



RANGER COLLEGE

Ranger, TX

COURSE SYLLABUS

American Music

MUSI 1310

3 credit hours

INSTRUCTOR:

Jody N. Blake, Ed.S.

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OFFICE: Fine Arts Building, Ranger Campus
PHONE: 254-267-7003
HOURS: By appointment

I. Texas Core Curriculum Statement of Purpose

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

II. Course Description

A general survey of various styles of music in America. Topics may include jazz, ragtime, folk, rock, and contemporary art music.

III. Required Background or Prerequisite

None

IV. Required Textbook and Course Materials

America's Musical Landscape. 7th edition. Jean Ferris. ISBN: 978007802512-9

Additional readings, recordings, and materials will be provided by the instructor via Blackboard.

V. Course Purpose

Courses in this category focus on the appreciation and analysis of creative artifacts and works of the human imagination. Courses involve the synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and enable critical, creative, and innovative communication about works of art.

VI. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Identify musical works and elements in a variety of styles.
2. Analyze the elements and structures of music using appropriate terminology.
3. Critically evaluate the influence of social, political, technological, and/or cultural ideas on music.
4. Articulate the significance of music as an art form within historical, cultural and social contexts.

VII. Core Objectives

This course meets the following of the six Core Objectives established by Texas:

- Critical Thinking Skills (CT)** – Creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis; evaluation and synthesis of information
- Communication Skills (COM)** – effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)** – The manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- Teamwork (TW)** – The ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- Social Responsibility (SR)** – Intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
- Personal Responsibility (PR)** – The ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

VIII. Methods of Instruction

The instructor will utilize the following instructional methods: lecture, video, audio recordings, in-class group work, small group discussions, and other methods as deemed necessary by the instructor.

IX. Methods of Assessment

Quizzes/Assignments:

Students will complete unit quizzes covering information discussed in class and readings. These quizzes will be available through Blackboard and remain open for seven (7) days. Two attempts will be allowed for each quiz and late submissions will not be accepted. Students are encouraged to use their notes and readings when taking the quizzes, as the instructor believes that assessments should be used as learning opportunities. Additionally, students will complete several written assignments (mini-projects) on composers and other topics pertaining to the course. Students may have the opportunity to discuss and/or present these assignments in class. In total, students will complete nine (9) quizzes and three (3) written assignments.

Quizzes/assignments will constitute 30% of the final grade. Texas Core Objectives: (CT, COM, SR, TW)

Tests:

Students will complete written tests covering information from each unit covered in class and information from the readings. Each test will consist of two parts – written and listening. Test questions may include multiple-choice, true/false, short answer, listing, matching, fill-in-the-blank, or essay. The listening portion of each test will cover listening examples from the unit. Students should take care to study their notes and readings, as well as familiarize themselves

with the listening examples through repeated listening. The instructor may elect for tests to be taken in class or via Blackboard. In total, students will complete five (5) unit tests. **Tests will constitute 40% of the final grade. Texas Core Objectives: (CT, COM)**

Concert Reports:

Students are required to attend two (2) American music concerts for this course. The instructor will provide an approved list of possible concert venues. If the student is unable to attend live concerts, the instructor will provide internet links to recorded concerts. If the student elects not to attend a concert from the list, he/she must seek approval from the instructor to ensure that the concert of their choice meets the requirements of this class. After attending the concerts, the student will write a concert report for reflection and critique. A grading rubric and instruction sheet will be provided. In total, students will write two (2) concert reports. **Concert reports will constitute 10% of the final grade. Texas Core Objectives: (CT, COM, SR)**

Mid-Term Exam:

The student will complete a mid-term examination for this course. This exam will cover one unit only and will resemble a regular test. Students should prepare for this exam just like a regular test. It will consist of two parts – written and listening. **The mid-term exam will constitute 10% of the final grade. Texas Core Objectives: (CT, COM)**

Final Exam:

All students are required to take the final exam. This exam will be comprehensive in nature, covering various topics from the entire course. Unlike a regular test, this exam will not have a listening section. Students will be provided a study guide for this exam. **The final exam will constitute 10% of the final grade. Texas Core Objectives: (CT, COM)**

Extra Credit:

The instructor may provide extra credit opportunities on occasion. These optional assignments will be provided through Blackboard.

Final Grade Calculation:

Quizzes/Assignments (9)	= 30%
Tests (5)	= 40%
Concert Reports (2)	= 10%
Mid-Term Exam (1)	= 10%
Final Exam (1)	= 10%
<hr/> TOTAL	<hr/> = 100%

Grading scale: A = 90-100% B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F = Below 60

X. Course/Classroom Policies

Student Conduct:

- Students are expected to be respectful at all times. Disrespectful behaviors include, but are not limited to:
 - Talking while the instructor is teaching
 - Using technology at unapproved times (e.g. texting)
 - Sleeping
 - Distracting others / interrupting the learning process
- Disrespectful behavior **will not** be tolerated. Students who choose to behave in this manner will be warned one time. After one warning, the student(s) will be asked to leave the classroom for that class meeting – this will constitute an absence for that meeting and a “zero” for any assignments that day.

Attendance and Make-Up Work

- Students should come to class prepared and ready to learn. The instructor will take attendance as soon as class begins. Students entering after attendance has been taken will be marked tardy. Students later than five minutes will be counted absent.
- As per the Ranger College attendance policy, missing six classes will result in failure of the course.
- Students missing class due to a school function will be excused; however, the instructor should be informed as soon as possible. It is the responsibility of the student to ask for make-up work.
- Students missing class due to an illness, family emergency, etc. may be provided make-up work at the discretion of the instructor. The instructor will consider these circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

Late Work:

- Assignments, excluding tests/exams, will be accepted up to one day after the initial due date with a 20% grade reduction.
- Assignments may be accepted later at the instructor’s discretion. In any case, communication is key.

Technology-Use:

- Due to the nature of this course, students may be allowed to use electronic devices for academic purposes at the discretion of the instructor.
- The instructor will announce when students may use electronic devices – otherwise cell phones, laptops, etc. should be out of sight and silenced during class.

Academic Dishonesty:

- Academic dishonesty is defined as any form of cheating on academic assignments, including plagiarism.
- This will not be tolerated. Any student caught doing this will receive a grade of “zero” on the assignment. Repeat offenders will be reported to the college administration.

XI. Course Outline/Schedule

WEEK	TOPIC(S)	GRADED ASSIGNMENT(S)
1	Introductory Unit: What is Music Appreciation? Syllabus, Self-Intro, Basic Concepts Functions of Music, Concert Report Writing, Elements of Music	Introductory Quiz
2	Unit 1: Music of the Native Americans and Early Immigrants Chapters 1-2	Unit 1 Quiz Music Describes Me Assign.
3	Chapters 3-4	Test 1 – Unit 1
4	Unit 2: Music of 19th Century America Chapters 5-6	Unit 2 Quiz
5	Chapter 7	Test 2 – Unit 2
6	Unit 3: Emergence of American Genres Chapters 8-10	Composer/Musician Assign.1
7	Chapters 11-12	Unit 3 Quiz
8	Unit 4: Vernacular Music – Pop, Rock, Jazz Chapters 13-14	Mid-Term Exam (Unit 3)
9	Chapters 15-16	Unit 4 Quiz Test 3 – Unit 4
10	Unit 5: Music for Theater and Film Chapters 17-18	Unit 5 Quiz
11	Chapter 19	Composer/Musician Assign.2 Test 4 – Unit 5
12	Unit 6: American Concert Music Chapters 20-21	Unit 6 Quiz
13	Chapters 22-23	Test 5 – Unit 6
14	Special Topics – Musical Theater / Broadway	
15	FINAL EXAM REVIEW WEEK	
16	FINAL EXAM	Final Exam Concert Reports Due

XII. Non-Discrimination Statement

Admissions, employment, and program policies of Ranger College are nondiscriminatory in regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, disability, and national origin.

XIII. ADA Statement

Ranger College provides a variety of services for students with learning and/or physical disabilities. Students are responsible for making initial contact with the Ranger College Counselor, Gabe Lewis (glewis@rangercollege.edu). It is advisable to make this contact before or immediately after the semester begins.