honesty means performing all academic work without lying, cheating, deceit, plagiarism, misrepresentation, or unfairly gaining advantage over any other student. Violations of academic honesty are in violation of District standards for student conduct and shall result in disciplinary action
- **Disability Statement:** Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the advising office as soon as possible to ensure such accommodations may be implemented.
- A complete list of official college policies can be found on the NWCCD website by pointing your browser to this shortcut: <http://www.hurl.ws/eyk>