

# Music and Musicking

Music 101 - Music Appreciation  
Fall 2017, Wed. 7:00-9:30pm  
Instructor: Zoe  
TA: Francesca

## Course Description:

Starting from the premise that all human beings are extremely musical, this course will cover the building blocks of music as well as introduce students to critical ways to understand and describe musical sounds. We will engage with our subject matter on both an intellectual and experiential level, thinking about music and making it ourselves. We will explore the fundamental elements of music—pitch, timbre, rhythm, harmony, and more—while surveying musical styles from across the globe and time. Students will sharpen their listening and analytical skills, learning to see—and hear—what music can mean and how it affects both individual listeners and society.

## Course Learning Objectives:

In completing this course and its assignments, you will learn to:

- Listen carefully and critically to music
- Identify the elements of music and use them to analyze and discuss music
- Have greater familiarity with musical traditions and styles across the world
- Identify a range of instruments and styles
- Communicate with greater precision and nuance about music as a sonic and social phenomenon

## Materials:

- Texts:
  - *Music: An Appreciation*, Roger Kamien, 2011.
  - Course Reader
- Supplementary listening materials in class

## Grading:

Your grade reflects both the quality of your work and the effort you put into it.

- Class Participation (20%) — be a lively and respectful member of the classroom community
- Ten Weekly Assignments (3% x 10 = 30%)
- Two Essays (20% x 2 = 40%)
- Two Quizzes (5% x 2 = 10%)

## Details and Expectations:

- Participation:
  - Be fully present during class and participate in class activities and discussions.
  - Prepare to be a good participant by doing all the reading assigned for each class. This is a different kind of reading than you may have encountered. You will have to read slowly, take notes, think about what is being presented and why, and perhaps reread a section. If you're really struggling with a reading and feel like you can't understand it, you can still prepare yourself for class by writing down a list of the vocabulary you don't know and copying out into your notebook sentences that you don't understand. The reading is not a test and there's no "correct" interpretation. Building an understanding of the reading is what we're going to be doing together in class, so your job is to prepare yourself as best you can by trying to understand what the author is saying and thinking about the issues raised.
- Weekly Assignments: There will be ten short weekly assignments intended to further develop your skills as a listener and writer. They will be graded ✓, ✓+, ✓- :
  - ✓+ = Delves deeply into the assigned question or task; shows evidence of extensive and careful thought; writing is engaging and lively without sacrificing precision or clarity; writing is largely free of errors.
  - ✓= Adequately addresses the assigned question or task; shows evidence of careful thought; writing is clear, precise, and mostly free of writing errors.
  - ✓- = Does not adequately address the assigned question or task; does not show evidence of careful thought; writing is sloppy, unclear, or full of errors.
- Essays: You will write two essays throughout the semester (~5-6 pages). I will give details about each several weeks in advance of the due date.
- Quizzes: You will have 2 short in-class quizzes over the course of the semester to test your comprehension of concepts and terms we cover. I will hand out review sheets the week before each quiz.

# Weekly Schedule

[this schedule is subject to change but all changes will be clearly and repeatedly announced in class]

8/30 Class 1: Introductions — What is music?

## Assignments for class 2:

### Reading:

- Bruno Nettl's Introduction
- Steven Feld's Notes on World Beat
- Kamien, pgs 4-7

Weekly Assignment 1: Musical memory

9/6 Class 2: Music and Culture

## Assignments for class 3:

### Reading:

- Montagu's Origins and Developments of Musical Instruments
  - (each small group responsible for one chapter)
- Kamien pgs 9-27 (lots of pictures!)

Weekly Assignment 2: Prepare instrument presentation

9/13 Class 3: Instruments and voices from around the world

## Assignments for class 4:

### Reading:

- C. Small's "Six Aphorisms"
- Rice Keywords in Sound: Listening
- Kamien pgs 28-32

Weekly Assignment 3: Response to Small's "aphorisms"

9/20 Class 4: Rhythm and Meter, Funk and Reggae

## Assignments for class 5:

### Reading:

- David Byrne's "Technology Shapes Music"
- Kamien pgs. 337-346

Weekly Assignment 4: Soundscape assignment

9/27 Class 5: Pitch, Timbre, Technology and the 20th-century Avant-Garde

## Assignments for class 6:

### Reading:

- Weidman Keywords in Sound: Voice
- Kamien pgs 205-214 AND 238-244

No Weekly Assignment

Study for Quiz #1

10/4 Class 6: Melody, Intervals, and the Romantic Era  
Quiz #1

Assignments for class 7:

Reading:

- Kelley "Capturing Music" intro and chapter 1 (chapter 2 optional)
- Kamien pgs 65-73

Weekly Assignment 5: Composition assignment

10/11 Class 7: Notation and the Middle Ages

Assignments for class 8:

Reading:

- Erlmann Keywords in Sound: Resonance
- Kamien pgs 78-88

Weekly Assignment 6: Notation assignment

10/18 Class 8: Modes, Scales, and the Renaissance

Assignments for class 9:

Reading:

- Byrne's "Creation in Reverse"
- Kamien pgs 99-107 AND 118-124

Weekly Assignment 7: TBA

10/25 Class 9: Music and Religion in the Baroque Era

Assignments for class 10:

- Kamien pgs 153-162

No Weekly assignment

Essay # 1 due on 11/1: Notation essay

11/1 Class 10: Harmony and the Classical Era

Assignments for class 11:

Reading:

- excerpt of ETA Hoffman essay on Beethoven 5
- Forster on Beethoven 5
- Kamien pgs. 188-199

Weekly Assignment 8: TBA

11/8 Class 11: Structure and Form: Pop songs to Symphonies

Assignments for class 12:

Reading:

- Kun's "Stranger's among Sounds"
- "Psychology of Genre" NYTimes article
- Kamien pgs 355-369

No Weekly Assignment

Study for Quiz #2

11/15 Class 12: American Music, Nationalism, Citizenship, and Jazz

Quiz #2

Assignments for class 13:

Reading:

- Katz's "Music in 1s and 0s"
- Kamien pgs 378-385

Weekly Assignment 9: TBA

11/29 Class 13: Sampling: Borrowing in the Renaissance and Hip Hop

Assignments for class 14:

Reading:

- DeNora's "Introduction"
- Sacks' "Keeping Time"

Weekly Assignment 10: TBA

12/6 Class 14: Music, Medicine, and the Body

Assignments for class 15:

No Reading

No Weekly Assignment

Essay #2 due 12/13: Music and Culture

12/13 Class 15: Concluding Thoughts and Student Presentations