



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SAN ANTONIO

MUSI 1306.606 – MUSIC APPRECIATION Fall 2026 – Online Asynchronous

COURSE INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Matthew Bishop

COURSE NUMBER: 12015

DEPARTMENT: Language, Literature, and Arts

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PHONE: 210-784-2563

OFFICE LOCATION: Classroom Hall 314H

OFFICE HOURS: Thursday 11:00 – 12:15 or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A general survey of music literature designed for the non-music major. Representative composers and their works are studied through recordings, lectures, reports, and performances. The course focuses on the appreciation and analysis of musical compositions and performances, synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and critical, creative, and innovative communication about works of art. This course meets the standards for the Creative Arts category of courses under the core curriculum.

COURSE GOALS:

- To gain a broader understanding and subsequent appreciation for different types of music from different eras and locations around the globe.
- To gain and demonstrate music literacy through hands-on activities of music making.
- To develop a more comprehensive vocabulary with which to communicate ideas and opinions about music.

ADDITIONAL CORE CURRICULUM GOALS:

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) requires a core curriculum for all undergraduate students at public higher education institutions in Texas. The purpose is to develop essential knowledge and skills to be successful in college, in a career, in communities, and in life. This course meets the standards for the Creative Arts category of courses under the core curriculum and incorporates the following four learning objectives as required by the THECB:

- Critical Thinking Skills (creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information)

- Communication Skills (effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication)
- Social Responsibility (intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities)
- Teamwork (ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal)

TEXTBOOK and OTHER RESOURCES:

- eBook through McGraw Hill

GRADING SCALE:

- 90% or higher = A
- 80% to 89% = B
- 70% to 79% = C
- 60% to 69% = D
- Below 60% = F

ASSESSMENT:

- Participation (ebook) = 30%
- Quizzes = 20%
- Final Exam = 20%
- Discussions= 10%
- Video Podcast= 20%

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

- Participation - logging in and monitoring announcements and emails, is assumed.
- Students should contact the professor before missing an assignment or test deadline to request an extension. Such requests will be granted based on the professor's discretion.

"Video Podcast":

- Each student will create a video of between 3 - 5 minutes talking about a song or piece that you have been enjoying recently. Do this in a "Podcast" format with you speaking to the camera explaining this music using terminology from class. A full description can be found on Blackboard.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:

- Be on time and be prepared.
- Be respectful of others at all times. All students are responsible for being familiar with The Student Code of Conduct.
- Use of electronics during class is permitted for class-related activities only. Please keep phones in silent mode and refrain from taking calls and/or texting. Any exceptions to

this rule must be approved *in advance* by the instructor. The instructor reserves the right to ban the use of electronics by any student.

- While some of the music we explore may contain explicit language, gratuitous use of profanity as a general means of discourse is discouraged.
- Repeated violations of classroom etiquette and/or The Student Code of Conduct will result in a lowered course grade. The instructor reserves the right to expel any student from the class who does not demonstrate appropriate classroom etiquette. The instructor also reserves the right to notify a student's academic advisor, success coach, and/or other appropriate personnel and offices as deemed necessary.

COMMUNICATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS:

- All official communications from the University will be distributed through Jaguar email accounts. It is the responsibility of each student to obtain a Jaguar email account and check that address on a regular basis. Failure to keep up with Texas A&M University-San Antonio Jaguar email will not be an excuse for being unaware of announcements, deadlines, or other pertinent information to students.
- Please use only Jaguar email when contacting your professor. Emails from personal accounts are not accepted and will receive a response of *Please use Jaguar email*. Difficulties with Jaguar email or other IT services should be addressed through the Office of Information Technology Services in Room 233 of the Central Academic Building. They can also be reached at helpdesk@tamusa.edu or 210-784-4357.
- Communication etiquette – When using Jaguar email, please employ professional writing skills. Correspondence should begin with an appropriate salutation including the professor's academic title with last name and end with an appropriate closing with the student's full name. (Once a thread has been established, it may not be necessary to use a salutation or your full name each time.) The body of the email should always demonstrate good spelling, grammar, punctuation, and general courtesy. Correspondence that does not adhere to these standards will receive an automatic reply of *Please see syllabus information on communication etiquette*. Please allow at least two business days for replies.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

- TAMUSA Academic Misconduct Policy: Students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, multiple submissions, misrepresentation of academic records, facilitating academic dishonesty, unfair advantage, violating known safety requirements and ethical misconduct. This includes holding other students to the same standards and reporting any incidents of alleged violation of the honesty policy to the instructor involved or, if necessary, to the appropriate academic department head. All students are responsible for being familiar with the Academic Misconduct Policy, which may be found in the Texas A&M University-San Antonio Student Handbook.

- All materials are subject to analysis by anti-plagiarism software. Instances of academic dishonesty including artificial intelligence. result in an automatic grade of '0'.

EXTRACURRICULAR MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES:

- Interested in choir? **University Voices** is a choir on the A&M-SA campus comprised of students, faculty, and staff and can be taken for variable credit 0-3. The group's primary mission is to sing at university-sponsored events such as Commencement, Convocation, Lights of Esperanza, etc. The group also puts together short programs for "pop-up concerts" in front of the library or other high-traffic areas. No audition required.
- Interested in mariachi? **Mariachi Los Jaguares Del Sur** is dedicated to honoring and preserving the art of mariachi music. The group prides itself on a shared love of music, performance, and Mexican culture. If you are interested in joining, should contact director Gabriel Perez (gabriel.perez@tamusa.edu).
- Interested in band? The **San Antonio Community Wind Ensemble** meets in the TAMUSA Auditorium on Sunday afternoons and gives several concerts throughout the year. Membership dues are waived for all TAMUSA students. This group also has a Jazz Band called the **San Antonio Jazz Collective** that meets on Thursday evenings. If you are interested in joining either, email director Albert Aguilar at sacwe@crossmen.org for more information.

ADDITIONAL UNIVERSITY RESOURCES:

- The **Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center** supports graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges as well as faculty and staff. Tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Our language tutors support students enrolled in Spanish courses and students composing in Spanish for any assignment. Our digital studio tutors support students working on digital projects such as eportfolios, class presentations, or other digital multimedia projects. Students can schedule appointments through JagWire under the Student Services tab. Click on "Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center" to make your appointment. The Center offers face-to-face, synchronous online, and asynchronous digital appointments. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on our website at <https://bit.ly/WLDCCenter>.
- The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights protection for individuals with disabilities. Title II of the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act require that students with disabilities be guaranteed equal access to the learning environment through the provision of reasonable and appropriate accommodation of their disability. If you have a disability that may require accommodation, please contact **Disability Support Services (DSS)** for the coordination of services. The phone number for DSS is (210) 784-1335 and email is dss@tamusa.edu.

- As a college student, there may be times when personal stress interferes with your academic performance and/or negatively impacts your daily functioning. If you or someone you know is experiencing life stressors, emotional difficulties, or mental health concerns at Texas A&M University – San Antonio, please contact the **Student Counseling Center** (SCC) located in Modular C, Room 166 (rear entrance) or call 210-784-1331 between the hours of 8:00AM and 5:00PM, Monday – Friday. After-hours crisis support is available by calling 210-784-1331 (select option “2”). Please contact UPD at 911 if harm to self or harm to others is imminent. All mental health services provided by the SCC are free, confidential (as the law allows), and are not part of a student’s academic or university record. SCC provides brief individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. For more information, please visit www.tamusa.edu/studentcounseling

COURSE SCHEDULE:

- Monday August 24, First Day, Orientation
- Thursday August 27, Introductory Discussion
- Friday September 11, Quiz 1
- Friday September 25, Quiz 2
- Thursday October 8, Progress Discussion
- Friday October 9, Quiz 3
- Friday October 23, Quiz 4
- Friday November 6, Quiz 5
- Friday November 13, Teamwork Group Assignment
- Tuesday November 20, My Music Podcast Video
- Wednesday November 25-28, Thanksgiving Break
- Friday December 4, Quiz 6
- Friday December 11, Final Exam
- DISCLAIMER: This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be notified as soon as possible of any changes.