

PROPOSAL FOR A UNIVERSITY STUDIES CORE OR ELECTIVE COURSE

University Studies Thematic Category: Literature/Philosophy/Fine Arts

Course Prefix/Number: MUS 105

Course Title: Introduction to Music History

Course Credit Hours: 3

Catalog Course Description: Understanding and appreciation of music for the beginner. Designed to acquaint the student with the place music holds in heritage through studying and listening with composers and the influence of history on their compositions; and to create the ability to understand and enjoy music in the world around us.

Course Objectives: Through this course students will be able to demonstrate:

A. both the basic style traits of different periods in music history as well as stylistic hallmarks of numerous great composers.

B. an understanding of various classical genres (orchestral, chamber music, opera, etc.).

C. specific representative music repertoire and musical terms that are essential in discussing and understanding this music.

Course Syllabus: *(copied into the online form)*

Department: Music

Person Submitting the Proposal: John Dressler

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Before responding to the prompts below, please reflect upon the University Studies Mission Statement:

The University Studies component of the Murray State University undergraduate program aims to provide students with a broad based, liberal arts and sciences education and a foundation for their academic specialty. University Studies courses should: develop students' communication skills; encourage students to think creatively while gathering, analyzing, and evaluating information to reach logical decisions; and familiarize students with the roles and applications of science and technology toward resolving problems in an ever-changing world. Furthermore, students will gain a critical understanding of the world's historical, literary, philosophical, and artistic traditions. Within this broad context, students will come to understand the dynamics of cultural diversity, of competing economic and political systems, of social responsibility and of complex moral and ethical issues.

1. Why are the skills and content of this course important for MSU students outside your discipline? (150 word limit)

- Cultural exposure to artistic traditions through musical styles.
- Presentation of both Western [flute, clarinet, trumpet, strings] and Non-Western idioms: djeridoo, gamelan, primitive drums, tribal rites].
- A linking of music history with the history and sociology of the times.
- An interdisciplinary extension of world civilization and humanities course content through music.

2. How does this course facilitate the development of the [Characteristics of the MSU Graduate](#) as related to the thematic category you selected above? Please be sure to include number of each characteristic. (150 word limit)

- Required concert attendance involves students in experiencing live music in a variety of performance genres: large ensemble (band, choir, and orchestra) as well as small ensemble (jazz combo, woodwind quintet, brass quintet, solo recital). (Characteristic Nos. 1 and 5)
- Ability to see the roots and growth of music over time. (Characteristic No. 5)
- The understanding of various functions of music in society: entertainment, ritual, ceremony. (Characteristic No. 5)
- Comparing and contrasting different forms of artistic expression. (Characteristic Nos. 1 and 5)
- Students learn to listen critically: foreground rather than background through analyzing the structure and meaning in music. (Characteristic Nos. 1, 5, and 9)
- Understanding musical events in historical context. (Characteristic No. 5)
- Comparing and contrasting the world's historical, literary, philosophical and artistic traditions. (Characteristic No. 5)
- Understanding the creative process through examination of the role of the composer. (Characteristic Nos. 1, 3, 5, and 9)
- Learning to adapt and respect the different forms of artistic expression. (Characteristic Nos. 1, 3, 5, 9, and 10)
- Learning artistic modes of problem solving which bring an array of expressive, analytical and developmental tools to every human expression. (Characteristic Nos. 1, 3, 5, 9, and 10)

- Understanding the influences of music in its power to create and reflect culture. (Characteristic Nos. 1, 3, 5, 9, and 10)
- Analyzing non-verbal communication and making informal judgments about musical artistic products and issues. (Characteristic Nos. 1, 3, 5, 9, and 10)
- Understanding the intrinsic value of music. (Characteristic Nos. 1, 3, 5, 9, and 10)

3. LIST specific instructional strategies or course activities that engage students in the learning process (e.g., real-life application, group work, discussions, projects, student use of technology, presentations, etc.), **and promote students' content knowledge and skills development** (e.g., critical thinking, problem-solving, issue-oriented, relevance, interdisciplinary, communication, culturally diverse perspectives, discipline-specific technology, etc.) (250 word limit)

- Lectures include demonstration through the playing of recordings and live performances of musical styles within each chapter of the text.
- Students read, reflect, write, and discuss discipline-specific vocabulary and language.
- Students make observations about the music they hear through musical elements such as form, harmony, instrumentation, and emotional content.
- Class discussion and written reflection utilizes critical thinking to apply the above observations.
- Learning artistic modes of problem solving which bring an array of expressive, analytical and developmental tools to every human expression.
- Aural skills development listening actively to standard musical repertoire.
- Class discussion following assigned listening and reading activities.
- Individual research projects and/or team presentations for further study of composers and their musical styles.
- Journal reflection reports of attendance at live concerts.

Please note: Additional information may be requested and at some point in the future you may be asked to provide specific information on student-outcomes assessment.

Comment: This course could also be considered for Global Awareness, Cultural Diversity, and the World's Artistic Traditions category.