

**McLennan**  
C O M M U N I T Y  
**C O L L E G E**

WACO, TEXAS

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**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**AND**

**INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**MUSIC APPRECIATION**

**MUSI 1306-03**

**PETER OLSON**

**NOTE: This is a 16-week course.**

**COVID 19 Notice:**

McLennan Community College is committed to providing you with every resource you need to reach your academic goals including your safety. We will continue to monitor the evolving situation with COVID 19 and adjust our safety guidelines to make sure we offer a safe environment for you and our faculty. Please make sure to consult your faculty and the MCC website on any changes to these guidelines.

**Course Description:**

Understanding music through the study of cultural periods, major composers, and musical elements. Illustrated with audio recordings and live performances. (Does not apply to a music major degree.) Applies as a required humanities or fine arts course for all students.

**Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:**

None

**Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:**

*Insert and course notes or recommendations*

**Instructor Information:**

Instructor Name: Peter Olson

MCC Email: [polson@mclennan.edu](mailto:polson@mclennan.edu)

Office Phone Number: n/a

Office Location: n/a

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: By appointment

Other Instruction Information:

**Required Text & Materials:**

The textbook (ebook) and online Revel access are required and are automatically billed to you as part of the registration for this course. You may choose to purchase a loose-leaf paper textbook in addition to the online access, but it is not required.

Title: *Listen to This*

Author: Mark Evan Bonds

Edition: 4th

Publisher: Pearson

ISBN: 9780136894582

**MCC Bookstore Website:** <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

**Methods of Teaching and Learning:**

Readings, videos, and quizzes will be assigned before most class sessions, and students should plan to read and review the assigned course material (on Brightspace and Revel) on their own before class meetings. Class meetings will then focus on reviewing and applying the material. Weekly assignments and projects will also focus on applying the material. These will include worksheets, listening journals, and other interactive assignments. Some of these will be completed in class, and some will be assigned for outside of class. There will also be a semester-

long concert attendance requirement, an oral presentation, and a final project. More details about each assignment type will be given throughout the semester. Most assignments will be completed in Brightspace.

**Course Objectives and/or Competencies:**

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify and describe the basic elements of music, such as melody, harmony, and rhythm, and understand how they work together to create music.
- Understand and explain the style characteristics of the major periods in Western art music, and be able to identify the distinguishing characteristics in listening examples from each period.
- Compare and contrast the role of music in specific cultural contexts in the present and historically; discuss how specific musical genres have developed in relation to context.
- Critically assess the significance and impact of selected major composers and identify examples of major works by these composers; discuss how these composers and pieces fit in their cultural context.

**Course Outline or Schedule:**

This is a general outline of the course. Specific readings, reading quizzes, and assignments will be discussed in class and assigned in Pearson Revel and/or Brightspace. This schedule is subject to change. Any changes will be discussed in class and communicated through Brightspace.

**Week 1: Introductions**

Aug. 24, 26

Objectives:

- Get to know the course, its purpose and goals.
- Start to assess and evaluate the role of music in your life and in society.
- Understand what to expect and how to behave when attending a live concert.

**Week 2: Discussing Music**

Aug. 31, Sep. 2

Objectives:

- Recognize and evaluate different ways music functions in a society.
- Describe the thoughts and feelings evoked when listening to music.
- Understand and discuss the different ways text can influence music.

Week 3: Basic Elements of Music

Sep. 7, 9

Objectives:

- Define and understand melody, harmony, and rhythm
- Recognize phrasing, major/minor mode, beat, meter, tempo, harmony, and tonic in musical examples.

Week 4: Putting the Elements Together

Sep. 14, 16

Objectives:

- Define dynamics and understand how they influence the perception of musical meaning.
- Identify different musical textures, including monophonic, homophonic, and polyphonic, in examples.
- Recognize members of each musical instrument family by sound and describe how each family produces sound.

Week 5: Structure in Music

Sep. 21, 23

Objectives:

- Understand the basic elements of musical structure, including repetition, variation, and contrast.
- Compare and contrast different musical forms; discuss how each uses repetition, variation, and contrast.

Week 6: Review

Sep. 28, 30

Review and Exam

Week 7: Historical Context, part 1

Oct. 5, 7

Objectives:

- Explain the cultural context and the style characteristics of the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Baroque periods.
- Identify and compare the distinguishing characteristics in listening examples from each period.

Week 8: Historical Context, part 2

Oct. 12, 14

Objectives:

- Explain the cultural context and the style characteristics of the Classical, Romantic, and post-1900 periods.
- Identify and compare the distinguishing characteristics in listening examples from each period.

Week 9: Biography

Oct. 19, 21

Objectives:

- Discuss the advantages and disadvantages to tying music to a composer's biography.
- Critically discuss the need to idolize composers and selected "canonical" works.
- Understand the different tools useful in researching a composer's biography and works.

Week 10: Sacred Music

Oct. 26, 28

Student Presentations

Objectives:

- Define the basic characteristics of mass settings, cantatas, and oratorios.
- Discuss the contributions of Palestrina, Bach, and Handel to sacred music and how their works fit in their cultural context.

Week 11: Concert Music

Nov. 2, 4

Student Presentations

Objectives:

- Define the basic characteristics of concertos and symphonies.
- Discuss the contributions of Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Berlioz, and Brahms to concert music and how their works fit in their cultural context.

Week 12: Chamber Music

Nov. 9, 11

Student Presentations

Objectives:

- Define the basic characteristics of chamber music in general, including sonatas, quartets, and piano character pieces.

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- Discuss the contributions of Haydn, Schubert, and Chopin to chamber music and how their works fit in their cultural context.

Week 13: Opera, part 1

Nov. 16, 18

Objectives:

- Define the basic characteristics of opera, including overture, recitative, aria, and chorus.
- Discuss the contributions of Mozart, Verdi, and Wagner and how their works fit in their cultural context.

Week 14: Opera, part 2

Nov. 23 (no class Nov. 25, Thanksgiving)

Objectives:

- Define the basic characteristics of opera, including overture, recitative, aria, and chorus.
- Discuss how opera influenced musical theatre and movie music in the twentieth century.

Week 15: Film Music

Nov. 30, Dec. 2

Objectives:

- Identify and discuss diegetic and non-diegetic music.
- Discuss the contributions of opera composers to the early movie industry.
- Understand and identify the use of leitmotifs in film music.

Week 16: Final Exam

Thursday, Dec. 9, 8:00-10:00 a.m.

Format and expectations for the exam will be discussed in class.

**Course Grading Information:**

Grades for each assignments are categorized and automatically weighted according to this scale:

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Attendance and participation | 10% |
| Revel Reading Quizzes        | 10% |
| Assignments                  | 20% |
| Exams and unit quizzes       | 20% |
| Presentation                 | 10% |
| Music Experiences            | 20% |
| Final project                | 10% |

Within each category, assignments will have varying point values, with more points indicating a higher weight within that category.

Although studying and working in groups can be beneficial, any written work, quizzes, or tests should be the student's own individual work. If an assignment has been copied from another student, the internet, or any other source, the student will receive a 0 for that assignment. The second offense will result in failure of the course. Written assignments (concert reviews, listening journals, etc.) may be run through a Plagiarism detection service (i.e. TurnItIn) if the instructor suspects the work is copied from another source.

**Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:**

Students should attend and participate in each class session. A 5-point participation score will be assigned for each class period, with the total making up 10% of the final grade. Two participation scores will be dropped for the semester, which will provide two "passes" for missing class. Further absences due to extenuating circumstances may be waived with proper documentation (i.e. a doctor's note), but the two passes will cover most circumstances.

If you do not attend or complete any assignments for one week, I will reach out to you by email. If I do not hear back from you and your non-participation continues for a second week, I will drop you from the course. After the last day for withdrawals, I will not drop you from the course, and you will receive the grade you earn.

Weekly assignments and reading quizzes (Revel quizzes) may be turned in late for 50% credit. Other assignments may be accepted late on a case-by-case basis.

**Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:**

Students are expected to conduct themselves properly and respectfully in all classes and communication with the teacher and with other students. Students should arrive on time for class meetings, participate, and not distract others.

**[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)**

**(<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>)**

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

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## ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

### **Student Support/Resources:**

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing [SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu](mailto:SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu). Students may visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. to schedule a meeting with a Success Coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff based on household size. Text (254) 870-7573 to schedule a pantry appointment. The Completion Center and pantry are located on the Second Floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

### **MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:**

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at [https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency\\_Grant\\_Application.pdf](https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf).

### **Minimum Technical Skills:**

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

### **Backup Plan for Technology:**

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

### **Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:**

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty%20and%20Staff%20Commons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.



**Email Policy:**

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails.

**Instructional Uses of Email:**

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

**Email on Mobile Devices:**

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email [Helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:Helpdesk@mclennan.edu) for help.

**Forwarding Emails:**

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

**MCC Academic Integrity Statement:**

Go to [www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity](http://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity) for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

**Accommodations/ADA Statement:**

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit [www.mclennan.edu/disability](http://www.mclennan.edu/disability).

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

[disabilities@mclennan.edu](mailto:disabilities@mclennan.edu)

254-299-8122

Room 319, Student Services Center

**Title IX:**

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Chief of Staff for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion/Title IX) at (254) 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>.

Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at [www.mclennan.edu/titleix/](http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/). It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

**Disclaimer:**

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.