

Music Appreciation

Course Syllabus

Instructor Information

Name: Bret Clifton

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Course Description

This is a semester-long, humanities course that explores the form, function and history of music, primarily (though not exclusively) through the Western Tradition. No previous musical experience of any kind is necessary. Classes meet daily for 1 hour each day. The core curriculum will methodically go through the basics of forms, music theory, and a chronological history of music and its evolution in Western society. This is a traditional academic course with various assignments, projects, tests and quizzes throughout the semester with a final exam at the end. There will be no required music performance activities usually associated with a choral or instrumental music class.

Curricular Information

Required Textbook and materials: No textbook, college-ruled paper, pencil, binder, headphones

Additional Resources: [Mr Clifton's Webpage](#), Google Classroom class page

Supplies Required for this Course: Headphones, Various articles/webpages, audio/video excerpts

Daily Time and Effort Expectations: One hour per school day per subject is required. **More than six days of absenteeism per semester will result in loss of credit and may negatively impact the path to graduation.**

Additional Information from the Instructor: Please refer to your Google Classroom and Mr. Clifton's webpage for additional resources, or speak with him personally. This course will require clear communication between you and him.

Course Schedule

Topics	Major Assignments	Timeframe
Melody, rhythm, meter, and harmony. Organization of sounds, texture, form	Note-taking.	<i>Week 1</i>
Tempo/dynamics, lyrics, instrument/voice families. Western musical instruments, ensembles, style and function in society	Note-taking. Worksheets	<i>Week 2</i>
Medieval and Renaissance culture, sacred and secular music	Note-taking. "Your Turn to Explore" Project/Presentation	<i>Week 3-4</i>
Baroque spirit, opera, liturgical and	Note-taking. "Your Turn to	<i>Week 5-6</i>

chamber/suite	Explore” Project/Presentation	
Classical form, style and transition to Romanticism	Note-taking. “Your Turn to Explore” Project/Presentation	<i>Week 7-8</i>
Romanticism and Impressionism	Note-taking. “Your Turn to Explore” Project/Presentation	<i>Week 9-11</i>
20th Century modernism and the making of American style	Note-taking. “Your Turn to Explore” Project/Presentation	<i>Week 12-13</i>
The rise of populism, rag, jazz, and musical theater	Note-taking. “Your Turn to Explore” Project/Presentation	<i>Week 14-15</i>
Rock n’ roll, film music. Postmodernism and technology in music	Note-taking. “Your Turn to Explore” Project/Presentation	<i>Week 16-17</i>
Material and historical review	Final Exam	<i>Week 18</i>

Course Evaluation:

The percentage breakdown for semester grade calculation will be as follows:

Skills Practice 35%

Assessments 50%

Final Exam or Project 15%

This course is a majority lecture/listen/discussion course with end unit multiple choice, open-note tests and project presentations. The final exam is a cumulative open-note overview of everything studied throughout the semester.

Grading Scale

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Proficiency descriptors</i>
A+	97-100	<i>Assignments are fully completed in a timely manner and of excellent quality; the student shows superior level of initiative and seeks to <u>go beyond the minimum requirements</u>. Errors are rare or nonexistent.</i>
A	93-96	
A-	90-92	
B+	87-89	<i>Assignments are fully completed in a timely manner and typically of above average quality; the student is conscientious and meets all requirements with few errors.</i>
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	<i>Assignments are generally complete (met minimum requirements) and of good quality; assigned tasks have occasional errors.</i>
C	73-76	

C-	70-72	
D+	67-69	<i>Assignments are generally incomplete or of poor quality; the student makes frequent errors in work.</i>
D	63-66	
D-	60-62	
F	0-59	<i>Work is poorly done, if at all. Overall performance is inadequate to pass the course.</i> <i>Note: No name = No credit</i> <i>Illegible = No credit</i> <i>Late = No credit (*will <u>STILL</u> complete and submit the assignment)</i>

Classroom Policies and Expectations: Students are expected to adhere to the classroom rules set by the teacher in their assigned classroom, and in accordance with expectations found in the [Student Handbook](#) and [Technology Policy](#).

Academic Honesty Code of Conduct:

“On my honor, I will maintain the highest possible standards of honesty, integrity, and personal responsibility. This means I will not lie, cheat, or steal, and as a member of this academic community, I am committed to creating an environment of respect and mutual trust.”

Violations of this code include, but are not limited to:

- Copying another person’s work or allowing your work to be copied (plagiarism)
- Allowing someone other than yourself to complete work in your name
- Using unauthorized assistance on an assessment or assignment
- Falsifying or manipulating data
- Submitting the same work for multiple courses without instructor’s permission
- Giving answers to other students
- Lying to an instructor
- Tampering with or destroying the work of another student
- Using responses found on the internet, or created with the use of technological means (ex artificial intelligence, etc)

****Any outside sources used on an assignment should be referenced and cited appropriately.****

Consequences for Academic Dishonesty: At the instructor’s discretion, the student **will** lose partial or full credit for the assignment. The student will be on notice that the incident will be recorded in the gradebook and his/her parent(s) will be informed. Future academic dishonesty incidents will result in a grade of zero for the assignment, a meeting with the principal, and possible loss of credit, suspension, or expulsion. Direct copying is plagiarism. Only original work may be submitted for this (and any other) academic course. If you have any questions about avoiding plagiarism, please visit the [OWL at Purdue's "Avoiding Plagiarism" web page](#).