

Colonnade Program Course Proposal: Explorations Category

1. What course does the department plan to offer in Explorations? Which subcategory are you proposing for this course? (Arts and Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Natural and Physical Sciences)

MUS 120: Music Appreciation

Arts and Humanities

2. How will this course meet the specific learning objectives of the appropriate subcategory. Please address **all** of the learning outcomes listed for the appropriate subcategory.

1. Utilize basic formal elements, techniques, concepts and vocabulary of specific disciplines within the arts and humanities.

Students taking MUS 120 will learn about the basic elements of music, such as sound, media, rhythm, melody, harmony, tonality, form, and texture, as well as the techniques used in relation each element. Students will acquire the technical vocabulary to discuss music and they will learn to recognize the various forms and techniques while listening to music.

2. Distinguish between various kinds of evidence by identifying reliable sources and valid arguments.

Students will learn about the various sources of music: (1) through attendance at live concerts and the study of oral transmission of music, as in early chant, jazz, and many types of music the world over; (2) through recordings of notated classical music and early performances of jazz musicians, field recordings of world music, and unique recordings of electronic music; (3) through notation, which is the primary source of Western early and classical music, from late medieval chant through the twenty-first century, and (4) contemporary writings about music by composers and others. Students will appreciate the differences between recordings and live performance. They will also gain some knowledge of Western musical notation and contemporary reports.

3. Demonstrate how social, cultural, and historical contexts influence creative expression in the arts and humanities.

There are strong connections between social contexts and music's creative expression and function. Students of MUS 120 will appreciate how social norms influenced music

throughout the ages. The historical demands of religion, the courts, and middle-class demands for home music-making and public entertainment affected the development of musical genres profoundly. Concepts such as the “Doctrine of Affections” in the 17th century, sentimentality in the 18th century, and Freudian ideas about the subconscious in the 20th century found expression in music as well.

4. Evaluate the significance of human expression and experience in shaping larger social, cultural, and historical contexts.

Students in MUS 120 will learn how musical expression also works in reaction to social contexts, expressing truths and impressions. Schoenberg’s outcry against the Holocaust in *A Survivor from Warsaw*, reactions to the social implications of class inequality in Mozart’s *Don Giovanni* and Verdi’s *Rigoletto*, protest songs of the 1960s, the apotheosis of heroic themes in Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony, the striving for national identity in Smetana’s *Moldau*, and other nationalistic works may be seen as attempts to shape larger social and historical contexts.

5. Evaluate enduring and contemporary issues of human experience.

Students of MUS 120 will appreciate that there are enduring and contemporary issues of human experience that are expressed in music involving beauty, human emotions, and social connections.

3. Syllabus statement of learning outcomes for course. NOTE: In multi-section courses, the same statement of learning outcomes must appear on every section’s syllabus.

Students will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Utilize basic formal elements, techniques, concepts and vocabulary of specific disciplines within the arts and humanities.
2. Distinguish between various kinds of evidence by identifying reliable sources and valid arguments.
3. Demonstrate how social, cultural, and historical contexts influence creative expression in the arts and humanities.
4. Evaluate the significance of human expression and experience in shaping larger social, cultural, and historical contexts.
5. Evaluate enduring and contemporary issues of human experience.

4. Brief description of how the department will assess the course for these learning objectives.

A set of five multiple-choice questions addressing the respective learning objectives will be given to students in the various sections of MUS 120 at the end of the semester. The results will be tabulated in a report.

5. How many sections of this course will your department offer each semester? 12-14

6. Please attach sample syllabus for the course.

Please send your proposal to: robert.dietle@wku.edu

Sample Syllabus

MUS 120 Music Appreciation

What this course is about: This course is a listener's guide to Western music. It is designed especially for those who have no training in music, but want to listen to and learn about classical and twentieth-century music in general. Here the emphasis will be on listening, for it is possible to recognize musical pieces and to distinguish among different musical styles without being able to read or write or play an instrument. Music is an aural art. It calls on one to use a sense that is seldom called for in any other academic discipline. There is no one sure and simple way to develop a musical ear, for that itself is an art. But, by listening to an array of pieces and by trying to hear what makes them different or special, you will find yourself developing a faculty that you may have never known you had. You will also learn something about the history of western classical music and how that tradition is still a part of modern composition and music-making.

Learning Outcomes

Students will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Utilize basic formal elements, techniques, concepts and vocabulary of specific disciplines within the arts and humanities.
2. Distinguish between various kinds of evidence by identifying reliable sources and valid arguments.
3. Demonstrate how social, cultural, and historical contexts influence creative expression in the arts and humanities.
4. Evaluate the significance of human expression and experience in shaping larger social, cultural, and historical contexts.
5. Evaluate enduring and contemporary issues of human experience.

How the class works: Students are responsible for the assigned reading and listening. Please be sure to do the listening and reading assignments *before* you attend class. Points will be deducted from a student's attendance grade for what is considered to be excessive and disruptive talking during class.

E-Course Web-Site: <https://blackboard.wku.edu> , or go to WKU's home page and click on Blackboard. Use your WKU e-mail user name and password to log into the course. Any messages that I send to you will go to your WKU e-mail address.

Information on Blackboard:

Under “Information:” Syllabus, Study guides for exams, Guidelines for the Concert reports

Under “Content:” Handouts, Review questions, special reading and listening assignments that are not in the required textbook

Under “Grade Center:” your earned points for each requirement

Course Materials.

Course Materials are on sale at the Bookstore in the Downing University Center or Garrett.

- (1) Roger Kamien, *Music: an Appreciation Brief w/Connect Plus code*, 7th Brief Edition (Contains a new paperbound textbook, on-line access to the Assignments, an e-book version of the textbook, and streaming audio tied to listening outlines.)
- (2) Connect Plus Access Code (for Kamien’s *Music: an Appreciation*, Brief Ed.) (On-line access to the Assignments, an e-book version of the textbook, and streaming audio tied to listening outlines)
- (3) Kamien, *Music Brief Ed.* 7th Brief Edition (Used paperback textbook only)

Connect Kamien

Connect Kamien creates an integrated program around *Music: an Appreciation, Brief Edition* that connects students to music in powerful ways. It offers

- A new web-based assignment and assessment platform
- Interactive listening outlines with streaming audio for all selections
- Listening quizzes and assignments for every selection
- Video opera and film excerpts
- An audio glossary, etc.

All students are required to register for this on-line program and to complete the assignments according to the schedule posted on the program. A registration card is included with your textbook that allows you to access the program. If you buy a used textbook, you will have to purchase in addition an access card for *Connect Kamien*.

Reserve Materials:

The following materials are on reserve in the Visual and Performing Arts Library, Cravens, 2nd floor. All this is available on-line with Connect Plus.

Kamien, *Music: An Appreciation*, 7th Brief Edition, textbook
Concertgoing: A Handbook for Students
Kamien, Brief Set of 5 CDs

Policy for electronic devices:

“The class meeting time is assigned for learning about the course content matter. You will get the most out of it if you focus all of your actions on learning. Research shows that multi-tasking is a hindrance to productivity. That means do not turn electronic devices to any other purpose. Class time is a time to show respect for classmates and not distract them or yourself by sending your attention and your texts elsewhere. Any use of an electronic device for non-classroom activities is not permitted. Please turn them off/store them under your seat. This includes cell

phones, laptops, ipods, etc. Learning to focus on one thing is an important skill to acquire. And being a bit mysterious about what you are doing rather than reporting every event can make you more attractive to the objects of your desire. If you have a special need, make an appointment to talk to me about it. ”

Grading:

There will be four exams, including the final, as listed in the syllabus. In addition, there will be two concert reports.

The grades that you earn for each test or assignment is absolute. Grades are not curved. There is no limit to the number of “A's” that are earned by members of the class. “A” equals 100—90 points, “B” equals 89.99--80, and so on. “F” is given for anything below 60.

Grading will be distributed as follows. To help you figure out where you stand in the course, enter your points earned in the third column below.

	Maximum Points	Earned Points
3 mid-term exams, lowest grade dropped, 30 points total		
Exam 1	15 or 0	
Exam 2	15 or 0	
Exam 3	15 or 0	
<i>Connect Kamien</i> daily assignments. 85%=full credit. There will be no extensions to the deadlines for the assignments.	25	
Final Exam	15	
Concert Report 1	10	
Concert Report 2	10	
Class attendance & conduct	10	
Total	100	

Lowest Grade Dropped and Missed Quiz Policy. The lowest grade of your first three exams will be dropped. If you miss an exam, that will count as the lowest grade dropped. There will be no make-up exams. Always notify me if you miss a quiz! You will only be allowed to miss one of the first three exams. No one will be allowed to skip the final exam, which will be partly cumulative in scope.

Extra Credit worth 3 points. You may elect to do an extra credit presentation worth 3 points. You must let me know in advance if you choose to do this and you must sign up for a date. Fill out an “Extra-Credit Oral Report” form, present a recording or perform a musical piece of your choice, and answer questions from the class and the instructor. Make connections between the piece you are presenting and concepts learned in class.

Extra credit cannot be substituted for required work. If any required work, such as exams or concert reports, are missing, extra credit will not be applied.

Concert Reports and Concert Attendance. You are required to write two concert reports. Instructions will be available on Blackboard.

DISABILITY Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services, DUC A-200. The OFSDS telephone number is 270.745.5004 V/TDD. Please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office of Disability Services.

PLAGIARISM Student work may be checked using plagiarism detection software. For regulations see the WKU Undergraduate Catalog 2012/2013. See “Academic Information,” Academic Offenses, p. 1.

www.wku.edu/undergraduatecatalog