



SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: MUS 331 African American Music

COURSE INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Jeremy McMillan

COURSE DESCRIPTION: MUS 331 covers major developments and achievements in African American music, its history, and the influence of the African Diaspora in its development.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: In addition to completing the required sequence of Western Music History courses, Music Majors are encouraged to take classes on special topics to deepen their understanding of diverse musical styles. This broader knowledge grants the aspiring emotionally intelligent artist the opportunity to develop the requisite awareness of the Human Condition. This course seeks to give the students the tools needed to accomplish this goal through the study and evaluation of:

- the development of critical thinking and research skills
- the development of communication skills through collaboration, oration, and rhetoric
- exposure to important works beyond the Common Practice Era through critical listening and analyses
- the development and continuous improvement of prose

COURSE UNITS/MODULES:

Unit I/Module I: The African Diaspora

Unit II/Module II: Investigating links from African Folk Music to Jazz, Blues, Gospel, and commercial music

Unit III/Module III: Exoticism: The Parisian Fascination and European Objectification

Unit IV/Module IV: Motown and company

Unit V/Module V: Michael Jackson, Prince, and major figures of the Twentieth Century



COURSE EVALUATION METHODS:

Students will be evaluated by submitting short essays, research projects with Chicago citation style, and frequent input in discussions.

COURSE TEXTBOOK(S):

Articles, Handouts, and Videos

COURSE READING LIST:

Access to YouTube and Spotify.

Bibliography

Bernier, Celeste-Marie, and Durkin, Hannah, eds. *Visualising Slavery : Art Across the African Diaspora*. Oxford: Liverpool University Press, 2016. Accessed January 4, 2021. ProQuest Ebook Central.

Boyd, Todd. *The New H. N. I. C. : The Death of Civil Rights and the Reign of Hip Hop*. New York: New York University Press, 2003. Accessed January 4, 2021. ProQuest Ebook Central.

Collins, Patricia Hill. *From Black Power to Hip Hop : Racism, Nationalism, and Feminism*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2006. Accessed January 4, 2021. ProQuest Ebook Central.

Lane, Jeremy F.. *Jazz and Machine-Age Imperialism : Music, Race, and Intellectuals in France, 1918-1945*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2013. Accessed January 4, 2021. ProQuest Ebook Central.

Monson, Ingrid, ed. *African Diaspora : A Musical Perspective*. London: Taylor & Francis Group, 2003. Accessed January 4, 2021. ProQuest Ebook Central.

Ripani, Richard J.. *New Blue Music : Changes in Rhythm & Blues, 1950-1999*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2006. Accessed January 4, 2021. ProQuest Ebook Central.

Schiff, David. *The Ellington Century*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2012. Accessed January 4, 2021. ProQuest Ebook Central.

Tythacott, Louise. *Surrealism and the Exotic*. Abingdon, Oxon: Taylor & Francis Group, 2003. Accessed January 4, 2021. ProQuest Ebook Central.



Weissman, Dick. Blues : The Basics. London: Taylor & Francis Group, 2004. Accessed January 4, 2021. ProQuest Ebook Central.