3 Credits – Summer 2021
Sophomore Standing and English 111 prerequisites
A Blackboard course supported by UAF eLearning & Distance Education
All course materials are online and can be accessed through Blackboard
No textbook required
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Course Description

Understanding and appreciation of music through explorations of its diverse styles, influences and developments. Topics include musical elements, evolutions and innovations, the role of the performer, non-western music, recording technologies, social commentary, music and storytelling. Students will be examining their own musical preferences in depth. Students will be sharing and discussing their findings with classmates in a scholarly blog.

Course Goals

Students will write scholarly blog posts centered on self-selected material from a variety of musical topics. Throughout the course students will recognize and describe fundamental music elements in their selections and analyze how these elements contribute to personal aesthetic judgments and emotional responses. By the end of the course, students will have created a blog that can be used as part of their educational portfolio for resumes and or graduate school applications.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will be guided to write scholarly, cited articles centered on a work of music. As they progress through the course the articles will present greater depth as students apply their knowledge of musical elements and aesthetic responses to a broader spectrum of musical concerns: styles, instruments, technology, entertainment, performances, marketing, and social commentary.

Technical Requirements

Regular access to the internet is required for this course. Students will need to be able to access Blackboard as well as have enough broadband width to stream YouTube videos. Assignments are published by students on an independent blogging platform, like Blogger. Students will be required to download and upload images and embed or link videos in their blogs. Use of an online editor, such as Grammarly is highly recommended. This course is not 100% compatible with tablets and mobile devices. You will need access to a laptop or desktop computer in order to take online assessments and properly format blog and comment submissions.

Instructional Methods

Instructional videos are part of each unit. The first unit contains online assessments in Blackboard. All subsequent units contain curated internet links to kickstart research. This research is used by students to write scholarly blog posts related to the unit topic. Specific criteria are required for each blog post, and students are assessed on how well they met that criteria. Students are also required to carefully read and respond to posts by fellow students. In addition to expressing their opinion, they need to further contribute to the discussion/learning.

Writing Like a Scholar

Due to the academic nature of the blogging assignments for this course, proper citation of quality sources, in MLA style with hyperlinks are required. Organization and careful editing are also expected. Inattention to typos, grammar, misspellings and overall presentation will negatively impact grades. Submitted assignments that contain multiple writing errors and do not meet the standards of writing expected for a 200 level course, will be returned with a zero and the possibility of a rewrite. Late penalties will apply.

If you need help editing, organizing, citing research and perfecting your work, the Writing Center is available to all students. Students outside of Fairbanks can receive assistance through phone and fax. Call the Writing Center – 907-474-5314 or visit their website - https://www.uaf.edu/english/writing-center/

Expectation of Student Effort

Students should expect to spend 9-12 hours per week on this class. Students are expected to complete all assignments by their due dates.

Late Assignment Policy

Assessments on Blackboard are accepted up to 3 days late without penalty.
Blog posts are accepted up to 3 days late with a 5% point deduction for each day.
Comments are accepted up to 3 days late with a 4 point per day deduction.

If circumstances arise that cause you to need more than 3 days extra on any assignment(s), e-mail your instructor for guidance. Extensions of due dates may be granted, but your instructor expects to be informed in advance if you are not able to submit your assignment on time. Emergency situations will be dealt with as needed.

Students are expected to maintain a working backup plan to be implemented in the event of a computer malfunction or an interruption of their normal Internet service during the course.

Course Deadlines

A complete schedule of course deadlines is linked on the left-hand side of the Blackboard site specific to this class. Deadlines can also be viewed in the My Grades section of Blackboard.

Working Ahead

Working ahead is encouraged for the assessments and blog posts. WARNING: You can get into trouble when you work ahead on the comment assignments. Avoid pitfalls which can earn you a zero and only do your comments 3 days in advance. Trust this cautionary guidance.

Zeros

It is possible to miss a few assignments, receive a few zeros and still pass this course. However, too many missed assignments indicate a lack of student participation and ability to pass the course. If you miss 4-5 missed assignments and have not contacted your instructor concerning permissible circumstances that would require flexibility, you will be withdrawn from the course by your instructor. This will happen before the last day to withdraw for the semester as given on the UAF academic calendar.

Mandatory Assignment

The first blogging assignment is mandatory. The criteria for this assignment must be met at 100% for students to continue with the course. Students will not be allowed to continue with subsequent assignments until this mandatory assignment is completed with all required components.

Proper Submission

All blog and comment assignments must be submitted properly, with the correct formatting. Formatting requirements are found in the first blogging and comment assignments and are linked in all subsequent blogging and comment assignments. If you do not submit your blogs and comments properly you will receive a zero. You will be allowed to resubmit if there is a formatting error, but late penalties will be applied if they are resubmitted past the due date.

Redoing Assignments

1) All online assessments can be taken twice for an improved grade. **This does not apply to blog or comment assignments.**

2) The “Turn in Your First Blog” assignment can be resubmitted until all components are correct. Each resubmission takes 10 points off your grade.

3) If you receive a zero on a blog or comment assignment due to a small problem, you may be directed to redo or resubmit the assignment by your instructor.

4) These are the only situations where you can redo an assignment. All other blog posts and comments cannot be resubmitted for a better grade.

Grading Policy

There are 1275 total possible points for this course. Your grade will be based on the total number of points achieved. HOWEVER – Students who have achieved 1085 points or higher on all assignments prior to the final project won’t be required to do the final project. Woo hoo! Make sure you submit comments on your classmates' final blog.

Scoring:

The minimum total points needed out of a course total of 1275

A+ = 1238
A = 1186
A- = 1149
B+ = 1112
B = 1061

B- =1023
C+ = 985
C = 935
C- = 897 - lowest total to have the course count towards graduation requirements
D = 771
F = 755 or below

That means that you could lose 89 points in the total course, and still have an A.
C– is the minimum acceptable grade required for all Core (X) Courses.

Finishing the Course

You are expected to finish all assignments, and the final project by the dates listed on the course deadline. If you encounter rare, unexpected and documented circumstances that prevent you from completing all the assignments and finishing by the course deadline, you should contact your instructor. You MAY qualify for a grade of INCOMPLETE, with a new deadline schedule to allow you time to complete the course. Procrastination and poor planning are not legitimate considerations for an incomplete. Incompletes require extra work for your instructor and are not given freely.

How to Check Your Grade

To check your grades for assessments, blogs and comment assignments and find comments from your instructor, click on the My Grades link in the sidebar menu. All assignments and any due dates are listed. Your instructor has left overall assessment comments, click on the speech bubble icon to view comments and feedback.

If the score is for an assessment, the title of the test is a link. Then click on the check mark or your score to see results and feedback. Correct answers are shown to you after taking the assessment. The answers you scored incorrectly are not.

If the score is for a blog or comment assignment, the title of the assignment is a link and by clicking this link you'll be taken to your submission, grade and comments.

If you see a green exclamation point, your assignment has not been graded yet.

Instructor Response Time

Most grading is done the day after a blog or comment assignment is due, on Mondays and Thursdays. Every effort is made to grade assignments within 48 hours. If you find that you are not getting your grades and feedback in a timely manner, email your instructor. If you do not get a response from that email, email the office of the College of Liberal Arts - uaf-cla@alaska.edu

Academic Honesty

As described by UAF, scholastic dishonesty constitutes a violation of the university rules and regulations and is punishable according to the procedures outlined by UAF. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an exam, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating includes providing answers to or

taking answers from another student. Plagiarism includes use of another author's words or arguments without attribution. Collusion includes unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of any course requirement. Scholastic dishonesty is punishable by removal from the course and a grade of "F." Ignorance is not a legitimate excuse. Watch this VIDEO about plagiarism. For additional clarification go to Student Code of Conduct. (http://uaf.edu/usa/student-resources/conduct)

Support Services

UAF eLearning Student Services helps students with registration and course schedules, provides information about lessons and student records, assists with the examination process, and answers general questions. Our Academic Advisor can help students communicate with instructors, locate helpful resources, and maximize their distance learning experience. Contact the UAF eLearning Student Services staff at 907.455.2060 or toll free 1.800.277.8060 or contact staff directly – for directory listing see: http://elearning.uaf.edu/contact

UAF Help Desk

Go to http://www.alaska.edu/oit/ to see about current network outages and news.

Reach the Help Desk at:

- e-mail at helpdesk@alaska.edu
- fax: 907.450.8312
- phone: 450.8300 (in the Fairbanks area) or 1.800.478.8226 (outside of Fairbanks)

Disability Services

UAF is an equal opportunity employer/program and auxiliary aids and services; services to individuals with disabilities are available upon request.

The **UAF Office of Disability Services** operates in conjunction with UAF eLearning. Disability Services, a part of UAF's Center for Health and Counseling, provides academic accommodations to enrolled students who are identified as being eligible for these services.

If you believe you are eligible, please visit their web site (http://www.uaf.edu/disability/) or contact a student affairs staff person at your local campus. You can also contact Disability Services on the Fairbanks campus by phone, 907.474.5655, or by e-mail (uaf-disabilityservices@alaska.edu).

Student Protection

UAF embraces and grows a culture of respect, diversity, inclusion, and caring. Students at this university are protected against sexual harassment and discrimination (Title IX). Faculty members are designated as responsible employees which means they are required to report sexual misconduct. Graduate teaching assistants do not share the same reporting obligations. For more information on your rights as a student and the resources available to you to resolve problems, please go to the following site: https://catalog.uaf.edu/academicsregulations/students-rights-responsibilities/.

COVID-19 Statement

Students should keep up-to-date on the university's policies, practices, and mandates related to COVID-19 by regularly checking this website: https://sites.google.com/alaska.edu/coronavirus/uaf/uafstudents?authuser=0 Further, students are expected to adhere to the university's policies, practices, and mandates and are subject to disciplinary actions if they do not comply.