

# MUSIC 10 Music Survey

1 credits / 2 hours

## Course Description

Music Survey is a basic course designed to introduce students to masterworks of the Western canon. No previous background in music is required for this course. Weekly readings and listening assignments, concert attendance, written assignments, and examinations.

Basic concepts and principles of musical design, including melody, harmony, rhythm, timbre, and form. Musical instruments and traditional ensembles. Introduction to the vast symphonic and chamber music literature. Important composers and masterworks from the time of Bach to that of Stravinsky. Introduction to vocal music, including choral works and opera from Mozart to Wagner. Jazz from New Orleans to Bebop.

Prerequisites: none

Corequisite: ENG 02 or RDL 02 if required

## Course Goals

Students will learn to speak and write intelligently about music. They will become familiar with the major figures, significant trends, and important genres of Western classical music and with early Jazz. Students will be able to identify individual pieces that are universally regarded as masterworks. The course aims to reinforce historical and humanist concepts that are part of other classes. Students will become fluent with, and open to, a wide variety of artistic expression.

## Course Requirements

1. Attendance and Class Participation
2. Reading Assignments: A list of reading assignments for each class session will be distributed. These need to be completed before each class meeting.
3. Listening Assignments: A list of listening assignments, selected from the discs accompanying the textbook, will be distributed. As with the readings, these need to be completed before each class meeting. The text contains Listening Guides for each of the compositions. Students are encouraged to listen to each example a few times throughout the week.
4. Written Assignments: Two short papers on musical topics will be assigned.
5. Concert Attendance: Students are required to attend two concerts. A number of free concerts are offered on-campus during the semester. If a student is unable to attend two concerts on-campus, he or she will need to seek out, with the assistance of the instructor, an appropriate event off-campus. Hundreds of free concerts, covering a wide array of styles and repertoire, happen each week throughout New York City.
6. Examinations: In addition to mid-term and final exams, a quiz will be given early in the semester and another shortly after the mid-term. All tests will include both written and listening portions. The final exam is a central course requirement and must be taken at the scheduled time.

## Textbook

***Music Listening Today*** by Charles Hoffer with two compact discs. Cengage Advantage Books (current edition).