









**Syllabus**  
**MUSC 1010**  
**Introduction to Music**  
**2025**

**Committee Members:**

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N/A, Western Nebraska Community College  
N/A, Little Priest Tribal College  
N/A, Nebraska Indian Community College

**Facilitator: Jeffrey Kitson**

**The Institution agrees to the contents in this syllabus including course prefix, number, course description and other contents of this syllabus.**

 Chief Academic Officer, Central Community College	11/26/2024	Adopt
 Chief Academic Officer, Little Priest Tribal College	11/13/2024	Adopt
 Chief Academic Officer, Metropolitan Community College	11/13/2024	Decline
 Chief Academic Officer, Mid-Plains Community College	11/12/2024	Adopt
 Chief Academic Officer, Nebraska Indian Community College	11/26/2024	Adopt
 Chief Academic Officer, Northeast Community College	11/15/2024	Adopt
 Chief Academic Officer, Southeast Community College	11/13/2024	Adopt
 Chief Academic Officer, Western Nebraska Community College	11/12/2024	Adopt



## **I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

Course Number: MUSC1010  
Course Title: Introduction to Music (Music Appreciation)  
Prerequisite: None

An introduction and overview of the history of Western art music, from the middle ages to modern times. Includes the elements of music, historical style periods, major composers, and selected works.

4.5 quarter hours  
3.0 semester hours

## **II. COURSE OBJECTIVES / COMPETENCIES**

- A. Course will:
1. Familiarize students with musical elements.
  2. Introduce students to historical musical periods.
  3. Acquaint students with major composers from each historical period.
  4. Acquaint students with major compositions from each historical period.
  5. Develop students' abilities to differentiate between styles, genres, and musical characteristics of each historical period.
  6. Develop students' awareness of the social, political, and cultural contributions of historical periods, representative composers, and their works.
  7. Equip students with the tools to understand and appreciate music.

## **III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Students will be able to:

Objective #1:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the musical elements by using appropriate music vocabulary in discussing and/or writing about music.
2. Aurally analyze the use of the musical elements in various musical styles.

Objective #2:

1. Identify musical examples as belonging to a particular historical period.
2. Discuss the use of specific musical elements in a particular historical period.

Objective #3:

1. Explore the lives and contributions of major composers from each historical period.
2. Organize major composers into their respective historical periods.

Objective #4:

1. Identify selected musical examples as belonging to a particular historical period.
2. Compare selected musical examples from various historical periods.

Objective #5:

1. Identify musical genres and styles.
2. Differentiate between musical genres and styles.

Objective #6:

1. Understand the social and political context of the historical periods of music, representative composers, and their works.
2. Develop an awareness of the historical, social, and political context of other artistic disciplines.

Objective #7:

1. Apply critical thinking and listening skills in live and/or recorded musical experiences.
2. Develop the skills to become appreciative and informed consumers of music.

**IV. COURSE CONTENT / TOPICAL OUTLINE**

Within the historical/social context of the medieval period to the present, topics such as the following may be included. The outline may be used in any order as desired by the instructor.

- A. Elements of Music
  1. Pitch
  2. Meter & Rhythm
  3. Harmony
  4. Texture
  5. Form
  6. Tempo and Dynamics
  7. Instrument categories and/or families
- B. Modes of Music
  1. Vocal
  2. Instrumental
- C. Types of Music
  1. Sacred
  2. Secular
- D. Composers, Works and Styles in Historical Periods
  1. Medieval
  2. Renaissance
  3. Baroque
  4. Classical
  5. Romantic
  6. Twentieth Century and Beyond
  7. American Popular and World Music Genres

**V. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

A. Suggested Texts:

Music: An Appreciation, 10<sup>th</sup> brief ed. & 13<sup>th</sup> ed.– Roger Kamien

The Enjoyment of Music, 14<sup>th</sup> ed. – Forney, Dell’Antonio, & Machlis

Listen, 10<sup>th</sup> edition – Joseph Kerman

**VI. METHOD OF PRESENTATION:**

Instructors will use varied pedagogical techniques to engage students including several of the following: lectures, online, individualized format, small group discussions, video and audio examples, and live musical presentations.

**VII. METHODS OF EVALUATION:**

Students will be evaluated on class and group participation, daily work, exams, presentations, and projects as assigned by the instructor.

**VIII. INSTITUTIONAL DEFINED SECTION**

Specific content, schedule, and additional units or topics (such as American Popular and various types of World Music genres, etc.) will be determined by the instructor.