Mus 106 Music Appreciation
3 credits
MW 8:30am-9:45am

INSTRUCTOR: Aaron J. Salā
OFFICE: Hale Pālanakila 130
OFFICE HOURS: T/W 11:15am - 1:00pm
R 11:15am - 12:15pm
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EFFECTIVE DATE: Spring, 2012

WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai'i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide O'ahu's Ko'olau region and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Elements, styles, and forms of music, from the listener’s standpoint. Focus on classical music literature. Concert attendance and written critique required for two live performances during the semester.

Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other Than Class Times

Beyond regular study time, student will be required to attend two live performances of classical music during the semester as well as watch one full-length film or documentary—to be agreed upon by student and instructor.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student learning outcomes for the course are:

1. Identify masterpieces of classical music repertoire
2. Distinguish the essential compositional characteristics of the several stylistic periods in music/art history and representative composers from each period, which help place unfamiliar repertoire into familiar periods.
3. Contrast/compare music of any type (i.e., classical, popular, ethnic, seasonal) for texture, form, melodic contour, harmonic orientation, and time of composition.

4. Compare/contrast the live performances seen during the semester.

5. Define the elements that make up classical performance traditions.

**COURSE TASKS**

**Attendance:** Attendance is absolutely mandatory. Your active participation in this class is critical to your success in this class. While there will be class times that I will “compensate” you, as you are expected to commit out-of-class time to this class, I expect your attendance for every formal class session. There will be no such thing as an excused/unexcused absence. After three absences, your point total will be deducted by 15 points per day missed.

**Laulima Participation:** By Friday of each week, starting the week of 23 January, you will be responsible for posting a youtube video in the discussion section of Laulima accompanied by a 2-4 sentence explanation as to how the posted video represents the time period, the music of which we are discussing that week. In addition, you will be responsible for reflecting upon and responding to at least ONE other student’s post each week (also to be posted by Friday, each week).

**Concert Reports:** You will be required to attend two live performances of classical music during this semester. (Options for you to consider might be those listed at the UH-Mānoa music department’s performance calendar: http://www.hawaii.edu/uhmmusic/events/2012-01.htm. Be sure that the concert you attend is Western CLASSICAL in nature and not a world music offering). Other options include attending any of the operas offered by the Hawai‘i Opera Theatre this season. You will complete a 2.5- to 4-page report of each concert (double spaced, 12 pt font) and turn in a hard copy to me. Each concert report will be due within 10 days of the performance and will be accompanied by a PROGRAM. The latest date for Concert Reports to be received is MONDAY, 16 APRIL, IN CLASS.

**Film Report:** You will be required to watch one full-length film or documentary whose subject matter is related to Western Classical music. Possible films include the following: *Amadeus, Immortal Beloved, Beethoven, The Medici*, etc. Many of these films are readily available at the WCC library, or at Sinclair library at UH-Mānoa. They are also available via such internet offerings as Netflix. You will complete a 2.5- to 4-page review of the film.

**Listening Guide:** This class is about HOW to listen to classical music. Therefore, you will choose one classical composer of any time period (Du Fay, Palestrina, Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Liszt, Brahms, Schoenberg, etc.) and compile a listening guide based on one piece of the chosen composer’s music.

**Exams:** There will be three exams (2 midterms and a Final). The exams will be a compilation of multiple choice, true/false, short answer, and matching questions. I will give you 2 weeks
lead time for each midterm exam. While the midterms will not be cumulative, the FINAL will be. If you are ill on the day of the exam, you must email me BEFORE the exam is given, otherwise you will not be able to make up the exam. Make-up exams will include essay questions and will be more difficult than the original.

**ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING**

Grade scale:

- Laulima participation: 15 x 10 points = 150 points
- Concert report: 1 x 100 points = 100 points
- Film report: 1 x 100 points = 100 points
- Listening guide: 1 x 50 points = 50 points
- Mid term exams: 2 x 50 points = 100 points
- Final exam: 1 x 100 points = 100 points

Therefore:

- A = 540+ points
- B = 480-539 points
- C = 420-479 points
- D = 360-419 points
- F = 359 points or less

While I do not generally offer extra credit, I will award you up to 5 points for every laulima response, beyond your requisite first response, each week. These extra points will be assessed according to how critical your response is.

**LEARNING RESOURCES**

There is a mandatory text/CD-set for this class entitled: *Music: the Art of Listening*, 8th ed. The text is written by Jean Ferris and Larry Worster and published by McGraw-Hill.

**DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT**

*If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Ann Lemke can be reached at 235-7448, lemke@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale ‘Akoakoa 213 for more information.*

Revised May 25, 2011