

## Saint Leo University

### MUS 210CL

#### Making Sense of the Sound: The Art of Listening Well to Great Music

##### Course Description:

What is music? Why do humans do music? How can one make heads or tails of a musical performance, and why are we so fascinated by it? In this course students will develop critical listening skills through increasing their understanding of musical structure and cultural context and making connections between musical masterpieces of the past and the music that they enjoy in the present. The focus of the course is European and North American music, sprinkled with musical styles from non-Western locales.

##### Prerequisite:

None.

##### Textbooks:

None. All assigned reading will be made available through a LIBGuide (link posted to weekly module reading assignments).

##### Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Apply knowledge of terms, styles, elements, and devices through analysis of creative and artistic works *demonstrating critical listening skills by distinguishing different music elements within a composition and discerning the organizational structure of a piece through Role of Music Essay, Elements of Music Post, Musical Blueprint, Research Paper and & Presentation, Concert Critique and Exams. CL2*
2. Analyze the contributions of creative minds to the visual, literary, and performing arts *by examining music's role in in different aspects of society such as religion, politics, social structure, and entertainment through Musical Taste Interview, Music History Group Assignment and Presentation, Protest or Unification Song Post, Research Paper and Presentation Rubric Concert Critique and Exams. CL1*
3. Communicate effectively while delivering coherent presentations featuring correct information and evidence *by analyzing one aspect of great music or a composer in depth and describing its (his/her) development or origins and impact on the evolution of the music that followed in a Music History Group Project and Research Paper and Presentation. CC2*
4. This course will stress the personal development of the student's own knowledge of great music. *The student will gain a greater understanding of music's role in society and an appreciation of how and why musical styles have changed and evolved over time through Role of Music Essay, Elements of Music Post and Research Paper and Presentation. Personal Development*
5. Students will examine how music has been an effective tool throughout history for building community in a variety of ways. *Students will experience community through working together on group projects and presentations through Elements of Music Post, Protest or Unification Song Post and Research Paper and Presentation. Community*

**Core Value:****• Personal Development**

Saint Leo University stresses the development of every person's mind, spirit, and body for a balanced life. All members of the Saint Leo University community must demonstrate their commitment to personal development to help strengthen the character of our community.

**• Community**

Saint Leo University develops hospitable Christian learning communities everywhere we serve. We foster a spirit of belonging, unity, and interdependence based on mutual trust and respect to create socially responsible environments that challenge all of us to listen, to learn, to change, and to serve.

**Assessments:****1. Two Exams (30% of grade) - Learning Outcomes: 1 & 2**

On these exams students will be asked to demonstrate critical listening skills through responses to listening examples, critical thinking skills through essay questions, and knowledge of key elements of course content through matching, multiple choice, or short answer questions.

**2. Research Paper and PowerPoint presentation (25% of grade)- Learning Outcomes: 1-5**

On a topic approved by the instructor; 5 pages double spaced using MLA format.

**3. Class Assignments (25% of the grade) - Learning Outcomes: 1, 2, & 3**

These assignments include written reflections on musical examples, participation in group discussion and presentation, and demonstrations of musical style through original or student researched music compositions.

<b>Role of Music Essay</b>	-	<b>L.O. 1</b>
<b>Elements of Music Post</b>	-	<b>L.O. 1</b>
<b>Musical Blueprint</b>	-	<b>L.O. 1</b>
<b>Music History Group Project-</b>		<b>L.O. 2 &amp; 3</b>
<b>Musical Taste Interview</b>	-	<b>L.O. 2</b>
<b>Protest or Unification Song Post-</b>		<b>L.O. 2</b>

**4. Concert Critique (15% of the grade) - Learning Outcomes: 1 & 3**

Must be a live concert attended during current semester, not previous semester or year.

**5. Do First Discussion Participation (5%) – Learning Outcomes 1- 5**

Students must post an original posting to the discussion board by Thursday at 11:59 EST/EDT each week and respond to at least two of their classmates by Sunday at 11:59 EST/EDT to receive a **PASS** grade for this assignment.

## Module 1                      What is Music?

### Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Define music.
- Determine how music has influenced human evolution.
- Identify the three separate planes on which we all listen to music.
- Compare and contrast the role that music has on your life.

### Readings

“Music, Mind, and Evolution” by **Ian Cross**

“How We Listen” from What to Listen for in Music by **Aaron Copland**

### Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Post an introduction to the class	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post an initial response to the Do First Discussion	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit <i>Role of Music Essay Post</i>	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

## Module 2                      Music is Synergy

### Objectives

- When you complete this module, you should be able to:
- Define the basic elements of music.
  - Determine how the elements of music work together.

### Readings

The Elements of Music

### Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Post an initial response to the Do First Discussion	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit <i>Elements of Music Post</i>	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit <i>Research Paper Topic with Three Credible Sources</i>	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

## Module 3                      Musical Form

### Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Define musical form.
- Correctly label different musical forms.
- Create a musical blueprint that illustrates musical form.

### Readings

“Musical Form” from Lumen Music

### Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Post an initial response to the Do First Discussion	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit <i>Musical Blueprint Post</i>	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Complete <i>Exam 1</i>	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

## Module 4                      Music is Culture

### Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Categorize pieces of music to their correct historical period.
- Analyze a period of history in terms of music

### Readings

*Music History 102: A Guide to Western Composers and their Music from the Middle Ages to the Present*  
*Introduction to Music Appreciation* – Assigned Chapter

### Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Post an initial response to the Do First Discussion	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit <i>Music History Group Assignment Post</i>	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

## Module 5                      Musical is Taste

### Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Describe musical taste in three aspects, mathematical foundations, cultural foundations, and psychological foundations.
- Describe historic clashes in musical taste.
- Compare and contrast your musical taste to another's.

### Readings

"The Musical Field" by Mike Savage; "How Brahms saved music from Wagner," *The Economist*

### Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Post an initial response to the Do First Discussion	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit <i>Musical Taste Interview Post</i>	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit <i>Research Paper Outline</i>	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

## Module 6                      Music is Powerful

### Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Describe historical and current examples of protest and political music.
- Identify how music can be used to unify people.

### Readings

“Music and Politics” by Malcolm Miller

“What Protest Songs Sound Like in the Trump Era” by Spencer Kornhaber

Rock's New Protest Era. By: Steve Knopper, *Rolling Stone*

### Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Post an initial response to the Do First Discussion	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit <i>Protest or Unification Song Post</i>	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Complete <i>Exam 2</i>	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT



## Module 7                      Music is Communication

### Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Describe how music can enhance story telling.
- Define programmatic music.
- Create a critique of a live concert.

### Readings

“Program Music” from Encyclopedia Britannica

“Literary Theories about Program Music” by Abner Wellington Kelley

### Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Post an initial response to the Do First Discussion	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit <i>Concert Critique Post</i>	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

## Module 8                      Music is Weird

### Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Assess the role of art music in the 20th and 21st centuries.
- Describe society's assessment of art music composers of the 20th century and beyond.

### Readings

"Terminal Prestige: The Case of Avant-Garde Music Composition" by Susan McClary

### Assignments

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Post an initial response to the Do First Discussion	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post <i>PowerPoint Presentation</i> to discussion board	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit <i>Research Paper and Presentation</i>	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT