SYLLABUS  
Music Appreciation (MUSC 1100 N01)  
Fall 2010  
TENTATIVE- Subject to Change

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Office Hours:  
As posted on CourseDen, Online, and by appointment

1) **Required Materials:**  
**eText:** *Music- An Appreciation* (Kamien), Brief edition with Connect Plus Music Access Card;  
Computer, High Speed Internet Connection, Headphones, Microphone, Download and install software as needed, Register for web site accounts as needed, Webcam (optional).  
**Computer Requirements:** PC or Macintosh new enough to handle recent software including plug-ins and Internet browser. See [Technical Requirements](#) for more information.

2) **Course Vision:**  
To promote an understanding of the in-depth nature of music, develop a sensitivity and appreciation for all types of music, and to challenge ones existing thoughts regarding music and personal music preference.

3) **Course Skills:**  
a) Discuss and define music and describe its significance in society;  
b) Developed listening skills;  
c) Develop an understanding of music elements: Melody, Harmony, Rhythm, Form, Texture and Timbre;  
d) Develop an understanding of instruments/voices and the ensembles in which they are employed;  
e) Make critical judgments regarding musical style utilizing concepts presented.

4) **Course Topics:**  
a) Form  
b) Harmony  
c) Instruments and Ensembles  
d) Listening to Music  
e) Melody  
f) Musical Styles and Periods  
g) Rhythm and Meter  
h) Society and Music  
i) Texture and acoustics  
j) Identifying Styles  
k) Timbre  
l) What is Music

5) **Course Grading (1000 Points):**  
a) Unit Quizzes (6@various) 200 points total  
b) Listening/Homework Assignments (21@various) 300 points total  
c) Live Performances (2@50) 100 points total  
d) Identifying Style and Thinking about Music Activity: 100 points total  
e) Class Participation/Wiki: 150 points total  
f) Final Project: Various: 150 points total

**Final Grades:**  
900+ points= A; 800+= at least B; 700+= at least C; 600+= at least D; less than 600= F

**Grading System**  
Each assignment, project, quiz, etc. receives points as designated in the assignment and the syllabus. There are 1000 total points for the semester not including extra credit opportunities. At the end of the semester, add your points to calculate your final grade. At any point in the semester, add your total points and divide by the points possible to that date. This will give you an ESTIMATE of your grade in the class at that point. See the syllabus for the point spread for each letter grade.
**Late Submissions**

All submissions (except quizzes) are due on or before the last day of the module (Mondays) at 11:59 p.m. and will be accepted for (3) days after with no questions asked. There is no need to request an extension or let me know why you are turning it in late. There is no point reduction for late assignments. After 3 days, late assignments will not be accepted and will receive a grade of zero (0). If there are serious extenuating circumstances (debilitating illness, death in the immediate family, etc.) causing you to miss a deadline, contact me before the deadline to discuss your special circumstance for possible allowance. If you notify me after the deadline, the regular late assignment policy is in effect. All assignments are due by 12/3/10 with no Grace Period allowed. Abusers of the Grace Period policy will receive point reductions for late assignments.

**Online Course**

This course is 100% online. Please be certain that you understand what a 100% online course is and means to you. The online course experience can be great. It can also be horrible. If you have doubts, consider dropping this course and registering for one of our many wonderful face-face sections. Read the following information to help decide if an online course is for you.

**Online Learning Myths**

**Myth No. 1:** Online courses are easier--- Ask most anyone that has taken an online course, and they will tell you just the opposite. Online courses require a lot of preparation and planning on your part.

**Myth No. 2:** I can do my work whenever I want in an online course--- There is truth to this, but it depends upon the course. Most classes allow the student to complete work on their own (asynchronous) but also require participation along with the class in discussions and other activities. (synchronous or asynchronous). Pay careful attention to instructions and deadlines.

**Myth No. 3:** Online courses are lonely--- Most online instructors go to great effort to ensure this is not the case. Many students find that the relationships they build in an online course are stronger than those in the traditional classroom.

**Myth No. 4:** I will spend less time in an online class---- Most students agree that an online course takes more time. It is true that your time is more flexible, but you will spend at least as much time in an online course than the traditional alternative.

To learn more about what an online course is like, please take a look at:

RU Ready Test, or Online Readiness Tool

**Prerequisites**

No previous musical experience is required. But, you must be sure you are comfortable with using computers and the nature of an online course. If this is your first online course, you should be very careful to research and understand the distinctive nature of an online course. You will also need very reliable high speed Internet access and a relatively new computer (Windows or Macintosh). We will make extensive use of Internet resources including several web sites which require creating accounts. You will be asked to download and install certain programs on your computer. These programs will be free, but you need to know how to make them functional on your machine. If you are not comfortable with any of these requirements, strongly consider dropping this course and enrolling in one of UWG’s many traditional music appreciation courses. Please look at the following information about online learning at UWG: UWG Distance Guide for Students
Listening to Music
We will listen to a lot of music in this class. The type of listening required is more than the usual turn on the radio. We will listen closely to pieces and respond. When completing a listening assignment, use headphones and find a private quiet place. Most listening assignments will require you to listen to the selection multiple times in an active fashion.

Reading and Activities
Each module will include readings, videos, and other activities designed to build your knowledge of the content. Complete each of these activities carefully. The content learned in the activities will be applied toward your assignments and projects.

Assignments and Listening (20 for 200 points total)
Each module will include assignments designed to strengthen your skills and knowledge of music. Complete these assignments individually and carefully. The skills learned in the assignments will be applied toward your projects. These assignments are not designed to be difficult but to demonstrate your mastery of the skills presented in the module.

Quizzes (6 for 200 points total)
Each module has a related quiz. These quizzes are designed for you to demonstrate knowledge of the content presented in the module. Each module will have practice quizzes that you may take an unlimited number of times as practice and as a learning exercise. When you feel you are ready, you may take the actual quiz. The time period for completing the actual quiz will be very short, and you will have only one attempt. You will need to know the content well in order to complete the quiz before time expires. Be sure you have completed the practice quizzes. The actual quiz will draw questions randomly from the practice quizzes. Quizzes will be available are the start of each module and remain available until 12/3.

Class Participation: Class Wiki (100 points total)
A major focus of this course is to encourage you to find, evaluate, and use information about music. As you find interesting music, videos, and materials across the Internet, please share these materials with the class. I have created a special web space for you to interact and expand your musical awareness. You have wide latitude with what you post here, but I will also assign certain tasks. Please feel free to visit this web space now and sign-up for an account. You may link this back to other pages you have (Facebook, MySpace, etc.), and people you know may be allowed to join in too. You are responsible for observing copyright laws in regard to posting of material. See CourseDen for more details on the Wiki.

http://musc1100.wiki.westga.edu/ .

Final Exam: Choose a project (150 points total)
You will not have a formal final exam but create, hopefully over the course of the semester, a project of significant value. Every one will work in a group to complete their final, but will complete their final project independently. Look at the group as a support group where you can try out ideas, ask for review, get some advice, etc. Your grade will depend upon your participation in the group AND the quality of your final project. Everyone within a group will be completing the same type of project. You may choose any group, but there is a limit to size of each group. Groups are first-come; first-served. See more details in CourseDen.

Each group member will then choose one student's project to review/grade according to the Rubric. Each project will be awarded 100 points by a fellow student and 50 points by the instructor.

Optional Activities and Extra Credit (points vary)
From time to time, optional activities will be posted. Some of these activities will be available for extra credit. Take advantage of these points as they are offered. No extra credit will be created or awarded for individual students.
Live Concerts (2 for 50 points total)
Live music is great! — And is much different from listening to recordings. To encourage you to experience
live music, you are required to attend two (2) live concerts prior to 12/3/10. The UWG Department of Music
and many other organizations present many concerts during the semester. Events sponsored by the UWG
Department of Music are pre-approved. Events presented by other schools and organizations MAY be
accepted with PRIOR approval. There also may be pre-approved online concerts available. Keep a check on
the UWG Department of Music calendar and announcements for pre-approved concerts. Receiving Credit:
For UWG Department of Music Events Only: A proctor will be present to distribute attendance slips
BEFORE the concert and to collect attendance slips AFTER the concert. Receiving Credit: For Non-
UWG Department of Music Events: Attendance proof requirements will be set when approval for a non-
UWG concert is requested. For all concerts: Credit is given only for concerts attended in entirety. Events
get canceled! Double check the status of events before making special arrangements to attend. Showing up
for a canceled event does not earn credit. Special Note Regarding Etiquette: You must exhibit proper
concert etiquette to receive credit. Anyone identified as creating a disturbance at a concert will not receive
credit and may face further disciplinary actions.

CourseDen and Technical Help
While much of our activities will involve readings, listening, and online sources, many activities will take
place within CourseDen. These activities include taking quizzes, uploading assignments, and posting
discussions. Make sure you understand how to complete these tasks. Please see CourseDen Student Info
for more information and tutorials regarding using CourseDen. It is your responsibility to learn to operate
within the CourseDen environment. You should be able to login to CourseDen by the first day of class.

If you have technical questions regarding CourseDen or your computer, please do not contact your
professor. There are many wonderful people on campus providing assistance for all sorts of problems. For
technical questions, please contact:

CourseDen Online Help or call 678-839-6248
After-Hours CourseDen Help or call 866-588-5293
Computer Related Help for Students or call 678-839-6384
Distance Student Guide

If after contacting these resources, you still need assistance, please contact me.
For information regarding class content, assignments, and other course issues, please contact me.
CourseDen email or kmobbs@westga.edu.

Plug-Ins and Web sites
Plug-ins and web site accounts will be required throughout the course. Links will be posted soon.

File Naming Conventions for Assignments
It is important to name your submitted electronic files in a manner allowing easy recognition of your work.
This is the virtual equivalent of writing your name on your paper. Assignments which do not use this
naming convention may not be accepted for grading.

All filenames will begin with your last name in lowercase followed by the first initial of your
first name in uppercase. This will be followed by the underscore character (_) and then the name
of the assignment. For example, my assignment 1 would be:

mobbsK_assignment1.doc
Please do not use spaces in your file names. Instead use the underscore symbol.

**Academic Honesty**
You must promote and adhere to the strictest standards of academic honesty and integrity. All work submitted must be your own. Be sure to read the information about academic honesty and the UWG policy on this subject ([Honor Code](#)). The penalty for cheating or plagiarism in this class will be a zero on the assignment or failure in the class at the instructor’s discretion.

**Special Needs**
Any student needing special assistance should contact me privately to discuss the specific situation before the end of the drop/add period.

**Communication**
Please stay in contact with me regarding this class. I may be reached by phone or email and will strive to respond within 24 hours. Official email communication is through your UWG assigned email account. Emails from other providers (hotmail, etc.) which request personal information will be ignored. **PREFERRED**: Please use the WebCT email system for class communication. For “live” conversations, come by during office hours or make an appointment for a meeting, phone call, or chat.

**Pronto**- we will use UWG’s new instant messaging service called Pronto. Look for more details on using this service as the course progresses, but go to [http://www.westga.edu/~distance/pronto/](http://www.westga.edu/~distance/pronto/) for information on setup.