

South Plains College  
Department of Fine Arts

**MUSI 1306 – Music Appreciation (8-week online)**  
Course Syllabus

**Instructor**

Dr. Darin Cash  
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**Office**

Fine Arts Building-Levelland-FA 142  
Office hours as posted on office door and Blackboard or by appointment

**Course Description**

Understanding music through the study of cultural periods, major composers, and musical elements. Illustrated with audio recordings and live performances. (Does not apply to a music degree.)

This course satisfies a **050 Creative Arts** Core Curriculum requirement.

The purpose of the Creative Arts component in the core curriculum is to provide the student the opportunity to develop an appreciation for the arts through an analysis of creative artifacts and works of the human imagination. This will involve the synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and enable critical, creative, and innovative communication about works of art.

Core Objectives Addressed:

- Critical Thinking: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information
- Communication Skills: To include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
- Teamwork: To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.
- Social Responsibility: To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of the course, the student will show competence in the course objectives listed below:

- Identify musical works and elements in a variety of styles
- Analyze the elements and structures of music using appropriate terminology
- Critically evaluate the influence of social, political, technological, and/or cultural ideas on music
- Articulate the significance of music as an art form within historical, cultural, and social contexts

## Required Materials

- All instructional materials, including reading, prescribed listening, instructional videos, etc. will be contained within the Blackboard modules.
- We will be using an Open Educational Resource for this class, so students are NOT required to purchase a textbook.

## Hardware Requirements

- You will need a computer or tablet capable of creating/editing documents, playing audio and video, joining video chats, etc.
- Smart Phones, while adequate for some course activities are not recommended for completing assignments, or taking tests within Blackboard
- Headphones or earbuds are recommended for listening exercises

## Software Requirements

- Microsoft Word or equivalent software for creating document files to submit. All SPC students have access to Office 365 for Free!
- Students will need to use their official SPC student email for communication and to receive course announcements or alerts.

## Course Requirements

- Read all reading materials included in instructional modules
- Listen/watch all audiovisual materials included in instructional modules
- Complete assignments or discussion boards and submit by designated due dates
- Complete and submit tests on the specified dates
- Attend at least one live concert event from the “approved concerts list”

## Participation

- Students must complete the “Check-in” survey at the beginning of the semester.
- Students registered in this class are expected to participate by regularly accessing the course, completing submitting coursework by the due dates.
- Neglecting to access the course or turn in work may result in student being dropped from course. (Email warnings will be issued prior to a student being dropped)

## Grading Policy

Grades will be calculated based on the following weighted criteria:

- Tests - 50%
- Essay papers - 20%
- Assignments/Participation - 30%

### Late Work

- Assignments will be accepted after the due date with the following penalty: -10% within first 2 days of due date, -10% for each additional day
- Tests will not be accepted after the due date, unless there are extenuating circumstances that are approved by the instructor
- Coursework cannot be accepted after the last class day!

### Gradebook

- Grades will be available in the "My Grades" tab in the Blackboard menu
- Gradebook will be updated weekly

## Academic Dishonesty

Cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. A first offense will result in zero credit for that graded activity. Any subsequent offense will result in being dropped from the course with a grade of F. More information can be found in the Student Conduct area of the SPC Student Guide.

## College Statements

For information regarding official South Plains College statements about *Diversity, Disabilities, Non-discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, and Campus Concealed Carry*, please visit: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>