

MUSIC 311: American Music

Credit Hours: 3

Scheduled hours per week: Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Other: 0

Catalog Course Description: American Music is a survey of the varied traditions, both historical and sociological, found in the United States. Topics include folk and ethnic music, jazz, blues, rock, country, sacred, musical theatre, concert music, and regional styles.

Pre-requisites: English 102, no previous musical knowledge or experience is required

Co-requisites: None

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. The student will identify important individuals and their contributions to American music.
2. The student will recognize unique American musical styles and genres.
3. The student will observe connections between music and the broader culture.
4. The student will listen to the diverse repertoire of American music.

Topics to be studied:

- English-Celtic, African-American, Native American, Latin American, and other traditions
- Offspring of the Rural South: Country, Blues, Rock
- Sacred Music: Psalmody, Singing Schools, Gospel, and Other
- Popular Song
- Musical Theatre
- Band Music
- Jazz and its Forerunners
- Film Music
- American Nationalism in Concert Music
- Experimentation and Innovation
- Music from West Virginia

| Relationship of Course to Discipline Learning Outcomes | |
|---|---|
| Students will develop a specialized vocabulary appropriate for speaking or writing about music | X |
| Students will develop listening skills so they may distinguish among significant forms, styles, and genres. | X |
| Students will understand the significance of music within historical and cultural contexts. | X |
| Students will acquire writing and aural skills (through the music theory sequence) to facilitate musical maturity. | |
| Students will experience music in live performance in the local community. | X |
| Students will develop performance and musicianship skills through the study and performance of a diverse repertoire of music. | |

| Relationship of Course to General Education Learning Outcomes: | |
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| Composition and Rhetoric Students illustrate a fundamental understanding of the best practices of communicating in English and meet the writing standards of their college or program-based communication requirements. | X |
| Science & Technology Students successfully apply systematic methods of analysis to the natural and physical world, understand scientific knowledge as empirical, and refer to data as a basis for conclusions. | |
| Mathematics & Quantitative Skills Students effectively use quantitative techniques and the practical application of numerical, symbolic, or spatial concepts. | |
| Society, Diversity, & Connections Students demonstrate understanding of and a logical ability to successfully analyze human behavior, societal and political organization, or communication. | X |
| Human Inquiry & the Past Students interpret historical events or philosophical perspectives by identifying patterns, applying analytical reasoning, employing methods of critical inquiry, or expanding problem-solving skills. | X |
| The Arts & Creativity Students successfully articulate and apply methods and principles of critical and creative inquiry to the production or analysis of works of art. | X |

Special requirements of the course:

1. Students will attend two concerts of American music.
2. Students will write a research paper on an American music topic.

Additional Information: Designed for students in any degree program.

Prepared by: H.G. Young III

Date: October 6, 2017