

RANGER COLLEGE  
Syllabus

**COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:**

MUSIC 1310 -- AMERICAN MUSIC: POPULAR MUSIC & JAZZ

CREDIT HOURS: 3 HRS/WK Lab: 0 LEC/LAB COMB: 3

Scheduled class: Section .01: T/Th 9:05 am - 10:20 am. Music Building  
Section .02: M/W 10:40 am - 11:55 am. Music Building

Name of Instructor: Solomon Cross

Email: [scross@rangercollege.edu](mailto:scross@rangercollege.edu)

Office Hours: M,W: 8:50-9:20am, 12-2:30pm

**Catalog Description**

The general survey of various styles of music in America. Topics may include jazz, ragtime, folk, rock, and contemporary art music through lecture, audio, and visual recordings.

**Course Goal**

Students successfully completing this course will have a greater appreciation for and knowledge of the various musical instruments, periods of music, composers and their works in the United States. The course will center on the advancement of popular music and jazz.

**Course Content**

Course content will contain examination of musical instruments used in symphony orchestras, human voice ranges, and popular music primarily of the Modern period.

**\*\*This course is a lecture/class discussion intensive format; therefore, students will be required to engage in class discussions based on the topics and questions that are raised in addition to course readings and lectures.**

**College-level courses may include controversial, sensitive, and/or adult material. Students are expected to have the readiness for college-level rigor and content.**

**Required Background Prerequisite**

There is no requirement to be met prior to taking this course. It will meet the requirement of a three hour fine art elective.

**Textbook**

Jean Ferris. *America's Musical Landscape, Sixth Edition*, The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., New York, NY, 2010, ISBN: 978-0-07-340140-9.

**Methods of Instruction**

Lecture, discussion, listening examples, video examples.

## **Exemplary Educational Objectives**

The purpose of the exemplary educational objectives is intended to contribute to students intellectual and personal growth and to assist them in understanding and appreciating not only their heritage but also to prepare them for responsible citizenship and the ability to adapt to a rapidly changing and highly technological world.

Humanities and Visual and Performing Arts (H)

H1. To demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.

H2. To understand those works as expression of individual and human values within historical and social context.

H3. To respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.

H5. To articulate and informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

H6. To develop an appreciation for the aesthetic principles that govern the humanities and arts.

H7. To demonstrate knowledge of the influence of literature, philosophy, and/or the arts on intercultural experiences.

## **Basic Intellectual Competencies**

The basic intellectual competencies listed below are components of a process designed to assist and prepare the students for becoming well-educated individuals who are intellectually flexible, articulate, and have the capacity to become responsible and creative mentors of society. These competencies are included in this course and they are noted by the following numbering system.

B1. **Reading** - The ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials - books, documents, and articles.

B2. **Writing** - The ability to produce clear, correct and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion and audience.

B3. **Speaking** - The ability to communicate orally in a clear, coherent, and persuasive language appropriate to purpose, occasion, and audience.

## **Course Objectives**

Recognize the musical instruments used in a symphony orchestra. (H1)(B1)

Aurally identify works by major composers from the various periods of music. (H2)(B1)

Understand the development of various styles of music from the various musical periods. (H3,6)(B1)(B2)

Comprehend the influence of classical music on music of today. (H7)(B1)(B2)

**Course Calendar**  
**Week**

**Assignment due by that date**

1	Syllabus, introductions, syllabus receipt signature
2	Chapter 1: North American Indian Music Journal Entry 1 questions and class discussion
3	Chapter 2: Early Folk Music Journal Entry 2 questions and class discussion
4	<b>Quiz</b> on Chapter 1, 2, & 5 (Opens Online) Chapter 5: Religious Music in the Early Nineteenth Century Journal Entry 3 questions and class discussion
5	Chapter 7: Concert Music Journal Entry 4 questions and class discussion
6	Chapter 8: The Rise of Popular Culture Journal Entry 5 questions and class discussion
7	<b>Quiz</b> on Chapter 7, 8, & 9 (Opens Online) Chapter 9: The Jazz Age Journal Entry 6 questions and class discussion
8	Chapter 10: Jazz 1930-1960 Journal Entry 7 questions and class discussion <b>Spring Break March 12-16</b>
9	Chapter 11: Country Music Journal Entry 8 questions and class discussion
10	<b>Quiz</b> on Chapters 10, 11, & 12 (Opens Online) Chapter 12: Latin Popular Musics Journal Entry 9 questions and class discussion
11	Chapter 13: Rock and Roll Journal Entry 10 questions and class discussion
12	Chapter 14: Rock Flirts with Country Journal Entry 11 questions and class discussion
13	Chapter 15: Jazz Since 1960 Journal Entry 12 questions and class discussion
14	Chapter 16: Popular Music Since 1970 Journal Entry 13 questions and class discussion <b>Quiz</b> on Chapters 13, 14, 15, & 16 (Opens Online)
15	Review for Final Exam
16	<b>Final Exam</b>

## **Course/Classroom Policies**

1. Attendance policies will be as printed in the catalog. Missed class sessions will result in a lower grade, for obvious reasons. Students may be dropped at six (6) absences. After three (3) unexcused absences, five (5) points will be deducted from the final grade for each absence thereafter.
2. No make-up exams will be given.
3. **Quizzes will be administered online.** Students will be given a link to the online quizzes to be taken outside of class. Students will have a time limit to finish each quiz online. No extra time will be given to take quizzes after time allotted given the fact that students will have plenty of time to take quizzes.
4. Academic dishonesty, including cheating on tests and plagiarism, will not be tolerated.
5. Students will be expected to refrain from talking during the lecture and listening portions of the class presentation. You will be expected to stay awake and take appropriate notes.
6. No cell phones, or listening devices are allowed in the classroom. Use of computers in the classroom by students is forbidden without express consent of the instructor.
7. No food, drink, or tobacco use is allowed in the building.
8. The final examination is constructed from the items on each quiz during the semester. No make-up quizzes (nor make-up finals) will be given.
9. Talking while the instructor is talking will not be tolerated.
10. **Students are expected to bring journals to every class.**
11. **Students are expected to contribute to class discussions that are based on chapters read before the class time. For example: If we are covering chapter 5 next week, you are expected to have read and analyzed chapter five before we cover it and be prepared to discuss what you have read in class. Everyone is expected to contribute to class discussions.**
12. Do not wait till the last minute to contact me about an assignment due. I usually don't check my email during the weekends. It is your responsibility to take care of your classwork ahead of time. I am not available 24/7 and I use technology as a tool and not to control my life. Please be aware that I check email twice a day only.
13. If you are absent please have a "friend" in class who can fill you in on what you missed or share notes and information with you. I cannot provide extra tutorials for students who miss class.

**Class Journal Entries:** Students will keep a journal bring that journal to class every time. Students will write journal entries based on questions given at the beginning of class. Students must read the chapter ahead of time for the next class so that they can be ready to answer questions from the chapter being discussed and lectured for the given day. **Students are expected to read ahead!** Students must turn in journal entries for review to the instructor to look over at the end of the semester. **You will be graded individually for your contribution to the journal entries.**

**ADA Statement:** Ranger College provides a variety of services for students with learning and/or physical disabilities. The student is responsible for making the initial

contact with the Ranger College Counselor. It is advisable to make this contact before or immediately after the semester begins.

**Assessment (Grading Procedure)**

Final grade will be calculated as follows:

30% average of unit chapter quizzes

Attendance grade. Being asleep in class does not count for attendance. 5 points off final grade for each absence after 3 excused absences.

20% Class discussion participation

10% Journal Entries

40% Final Exam Grade

Final Average	Grade
90-above	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
Below 60	F
Quiz #1	(Course Objective #1)
Quiz #2	(Course Objective #2,3)
Quiz #3	(Course Objective #2,3)
Quiz #4	(Course Objective #2,3,4)
Journal Entries	(Course Objective #1,2,3,5,7)

**Admissions, Employment, and Program Policies** of Ranger College are nondiscriminatory in regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, disability, and national origin. All recruitment and admission material complies with Section 504 of the ADA.



## Receipt of Syllabus

Complete the attached form and return after receipt of the syllabus.

I have received the syllabus for Music 1310 (American Music). I understand the syllabus and agree to abide by the stated policies.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Legibly print the following information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Activity (sport) \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_