

# MUL 2010: Experiencing Music

Summer B, 2017 – Section 0754

**Instructor:** Mike Vincent

**Teaching Assistant:** Dong Jin Shin



**Office Hours:** Office hours are by appointment. To schedule a meeting, please contact us **via Canvas email**. All correspondence with the instructors should be conducted through the email-tool in Canvas.

## Course Description

MUL 2010 is designed to examine music and its role in culture: how it both shapes and is shaped by social, political, national, and cultural forces. Examples from art music, popular music, and world music will be used to demonstrate music's inextricable link to life in both historical and contemporary settings. No prior or concurrent courses are required for enrollment in MUL 2010, nor is any prior musical training or experience.

## Course Objectives

This course is designed to enhance the student's understanding of music from a technical, aesthetic, historical, and sociological perspective. To accomplish these goals, the course will concentrate on:

- The development of an attentive style of listening.
- The introduction and systematic study of the building blocks of music.
- Enhancing awareness of the main musical styles of selected Western and non-Western cultures.
- Application of critical thinking skills to musical constructs in order to better understand human creativity and problem-solving.

## General Education and Student Learning Outcomes

This course satisfies humanities (H) and international (N) requirements for general education. Humanities courses provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and theory or methodologies used within a humanities discipline or the humanities in general. Students will learn to identify and to analyze the key elements, biases, and influences that shape thought. These courses emphasize clear and effective analysis and approach issues and problems from multiple perspectives.

International courses provide instruction in the values, attitudes, and norms that constitute the contemporary cultures of countries outside the United States. These courses lead students to understand how geographic location and socioeconomic factors affect these cultures and the lives of citizens in other countries. Through analysis and evaluation of the students' own cultural norms and values in relation to those held by the citizens of other countries, they will develop a cross-cultural understanding of the rest of the contemporary world.

In MUL2010, the course is broken down into four major sections, each containing 3 to 4 modules, through which a variety of aspects on music are addressed in the context of three major classifications of music: Western “art” music; “popular” music; and “world” music:

- **Music Fundamentals:** In the introductory section, students learn about how music is experienced individually and culturally; how music is classified (as “world,” “popular,” or “art”); and how to actively listen to pieces. Essential elements of music are introduced and demonstrated, and then applied by students as they analyze three short pieces.
- **Musical Identities:** Here, the use of music to express individual and collective identities is explored; modules focus on the relationships between music and ethnicity, gender, and spirituality.
- **Musical Intersections:** This section focuses on music’s relationship to social and political realms, including politics/national identity, war/conflict, and love.
- **Musical Narratives:** The final section addresses the social experience of music through the concert hall, theater, film, and dance. The history of these genres, as well as the social and cultural aspects of them, are discussed and analyzed.

General education student learning outcomes describe the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that students are expected to acquire while completing a general education course at the University of Florida. These outcomes fall into three areas: content, communication, and critical thinking.

- **Content:** Students demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, methodologies, and theories used within the discipline. Content is primarily assessed through the module quizzes.
- **Communication:** Students communicate knowledge, ideas, and reasoning clearly and effectively in written or oral forms appropriate to the discipline.
- **Critical Thinking:** Students analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using discipline specific methods, and develop reasoned solutions to problems. Critical thinking is primarily assessed through the listening guide assignments and Un-Exams.

### Textbooks

**REQUIRED:** Cornelius, Steven, and Mary Natvig. *Music: A Social Experience*. Routledge, 2012. Print and E-text versions are available. You should also ensure that you have access to the musical selections, either through the online resources or by purchasing the 4 CD set that accompanies the text. Here is links to the book on Routledge’s website:

<https://www.routledge.com/Music-A-Social-Experience/Cornelius-Natvig/p/book/9780136017509>

Make sure to purchase the above-mentioned version of the book. It is also available on Amazon. The earlier version might be to some extent different.

**RECOMMENDED:** Access to a current edition of a writing style manual (MLA, APA, Chicago). While the field of musicology adheres to the Chicago Manual of Style, students may choose whichever style manual is recommended by their major discipline.

### Objectives

This course is designed to enhance the student's understanding of music from a technical, aesthetic, historical, and sociological perspective. To accomplish these goals, the course will concentrate on:

- The development of an attentive style of listening.
- The introduction and systematic study of the building blocks of music.
- Enhancing awareness of the main musical styles of selected Western and non-Western cultures.
- Application of critical thinking skills to musical constructs in order to better understand human creativity and problem-solving.

### **Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Identify the basic components of music using discipline-specific terminology.
- Describe musical works by accurately employing the vocabulary learned in this course.
- Aurally identify musical instruments and voices by classification.
- Aurally identify rudimentary melodic, harmonic, rhythmic, and textural structures.
- Demonstrate an understanding of musical form and texture.
- Express an aesthetic response to a work of art and verbally defend it.
- Define an overview of some of the major stylistic periods in Western music and draw analogies to other arts from the same era.
- Identify some of the major works and artists from these periods.
- Compare and contrast these works to contemporary, popular, and non-Western musical examples.
- Recognize and describe the role(s) that music plays in their own lives, regional culture, and contemporary society as a whole.
- Offer both subjective, emotional commentary and objective analysis of artistic expressions, and to distinguish between the two.
- Articulate some of the forces that have shaped their own taste and aesthetic responses.

As a result of learning and listening, the student will acquire:

- Increased awareness and curiosity about the past, present and future developments in music.
- A philosophy according to which the student may express and justify their own personal tastes and interest in music.
- The ability to offer music criticisms based upon an acquired set of value judgments.
- An awareness of uses of music in the entertainment and commercial field.
- A greater understanding of Western concert music, as well as modern popular music.
- An enhanced receptivity to the music of other cultures.

### **Evaluation**

The grades will use a 440-point system, broken down as follows (percentages rounded):

**110 points (25%)** eleven module quizzes (ten points each)

**20 points (5%)** one end-of-semester listening reflection

**140 points (32%)** three listening guides, written according to guidelines presented during the course (listening guide 1 = 38 points; listening guide 2 = 46 points; listening guide 3 = 56 points)

**120 points (27%)** four un-exams (30 points each), students will design and take their own exams

**50 points (11%)** attendance

Final grades will be calculated according to the system below and are not negotiable. You are responsible for keeping track of your progress throughout the semester – the Gradebook in Canvas will always show your current grade. If you are doing poorly near the withdrawal deadline, feel free to discuss your progress with the instructor. However, keep in mind that although miracles do happen, math also happens, and the numbers are the numbers. The instructor reserves the right to give (or not give) extra credit beyond that already built into the course – please do not ask for it.

A: 94-100% A-: 90-93% B+: 87-89% B: 84-86%

B-: 80-83% C+: 77-79% C: 74-76% C-: 70-73%

D+: 67-69% D: 64-66% D-: 60-63% E: 0-59

More information on grades and grading policies is here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

**PLEASE NOTE:** Specific grade questions and concerns will only be discussed with the student. Due to the 1974 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, the instructor cannot and will not discuss your progress or grades with your parents. For more information on FERPA, please visit <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/ferpa.html>. Any correspondence received from your parents/guardians will be responded to with a link to the FERPA information site and nothing more.

### **Class Attendance and Make-Up Policy**

Consistent and punctual class attendance is expected and counts for about 11% of your final grade. Excused absences are consistent with university policies in the undergraduate catalog (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>) and require appropriate documentation. Unexcused absences will negatively impact your grade. For conflicts that may arise due to University-sponsored events or religious holidays, you are advised to plan your work in advance. Since no Canvas assignment requires that you log on the day of the deadline, you are responsible for planning ahead and taking care of work before a trip or holiday (including university holidays such as Homecoming). If a conflict seems unavoidable, you must contact the instructor at least one week prior to the date in question.

Understand that work, quizzes, or exams missed as a result of absence or tardiness will impact your grade. No absence will be considered excused without proper documentation. You are fully responsible for all assigned work regardless of attendance or punctuality; if you miss a class for any reason, you are responsible for getting notes from a classmate, not the instructor.

Make up exams will only be administered under unusual and documentable circumstances (e.g. medical excuse with documentation from a physician's office or hospital), and must be completed within one calendar week of the original assignment or the final day of classes, whichever is earlier. Coursework that falls on the final day of classes will not be accepted late. Students are expected to show up on time for exams unless the instructor is notified in advance or shown written documentation after the fact. If you are late for an exam, you will not be given extra time to complete it. If you are late for a listening part of the exam, each listening example missed will not be replayed for you.

## **Late Policy**

Assignments are due during the assigned time/date. You must submit an electronic copy to the course's Canvas website. It is your responsibility to make sure that the file has uploaded correctly in the proper format (Word doc, not pdf or Pages). The nature of the course format is such that it will not be possible to submit assignments or take quizzes after the closing deadline. In the event of late submissions after the due date and before the closing deadline, 10% per day of your grade will be deducted as penalty.

Please note that technical difficulties do arise, and will generally not be considered an excuse to miss a deadline (especially without documentation from the UF Computing Helpdesk) - it is in your best interest to complete your assignments early so that you have time to work through any unforeseeable problems. You are advised to read through the technical information posted on the LSS website (<http://lss.at.ufl.edu>) to minimize any potential technical issues. Extended deadlines will not be given, unless under unusual and documentable circumstances (e.g. medical excuse with documentation from a physician's office or hospital).

## **Conduct**

This class deals with politics, gender, race, and sexuality; students must be respectful when engaging with these issues. Disrespectful and discriminatory behavior by any student to a fellow classmate, teaching assistants, or the instructor is unacceptable under any circumstances. Your discussions and views will be heard and respected if delivered in a respectful manner. If unacceptable behaviors persist, the case will be reported to the Dean of Student Office, and sanctions will follow. Such behaviors include, but are not limited to, arriving late/leaving early, sleeping in class, text messaging, tweeting, Snapchat, eating, and doing non-course related reading/homework. Laptops, cell phones, and iPods are to be silenced and put away for the duration of class. In any such case, the instructor may ask the student(s) to leave the classroom and s/he will be counted as absent for the day.

## **Academic Honesty**

All violations of academic honesty will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary action without exception. **PLAGIARISM OR CHEATING WILL RESULT IN A FAILING GRADE FOR THE PLAGIARIZED ASSIGNMENT, AND POSSIBLY THE COURSE.** If you are uncertain about these guidelines, please see me. Ignorance to the law is no excuse. UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: 'On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.'" The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

## **Accommodations**

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. Accommodations are not provided retroactively.

### **Course Evaluation**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

### **Additional Resources**

Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems that affect academic performance or difficulty defining career and academic goals:

- University Counseling Center for personal and career counseling; 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575, <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>
- University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies

The instructor reserves the right to amend any portion of the course structure, including items listed on the *Due Dates*, any time.