

University of South Alabama
MUL 236 - Survey of Musical Masterworks II
Spring Semester 2016
8:00-9:15 TR - LPAC #1102
Office Hours: posted outside office and by appt.

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COURSE SYLLABUS

Description/Objectives

This course is the second of a two semester sequence and will familiarize the student with the vocabulary, traditions, conventions, genres and repertoire of the art music world. The course will focus on the “greatest hits” of the concert repertoire, world music and other works of a regional/timely interest. The course will also continue the development of student’s active listening skills and abilities to **speak** and write about music in an analytical way.

Prerequisites

Successful completion of MUL 235

Textbook & Other Materials

Mobile Symphony: *American Masters*, January 16, 8:00 pm or January 17, 2:30 pm (\$10, less at Jaguar Productions)

Mobile Symphony: *From Heaven to Earth*, February 20, 8:00 pm or February 21, 2:30 pm

Mobile Symphony: *A Thousand and One Nights*, April 9, 8:00 pm or April 10, 2:30 pm

Mobile Opera: *Gianni Schicchi*, April 1, 8:00 pm or April 3, 2:30 pm (\$15) **OR**

USA Opera Theatre: *HMS Pinafore*, April 22-24, 7:30 or 3:00

A World Music concert - Mithril, March 9, Mobile Symphony, March 12/13,

World Music Ensemble, April 27, Celtic Crúe, April 2, others possible

A ticket stub from the performances will be required for proof of attendance!

Access to computer/internet **and** iTunes software

Ability to listen to podcasts, iTunes files and access YouTube videos

Course materials will be accessed through a shared folder on Google Drive.

Look for the invitation in your JagMail!!!

Strongly Suggested: iPod or other digital music player/phone with large capacity

Attendance

Much of this course will be spent in interactive class discussion and active listening. Attendance is essential for the learning process. A portion of the grade will be based on class participation and attendance. In addition, mandatory attendance at the specific concerts listed above will be part of the course requirements. **When over 20% of classes are missed, the instructor may reserve the right to withhold the option to make up missed exams.**

Listening Assignments

Listening assignments will be made throughout the semester in order to provide first hand experience with the music studied and discussed in class. Materials will be made available through podcasts available through Google Drive. Listening will be a major part of each exam.

Exams

Three exams will be given during the semester on reading, discussion, and listening material. These exams are worth a total of 45% of the grade. Exam dates are given in the attached schedule, but may be changed as the course progresses with advance notice in class. Please plan to be in class for exams. Make up exams are difficult for all concerned. If you know in advance that you will be unable to attend class on the day of an exam, a time can be arranged with the instructor to take it in advance. If you miss due to illness or other emergency, a doctor's excuse or other documentation **must** be presented. **Make up exams will be scheduled at the instructor's convenience and will be more difficult than the regular exam. Missed make up exams will be graded as "zero".** Any student caught cheating on any exam or assignment will receive a zero grade for that exercise. A subsequent offense will result in disciplinary action through the office of the Dean of Students.

Additional Assignments

Concert Reaction Papers

Attendance at two live performances is required during the semester **in addition to** the five performances (Mobile Opera/Mobile Symphony/world music) specifically required for the course. Attendance at these concerts and the written work regarding them will constitute 8% of your grade. Each report will be worth 40 points.

You must do the following: 1) attend the entire program, 2) attach a printed program and ticket stub from the event to your paper, 3) report on the program as an informed critical listener, and 4) comment about the music almost exclusively. Use correct spelling and grammar. Papers **must** be typed. Font size should be similar to 12 point Helvetica or Times, 2-3 pages long, double spaced. Please staple the entire package before submitting. The Grading Rubric is attached to this document.

These concerts must be considered "art music" in nature, and may include orchestra concerts, opera, band concerts, choir concerts, musicals, chamber music, world music and recitals. All concerts must be **live** performances and must be considered a "concert" as opposed to entertainment at a social function or bar, however the circumstances in which one encounters world music can vary as they are frequently not formal. **You may not report on a concert in which you are a participant, and the mandatory class concerts will not count toward this requirement.** A list of appropriate performances will be posted on the Department web page www.southalabama.edu/colleges/music/recitallist. If you have any questions about what is appropriate, or wish to attend a concert not on the list, check with the instructor first. In order to avoid procrastination, these papers will be due throughout the semester on **2/25 & 4/14**. You are welcome to turn them in early, and I encourage you not to let too much time elapse between attending your chosen concert and writing your response paper to it. **Late papers will be penalized 5 points per calendar day late until a grade of zero is (un)achieved.**

If you receive a grade lower than a B on a concert report and would like the opportunity to raise it, you are allowed to choose one concert report to rewrite. The rewrite is due within two weeks of receiving the graded paper, and the grade of the rewritten paper will be averaged with the grade of the original paper. Any deductions made for lateness or incompleteness will not be affected by the rewrite. The original paper must be turned in with the rewrite.

Active Listening Assignments

Throughout the semester, we will have four Active Listening Assignments. The dates for these Assignments are listed on the course schedule below. There will be two components to each Active Listening Assignment: (1) a short written assignment and (2) participation in class discussion.

Short Writing Assignment - For each Active Listening Assignment, you will be given several pieces to listen to, along with a set of discussion questions to answer. These questions are such that they have no “right or wrong” answers and should invite debate and discussion. You will write your answers – aiming to fit your responses into approximately two pages, double-spaced – and turn them in at the beginning of the class on which the assignment is due.

Class Discussion - Once all responses have been turned in, we will address these questions in class and students will be asked to share their responses. (I recommend having access to a copy of your response for you to reference in class.) New ideas may also be presented to further invite discussion and some small group discussion may be involved.

Grading - Each Active Listening Assignment will be worth a total of 30 points; the writing portion will comprise 20 of those points, and the discussion portion will comprise the remaining 10 points. This writing assignment is designed to give you practice in the difficult trade of writing about music and will therefore only be graded on completion; if you thoughtfully answer the questions with a well supported argument, you will receive full points for the writing portion of the exercise. I will, however, still go over your paper as though it is a graded assignment, providing you with many comments and suggested edits, so that you will know what improvements are needed in your writing, and so that you will be more prepared when approaching your fully graded writing assignments in this and subsequent music literature classes. Students who fix these errors satisfactorily and turn in the edited version within a week (along with the previously graded version) will receive 3 points of extra credit. Full points for the discussion portion of this assignment will be awarded to all students who actively participate in discussion.

Oral Presentation

Students will make an oral presentation to the class about a specific, significant musical work or world music style of their choice. Presentations will take place during the final sessions of class. The purpose of the presentation is to share music which excites you with the rest of the class and to educate us as to why it appeals to you in and how it works in musically and critically analytical terms. The selection must come from the art/world music repertoire and be approved by the instructor. The presentation will be approximately 8 minutes long and worth 85 points. In order to encourage class participation, the presentations will be peer-reviewed (your peer reviews will garner an additional 15 points) in addition to the grades by the professor.

Oral Presentation Guidelines - Class presentations will be scheduled for the last week of class and final exam period. Dates will be drawn by lot on 4/14 with preference being given to those students actually present in class. **Works/styles which have been studied/discussed in class are not allowable.** You will be stopped if the time limit is exceeded and not awarded full credit if the presentation is too short. Your work/topic should excite you! Share the excitement with the class in musical terms. You can talk about melody, rhythm, harmonic things, structure, timbre, text setting, relationship of music to program/plot, historical/social context, composer background, and lots of other things. It is permissible to play the work (or portions thereof) during the presentation. You may also prepare a keynote/power point presentation and/or handout for the class if appropriate. Be creative!

An outline of your presentation will need to be turned in afterwards. Have fun and keep us interested!

Assessment/Grading Policy

The course grade will be determined in the following manner:

Class attendance and participation	15%
Active Listening Assignments and Participation	12%
Required Concert Attendance	10%
Exams	45%
Concert Reaction Papers	8%
Presentation	10%

Grading Scale

900-1000	A
800-899	B
700-799	C
600-699	D
0-599	F

Semester Point Breakdown

Class Attendance/Participation — 30 classes @ 5 points each	150
Attendance at Required Concerts - five events @ 20 points each	100
Exam #1	150
Exam #2	150
Exam #3	150
Active Listening Assignments — 4 @ 30 points each	120
Concert Reaction Papers — 2 @ 40 points each	80
Presentation — 85 for presentation, 15 for peer reviews	100
Total	1000

JAGSuccess - Early Alert Program

JAGSuccess is a program intended to help students be successful in 100-200 level courses. If you are not doing well, you will receive an email instructing you to see your professor along with instructions to access an online tutorial intended to help with common problems affecting academic performance. Watch for this email during the 8th week of the semester.

Cell Phones/Laptops/iPads

Cell phone use is not permitted in the classroom at any time. If you must have a cell phone for emergency purposes, then the phone must be kept in vibration mode, the instructor must be informed prior to class, and you must leave the classroom if you get a phone call. Cell phones are disruptive to the class and a student violating these policies will be asked to leave the classroom and his/her participation grade for that day will be affected accordingly. On exam days, cell phones are forbidden (you may leave one with the instructor for emergencies). Anyone with a cell phone out during an exam will receive a **zero (0)** on that exam. Laptops/iPads are permitted in this class for note taking/recording, but must not be used in a way that is disruptive to other students or the general class atmosphere.

Final Drop Date

The final date to withdraw from the course is April 1st, 2016.

Changes in Schedule/Course Requirements

Due to circumstances beyond anyone's control, this syllabus and schedule may be modified with appropriate advance notice given during class. Students will be given adequate notification in writing prior to any changes in course requirements and/or expectations. Regular attendance will insure that you are informed as to any changes made in the semester schedule.

Counseling and Testing Services

Counseling and Testing Services provides a variety of free and confidential services for students. For further information regarding this resource go to www.southalabama.edu/counseling or call the office at 460-7051.

Online Writing Support

The University of South Alabama provides online writing tutoring services through SMARTHINKING, an online tutoring service. SMARTHINKING is available at <http://services.smarthinking.com>.

Academic Disruption Policy

- The University of South Alabama's policy regarding Academic Disruption is found in *The Lowdown*, the student handbook. Disruptive academic behavior is defined as individual or group conduct that interrupts or interferes with any educational activity or environment, infringes upon the rights and privileges of others, results in or threatens the destruction of property and/or is otherwise prejudicial to the maintenance of order in an academic environment.
- Students are expected to be cordial, courteous and respectful of faculty members and fellow students.

Student Academic Conduct Policy

- The University of South Alabama's policy regarding Student Academic Conduct Policy is found in *The Lowdown*. The University of South Alabama is a community of scholars in which the ideals of freedom of inquiry, freedom of thought, freedom of expression, and freedom of the individual are sustained. The University is committed to supporting the exercise of any right guaranteed to individuals by the Constitution and the Code of Alabama and to educating students relative to their responsibilities.
- If these standards are violated in this class the professor reserves the right to request the student leave, call law enforcement, or to summon the powers of the Force to deal with the situation.
- Students enrolled in online courses are expected to adhere to the Academic Conduct Policy. In particular, students are expected to complete their own coursework and not provide unauthorized information or materials to another student.

Students with Disabilities

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with bona fide disabilities will be afforded reasonable accommodation. The Office of Special Student Services (OSSS) will certify a disability and advise faculty members of reasonable accommodations. If you have a specific disability that qualifies you for academic accommodations, please notify the instructor/professor and provide certification from Special Student Services. OSSS is located at 320 Alumni Circle, Faculty Court West. The entrance, Suite 19, is on the west side of the building, near the parking area. (251-460-7212).

Tentative Class Schedule

Date	Day	Material
1/12	1	Syllabus, Pre-Test, American Music
1/14	2	Symphony
1/19	3	Symphony
1/21	4	Symphony/Concerto
1/26	5	Concerto/Program Music
1/28	6	Program Music
2/2	7	Program Music/Small Instrumental
2/4	8	Active Listening Day #1 , Small Instrumental
2/9	9	NO CLASS - MARDI GRAS!!!
2/11	10	Test #1 (Days 1-8)
2/16	11	Opera - Die Zauberflöte
2/18	12	Opera - Carmen
2/23	13	Opera - Carmen
2/25	14	Concert Paper #1 , Opera - Carmen, Peter Grimes
3/1	15	Opera - Peter Grimes
3/3	16	Active Listening Day #2 , Opera - Peter Grimes, Chorus and Orchestra
3/8	17	Chorus and Orchestra, Small Vocal
3/10	18	Test #2 (Days 10-17)
SPRING BREAK!!!!!!		
3/22	19	World Music - India
3/24	20	World Music - China
3/29	21	World Music - Japan/Africa
3/31	22	World Music - Africa/Oceania
4/5	23	World Music- Oceania/Middle East
4/7	24	World Music - Eastern Europe
4/12	25	Pick presentation dates , World Music - Celtic
4/14	26	Concert Paper #2 , World Music - Latin
4/19	27	World Music - American Roots
4/21	28	Active Listening Day #3 , Catch up
4/26	29	Test #3 (Days 19-28)
4/28	30	Class Presentations

Final Exam Period: Tuesday, May 3 - 8:00-10:00 am

Class Presentations, **Active Listening Assignment #4 Due**