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Music 1A Syllabus

(Visit the [Music 1A Syllabus Archive](#) page for syllabi from previous terms.)

Music 1A: Introduction to Music – Western Culture

Spring 2016 | 9:30-11:20 Monday/Wednesday section | 9:30-11:20 Tuesday/Thursday section | 4 units | Room / Dan Mitchell | Office: A15 | 408-864-8511 | mitchelldan@deanza.edu | FB/Twitter: *deanzadan*

Welcome to Intro to Music

This syllabus describes course policies and is a contract between you and your teacher. Other materials on this website are extensions of the syllabus and also reflect official course policies. (Some details of the syllabus are subject to change during the term as announced in class.)

Description

Introduction to Music – Western Culture helps students understand and appreciate so-called “classical” and related types of music. It covers basic elements of musical sound, important musical styles and forms, and important composers from major periods of music history. The course fulfills GE transfer and certificate requirements and certificate and transfer requirements for music majors. (Consult the [De Anza College Catalog](#) directly for the most current official information.)

Honors Credit

Introduction to Music – Western Culture helps students understand and appreciate so-called "classical" and related types of music. It covers basic elements of musical sound, important musical styles and forms, and important composers from major periods of music history. The course fulfills GE transfer and certificate requirements and some certificate and transfer requirements for music majors. (Consult the [De Anza College Catalog](#) directly for the most current official information.)

Honors Credit

[De Anza College Honors Program](#) students may be able to enroll in Music 1A for honors credit. An [honors addendum](#) describes course policies specific to students taking Music 1A for honors credit and is part of their course syllabus.

Objectives

- employ a basic vocabulary of common music terms to describe observations of recorded and live music.
- recognize individual instruments and voices and the various ensembles in which they are used.
- demonstrate an understanding of the roles of music in human cultures and relate musical expression to other forms of artistic expression and to culture generally.
- distinguish features of important musical style periods, forms, composers, and practices.
- recognize, describe, and compare musical practices in contemporary society.
- recognize basic distinguishing characteristics among a representative group of musical compositions.

Text and Materials

TEXT AND MATERIALS

- **Music: An Appreciation** (the current "**Brief Edition**" sold at De Anza Bookstore) **with bundled set of audio recordings** by Roger Kamien OR a used copy of the 7th edition of the same text and recordings. *The audio recordings are required for this course.* Paper or ebook versions are fine.
- **Scantron forms** (form #2052 or #882E only) and a **#2 pencil** for 3 tests and the weekly quizzes – approximately fifteen Scantrons for the term.
- **Concert attendance.** You must attend a minimum of one live concert during the term, and there may be reasons for you to attend more. Some free events may be available, but you may have to purchase tickets. Nearly all approved concerts are off-campus. More information is available below and elsewhere on the website.
- **Additional required course materials** may be available online at no cost and are linked to this website.
- **Access to a computer** with a printer, web browser, and [Adobe](#) Acrobat Reader. Aside from exams, no printed materials are distributed in class — *you are required to print some materials yourself.*

Listening Assignments

Weekly Listening Assignments are based on musical examples included on the recordings that accompany the text. Assignment questions are based on studying the text and listening to the recorded examples which accompany the text.

The assignments are available at the [course calendar](#) page of this website – see the link in the sidebar.

- The assignment files are in the .pdf format, and **you are required to print** them. (Use the free [Acrobat Reader](#) or the Preview app on your Mac.)
- Listening assignments are due at the ***start of class on the deadline dates*** and ***will not be accepted after class starts***. If you are late you may not get credit for your work.
- You are required turn in *printed* copies of the homework, using versions available at the website, and to **write your answers by hand** in pencil or pen on these printed forms. Assignment presented in other forms are not accepted and will be returned to you without credit.
- You must **staple the assignment pages** together or print **back-to-back on a single sheet**. Assignments submitted as loose sheets or attached with tape, paper clips, folder corners, etc. are not accepted.
- ***It is unacceptable to offer quotations from the text as your homework answers, even if you use quotation marks and indicate the source.*** To demonstrate *understanding* you must at least paraphrase the text in your own words. You will not earn an A grade on a paper that quotes extensively from the book or other sources, and quoting substantially without attribution is a violation of standards of academic integrity.
- Listening assignments are normally assigned letter grades A through F. At the instructor's discretion, some listening assignments may earn full credit for completion alone, in which case an A grade will be recorded.

Quizzes

There is a short quiz on the reading/listening assignments at

There is a short quiz on the reading/listening assignments at the beginning of the first class meeting each week starting in week 2. You will need a Scantron form #2052 or #882E and a #2 pencil for each quiz. Arrive early on quiz days so that you do not miss the quizzes – they generally only take about five minutes.

Quizzes focus on important material from the *previous week's study assignment in the text and recordings*. These topics will generally not be covered in class before the quiz so it is critical that you carefully study this material according to the calendar schedule. (Prospective quiz dates are listed in the online course calendar. Quiz dates are subject to change as announced in class.)

☐ Concert Reports

You must attend at least one live concert during the term and complete a [Concert Report](#) on this event.

See the sidebar for links to complete concert report information about this assignment. These resources describe requirements for the assignment and must be consulted before attending the concert and writing your report. *In order to complete a successful concert report you must carefully read and understand this material.*

The only acceptable concerts are those on the [Concert List](#). They include professional orchestras, soloists, and instrumental or vocal ensembles, and comparable college or community groups performing music relevant to the focus of this class. You may *not* report on a concert in which you are a participant.

The concert list includes a variety of concerts around the

The concert list includes a variety of concerts around the greater San Francisco Bay Area. Prices range from free/inexpensive up to quite expensive. In some cases you may be able report on other concerts that meet the assignment guidelines, but ***only if you get advance approval from the instructor.***

Events will be posted on the [concert list](#) many weeks before the report is due. *You are strongly advised to attend your concert long before the assignment deadlines, especially if cost, transportation considerations, and/or your schedule limit your concert options.* If you wait until just before the assignment is due you will have fewer options, and there may be no events that are nearby and/or inexpensive. The deadline for the report will not be extended if you are unable to find an event shortly before it is due.

You may complete an optional second concert report if you wish to raise the grade you earn on the first report. If your second report grade is higher than the first your overall concert report grade will be the weighted average of your two concert report grades – 33% for the first report and 67% for the second optional report. See the course calendar for important deadline information.

You must earn a non-failing grade on one concert report in order to earn a passing course grade in Music 1A. Students who earn a failing grade on the first concert report or who do not submit this report must complete the second optional concert report.

☐ Tests

There are three tests. The two midterms (tests #1 and #2) and the final exam (test #3) may contain multiple choice. true/false.

fill-in, short essay, and other items, with some questions based on listening to recorded musical examples.

Bring a Scantron form (#2052 or #882E) and a #2 pencil to each test. A portion of the test will use the Scantron form, and other parts of the test will require written responses.

Test #3 (at the final exam session) is *not a comprehensive final exam*; it focuses on material presented after test #2. It is similar in form and scale to tests #1 and #2, each of which is completed during a single class session. The amount of time available to complete test #3 may be less than the entire scheduled two-hour final exam session.

Missing an exam is a serious issue. Arrange your schedule to avoid missing test sessions. See the **Late Work** section of this green sheet for important information concerning missed tests.

You must earn a non-failing grade on two of the three tests in order to earn a passing course grade in Music 1A. Students who earn a failing grade on test #1 or test #2 will have an opportunity to re-take *one* of the first two tests at the final exam session.

▣ Grading

- 20% – Homework ([Listening Assignments](#))*
- 15% – [Weekly Quizzes](#)*
- 20% – [Concert Report](#) (or weighted average of two concert report grades)
- 45% – Tests (15% for each of the three tests)

*As described in the late work section of this syllabus, I do

not count your lowest homework grade and your lowest weekly quiz grade. This means that it is possible to miss one of each with no grade penalty.

I use a *weighted average system* to determine your final course grade – *not a point system*. Assignment and course grades will use base letter grades A, B, C, D, and F and +/- symbols. (Although there are no "C-" *course* grades at De Anza College I may assign this grade on assignments, quizzes, and tests.)

You may be able to earn up to one-third of a letter grade of *extra credit* for attending certain De Anza College Music Department concerts near the end of the term. See the [Extra Credit](#) page for more details.

If you stop attending near the end of the term you may receive a failing grade in the course. If a legitimate and unforeseen emergency interferes with completion of course work near the conclusion of the term *you must contact the instructor immediately to discuss the situation*, including the possibility being assigned an "incomplete" grade in the course if appropriate.

During the quarter you will be able to review your grade progress online on a [password-protected web page](#). More information about this will be provided in class.

Let your teacher know immediately if you think you may have received an incorrect grade. It may not be possible to change an incorrect grade if you wait more than 72 hours after an assignment is handed back or after grades are posted on the website before bringing errors to the instructor's attention.

IMPORTANT: The foregoing notwithstanding, **you must earn grades higher than F on at least two tests and on at least one concert report in order to earn a passing grade in the Music 1A.** "Passing grade in Music 1A" means a letter grade higher than D+. (There are opportunities to make up for for one failing test grade and one failing concert report grade near the end of the term.)

☐ Attendance

Regular attendance is required and critical to your success in this class. Contact me immediately if you miss a class or if you decide to drop. Adjust your schedule for work, vacations, etc. so that they do not conflict with this course. Attendance at the scheduled final exam session is required. The exam dates and times are listed in the course calendar on this website.

- Attendance may be taken at each class session.
- An *unexcused absence* is be recorded if you are not present when roll is called. If you arrive late it is your responsibility to inform the teacher that the absence record should be changed to a tardy.
- Absences are recorded as *unexcused* until you contact the instructor to explain, at which point it may be changed to an *excused absence*.
- You *may* be dropped for excessive unexcused absences or late arrivals. However, there is no guarantee that you will automatically be dropped in time to meet deadlines if you stop attending without notifying the instructor.

Be aware of drop deadlines and make timely arrangements with the instructor or registrar if you decide to drop this class. The college class schedule lists deadlines for dropping

with no record or for dropping with a "W" grade. If you stop attending but fail to take steps to drop, you may end up with a W or F grade in the course. You must contact me *during a scheduled class meeting or scheduled office hour before the deadline* if my signature or other action is required.

Students may be dropped on their third *unexcused* absences.

Each unexcused late arrival for class counts as one half of an absence, and you may be dropped from the class if you frequently arrive late.

First week attendance policy: When a section of this course is full and students are on a wait-list to add the course, during the *first week of the term, students may be dropped after a single unexcused absence* to make room for those who want to add. It is critical that you attend every class or contact the instructor immediately if an unanticipated emergency interferes with your attendance.

Use your add code right away: If you get an add code after the start of the term, you must *complete the add process before the next class meeting*. If you wait I will drop you to make room for other students who wish to add if necessary. Speak to the instructor to arrange an exception if your circumstance require you to wait longer than 24 hours to add the class.

Absences on an assignment due date - If you must be absent from class on the due date for any assignment, the assignment must still be **delivered to me no later than the start of class on the due date** or it will be considered

late. My mailing address is *Dan Mitchell, De Anza College, 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino 95014*. Even better, *email* the content of your assignment to me by the deadline or send a *readable* photograph or photocopy of the entire assignment no later than the deadline. You must provide a printed copy of the assignment at the next class session you attend and the printed copy must be identical to the copy you submitted by alternate means.

Absences on an exam day – *Absence on a test day is a serious issue*. Notify me in advance, or call by the scheduled test session if an *extraordinary emergency* causes you to miss an exam and you intend to make up the work. Notifying me after the fact is only acceptable in case of extremely serious and unexpected emergencies where it is impossible for you to email, call, or send word with another student. If you miss an exam and do not contact me immediately *you may not be permitted to make up the exam, and your course grade will be affected*.

You must make up the exam as soon as you return to school. You must discuss the makeup date/time when you notify me of the absence, and you should expect to complete your make-up exam immediately when you return. It is your responsibility to follow up and make prompt arrangements for your make-up test. You may need to change your work or class schedule in order to make up the test in a timely manner. Unless you make other arrangements with me, failure to complete the make-up exam within a day or two of your return to campus may cause you to lose credit for the exam.

Attendance at the officially-scheduled final exam session is required: Do not schedule events that conflict

with the scheduled final exam session. You will not be excused from the final exam nor will you be allowed to take it at an alternate time if you fail to note the date and time of the scheduled final exam session. Schedule travel and other end-of-term events so that they do not conflict and jeopardize your course grade. If you schedule an outside event at the scheduled final exam session and you miss test #3 I may assign you a grade of "F" for the course.

☐ Late Work

*Assignments are late if they are not turned in at the time the class starts. You must arrive on time on due dates – **arrive early** to make sure your work is not late. Certain assignments will not be accepted if they are late.*

- **Late listening assignments are not accepted.** A listening assignment is late if you arrive for class after I collect it. Your lowest listening assignment grade will not count toward your course grade, so you may miss one assignment without penalty.
- **Missed quizzes may not be made up.** Your lowest quiz grade will not count toward your grade, so you may miss one quiz without penalty.
- **Late concert reports receive a grade penalty** of one letter grade for each day they are late. Reports are late if not turned in when I collect them at the *start* of the class period on the due date.
- **Optional second concert reports are not accepted after the deadline.**
- **Extra credit work is not accepted after the deadline.**

To prevent technical problems from interfering with completion of assignments that are downloaded

completion of assignments that are downloaded, described, or submitted online **you must access (and, in some cases, print) assignments at least 48 hours before they are due.** If you notify me of downloading or printing problems at least 48 hours before the deadline I will work with you to solve the problem and/or arrange alternatives. *If you wait until fewer than 48 hours remain I'll still try to help you, but you may not be able to get help and you may be unable to turn your assignment on time – and you will not get an extension.*

There are consequences for missing deadlines, and the only exceptions will be for truly unusual and compelling cases.

The [course calendar](#) at this website lists dates of important assignments and exams.

Retain Copies of Your Work

Retain copies of all submitted and graded work. Always keep backup copies of assignments that you turn in.

- Don't delete your concert report from your computer until you have gotten a graded copy back.
- Photocopy, photograph, scan, or fax yourself a copy of paper assignments before turning them in.
- Check the online grade listings to confirm that your grades are listed correctly.
- *Retain copies of all graded work until you have received your final course grade.*

Academic Integrity

Students and faculty share the goal of maintaining the

highest standards of academic integrity. I take this issue very seriously, and consequences can be very serious for students who fail to observe these standards. Consult my statement on [Academic Integrity](#) for details about my official policies— and ask for guidance if you have questions. Information about the [college academic integrity policy](#) and [student code of conduct](#) is available at the college website.

Cell Phones

Cell phone use during class is unacceptable. Turn off your cell phone and put it away before entering the classroom.

I will ask you to leave the room for the remainder of the period if your phone goes off during class or if you use your phone during class. Having your phone on during class is a distraction to you and others in the classroom.

Cell phones must be turned off and put away. Setting your phone on "silent" or "vibrate" is *not turning it off* – "Turn it off" means "turn it off."

There is **one exception to the rule**: If you have a *serious emergency situation* (e.g. sick child, serious illness in your family, etc.) and you *must* be on standby so that you can immediately deal with this *emergency* situation and you would otherwise have to miss class, the following applies:

1. You *must discuss the emergency situation with me* at the start of the period.
2. I'll ask you to sit where you can make a quick and quiet exit *to answer the call outside the classroom*.
3. Your phone must be on the *silent setting*.
4. If a call/text arrives you must *leave the room before*

answering.

Laptops, Tablets, and Similar Devices

