COURSE DESCRIPTION
A course for non-music majors. A study of selected music literature of contrasting styles and forms with an emphasis on listening and understanding music. This satisfies the university core curriculum requirement in Fine Arts. There are no prerequisites.

TEXT AND MATERIALS

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
At the completion of this course, you will be able to analyze a musical work according to the elements of music and historical context. In addition, you will discuss it cogently in a social context. In order to achieve this objective, you will be able to do the following with 100% accuracy:

1. Define and describe the elements of music and how they contribute to the creation of distinctive musical styles
2. Identify the major style periods in Western Art Music in terms of their dates, important music characteristics and genres, major musical developments and principal composers as outlined in the text.
3. Recognize the social, political and economic environment of a society that influences the creation and performance of music.
4. Describe the major styles of music from non-Western cultures in terms of their elements, historical backgrounds and locations.
5. Explain the major styles of American popular music in terms of characteristics and genres, major developments and principal performers.

COURSE OVERVIEW
There are four units in the class, and I recommend you follow the suggested structure; however, you may complete units in any order you wish. There are a few things to remember:

1. Assignments should be completed at the end of the unit in which you find them. They are also progressive, so complete all of the units leading up to the assignment before completing that assignment. For example, complete units 1-3 before attempting assignment #3.
2. There are assessments at the ends of every section in the units. Complete the assessments once you have read the sections.
3. The midterm and final exams will be available on the scheduled dates only. All assessments and assignments for the units covered must be completed by the test date. The midterm covers units 1-3 and the final covers unit 4, so all of the work for those units must be submitted by the dates of those tests.
4. The discussion forums for each unit will open on specific dates and will be available throughout the semester.

**Unit 1 - Basic Musical Concepts**
1: Unity and Variety; the Structure of Music;
2: Types of Listeners and Music

**Unit 2 - Building Blocks of Sound**
3: Duration, Pitch, and Intervals
4: Volume and Timbre
5: The Symphony Orchestra; String Instruments
6: Woodwind and Brass Instruments
7: Percussion and Keyboard Instruments

**Unit 3 - The Organizing Elements of Music**
8: Rhythm, Tempo and Meter
9: Melody and Harmony
10: Texture and Form

**MIDTERM - July 23**

**Unit 4 - Historical Periods**
11: The Medieval Period
12: The Renaissance
13: The Baroque Period I
14: The Baroque Period II
15: The Classical Period I
16: The Classical Period II
17: The Romantic Period I
18: The Romantic Period II
19: The Contemporary Period I
20: The Contemporary Period II

**FINAL EXAM - August 6**

**GRADING**
Grading will be based on assessments in the text, quizzes, and participation in discussion boards in Blackboard. You must utilize Blackboard for all assignments and assessments in this class. 

**Assessments – 40% of the final grade:** There are assessments (mini-quizzes) at the end of each section in the text. You will complete the assessments for all of the sections in the text. There are 27 assessments – you should have no trouble completing them quickly if you do them immediately after reading the text.
**Midterm and Final Exam – 40% of the final grade:** The midterm and final exam are comprehensive exams based on material from the texts. They – along with the assessments – account for the majority of your final grade. Exams must be completed on the day they are assigned. The midterm date is Wednesday July 23; the final exam is Thursday August 7.

**Assignments – 10% of the final grade:** There are five assignments, one for each teaching unit and a final concert attendance report. Assignments 1, 2 and 3 must be completed by the midterm date (July 23). Assignments 4 and 5 must be completed by the final exam date (August 7). Late work will not be accepted, but you may turn in assignments as early as you wish.

**Discussion – 10% of the final grade:** There will be 5 topics for discussion based on concepts from the text. You will respond at least once to each discussion and will receive 2% credit (out of 10% total) for each different thread to which you respond. If you choose to work ahead in the text, then be sure to check Blackboard for discussions. The point is for you all to interact as a class.

**Grading Scale**

- A 90-100%
- B 80-89%
- C 70-79%
- D 60-69%
- F 59% and below

**UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

**Academic Advising**

The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

**Grade Appeals**

Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean.

**Disabilities Accommodations**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room 116.
If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.