

INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC

MUS 101

Dr. Paul Cienniwa

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- OnMusic Appreciation 2nd Edition (ISBN-10: 007 721271-1 ISBN-13: 9780077212711)
- this is a CDROM package, not a book with CDs
- available at the UMD bookstore
- also available online with free shipping at <http://www.connect4education.com/store/index.htm>
- NOTE : the CDROM package must be new (not used) and unopened. Each CDROM package comes with a unique serial number required for registering the CDROMs online.

MINIMUM HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS (This hardware is standard on all computers made within the past few years.)

- PC or Macintosh Computer at 120 MHz (or faster)
- Monitor Color Settings for Thousands of Colors (or higher)
- 128 Megabytes RAM (or more)
- 16-bit PC Sound Card or Built In Sound for Macintosh Computer, and speakers
- 16x CD-ROM Drive (or faster)

MINIMUM SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS (This software is standard on most computers made within the past few years.)

- Latest version of Internet Explorer for PC™
- Latest version of Internet Explorer for Macintosh OS X™
- Latest version of the RealOnePlayer™
- QuickTime™
- Latest version of the Macromedia Flash Player™
- Macromedia Shockwave Player™
- Adobe Acrobat Reader™

COURSE WEBSITE

The official site for this course is <http://www.connect4education.org>. You will be able to login at the site once you have purchased the OnMusic Appreciation CDROM package. Note: This course is not run through WebCT; it is run through an external website.

QUESTIONS?

Direct all questions about this course to Prof. Cienniwa: pcienniwa@umassd.edu.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

Music is art as well as science. To be able to comprehend it to the fullest we must, therefore, be able to appreciate both its emotional and intellectual content.

The aim of this course is very simple: to provide you with the tools for a basic understanding of music. It will not make you a musician or teach you how to write music. It will, however, give you the necessary background to understand what is going on technically when you are listening to music, so that your experience is not limited to a wash of sound that produces a certain feeling.

The course will concentrate on a) the development of an attentive style of listening, b) the introduction and systematic study of the building blocks of music, and c) enhancing awareness of the main musical styles of selected Western and non-Western cultures.

COURSE FORMAT

OnMusic Appreciation is offered using the incredible resources of the World Wide Web (WWW) for learning purposes. This format has challenged many traditionally held assumptions about teaching and learning. I will not go into the many ways this has happened. I will, rather, let this exciting adventure unfold and reveal its lessons to all of you.

There will be no lectures in this course. Actually, we will be at the opposite pole of the lecture paradigm. In this course, you are expected to communicate constantly with your classmates via electronic mail and Discussion Forums, and to cooperatively learn concepts, solve problems, and complete projects. This will be a major component of the learning experience.

This is a fully paperless class. All course materials, including the musical examples on CD-ROM, will be accessed electronically. Electronic mail (e-mail) and Discussion Forums will be the main source of information and interaction among us.

However, you must be fully conscious that despite its present state of sophistication, computer technology is, for many reasons, quite immature. Expect to encounter many hurdles along the way. Don't be frustrated by them. Learn from your shortcomings and those of the technologies that we will be using.

EVALUATION AND GRADING

Evaluation

37 Quizzes = 37%

4 Assignments = 12%

Mid-term exam = 25%

Final exam = 26%

Grading

A fixed grade scale is used, so that it is possible for everyone to do well.

A.....

90-100%

B.....

80-89.99%

C.....

70-79.99%

D.....

60-69.99%

F.....

below 60%

IMPORTANT

It is expected that students will log in to class at least three times each week. There are three online classes per week; each class is followed by a quiz. Midterm and Final Exams may be taken each during a five-day period. This format will be compressed in short semesters, such as Intercession or Summer.

This is a copy of the orientation email that I send out during the first week of class:

Greetings!

Welcome to Introduction to Music (MUS101-71). Please save this email for future reference.

By now, you may be wondering how this is going to work. First, you need to purchase the CDROM set for the course. The required CDROM set (OnMusic Appreciation 2nd Edition (ISBN-10: 007 721271-1 ISBN-13: 9780077212711)) is available at the UMD bookstore or directly from the publisher with free shipping:
<http://www.connect4education.com/store/index.htm>).

Please purchase this immediately, as having this in hand will allow you to get started in the course.

Once you do get started, please be sure to check the “Forums” section of the website for communications from me.

Meanwhile, below please find some guidelines for taking the course. (Remember: save this email!)

If you have any questions, feel free to email me.

-Prof. Cienniwa

COURSE GUIDELINES AND SUGGESTIONS

Here are a few suggestions that should help you follow this class:

1) Click “index” to see what past and future topics are. You can also see what you’ve missed.

2) Click “grades” to see what you’ve done or need to do. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR BEING AWARE OF THE FORMAT OF THE COURSE WEBSITE, INCLUDING ASSIGNMENT/QUIZ DEADLINES.**

3) Click “inspect assignments” to look over the various assignments/quizzes and their due dates.

4) **IMPORTANT:** Look at the dates and deadlines for the midterm and final. Basically, all material assigned before the midterm is due with the midterm exam; all post-midterm work is due with the final exam.

5) Click “Discussion Forums” daily to find course communications, questions and any other topics under discussion.

6) **IMPORTANT:** If you have a question/concern/dispute about a quiz, leave a comment at the end of the quiz. I do look at those comments, and I will respond to them. To know if your comment has received a response, just go back to the quiz and look for my comments with your grade. Note: it's best to leave comments after the quiz instead of emailing me.

7) **Written assignments:** I tend to grade these after the deadline in order to be fair to everyone who has submitted the assignment. So, if you've handed in your work early, hang in there: I will grade it eventually!

8) Finally all tech support is handled by the publisher. Click "FAQ" for support. **YOU WILL SAVE YOURSELF A LOT OF TIME BY CHECKING FAQ AND/OR CONTACTING TECH SUPPORT.** If you contact me about a tech support question, I will simply tell you what I've just written. That is, I don't handle the tech support end of this class.

If you are in the midst of a quiz and there is a tech support issue, stop the quiz (you'll be able to return to it next time you log in) and check the FAQ page or contact tech support. Don't finish the quiz if you are unable to hear the music or see images!

Feel free to email me with any questions you may have. I hope you enjoy your time here outside of the classroom!

P.S. Here's a hint for taking this class: feel free to print out the online lectures. You may not surf the site while you're taking an exam, but you are always welcome to check your notes.