

Syllabus: MUS 355 American Music (online)
Spring 2018 (SLN# 15217)
Opens Monday, January 8, 2018

Instructor: Dr. Katherine Palmer

Course e-mail: mus355@gmail.com (for all questions regarding content, grading, etc.)

Technical Support: Please do not contact your instructor with technical questions. Herberger Online handles all technical questions and issues that may arise in this course.

Please contact the support team immediately if you encounter technical issues while completing an assignment and you are unable to resolve the problem and reset your work.

The Herberger Online support team is available to assist you 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. You may reach them anytime at:

- holsupport@asu.edu
- 1-888-298-4117
- 480-965-3057 (International)

When contacting support, please provide:

- The full name of this course (ABC 123: Long Name)
- The title(s) of any assignment(s) you're having trouble with
- A brief description of the problem
- Detailed, step-by-step instructions to reproduce the problem

Because this is an online course, all communication will take place via email (mus355@gmail.com), NOT in person or by phone.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Class home page:

<https://americanmusic.hol.asu.edu/>

Class login information:

<https://courses.hol.asu.edu/services/landing/pages/accounts>

Class text:

Required readings for this course have been placed on e-reserve by ASU Libraries. Go to <http://lib.asu.edu/> and choose Course Reserves for this course by professor's name or course number. A list of these readings is posted on the course website under "Documents." Two readings for Unit 3 are accessed differently; see second "Online Article Access Instructions" under course website, "Documents" for those.

Course Description:

This course introduces students to the broad and rich topic of American music through brief explorations of topics that represent faculty specialties in the ASU School of Music.

After an introduction to general music terms and concepts and a brief survey of some highlights in American music, students are given a choice of which special topic units they will study. Each of these units is taught by a music historian at ASU. Because this unique online class features fifteen different modules on special topics created by seven different instructors, the administrator reserves the right to refer you to the specific teacher who built a module, if you have questions regarding that module's material. The course concludes with a series of units that offer students the opportunity to reflect critically on what they have learned. No previous musical experience or knowledge of music history is required.

Technical Requirements:

Access to a high-speed Internet connection is required to take this course. Because this course is entirely delivered via the Internet, you are responsible for making sure that the computer you use to access all course materials meets or exceeds the specified computer minimum qualifications as listed on the course website. Also, due to the high media content of this course, you will be required to set up and configure a media player that will consistently play the mp3 files and the mp4 digital clips delivered via the course website. If your computer breaks at any time during the semester, it is your responsibility to locate Internet access for all lectures, assignments, and exams. **No make-ups of any type will be allowed due to computer problems on your end, so please locate reliable Internet access during submission of all course work.**

You are highly encouraged not to enroll, or to drop immediately, if you do not have computer experience, if you are not willing or prepared to assume the added responsibility of a computer-based course, or if you plan to be away from a computer site for an extended period of time during the semester. Necessary required skills include downloading mp3 audio files as well as digital video clips, surfing the net, conferring via email, and other intermediate computer knowledge. If you believe you are unwilling or unable to devote the time necessary to complete this course to your satisfaction, please consider dropping this class as soon as possible.

COURSE CONTENT & SCHEDULE

Offensive Materials Disclaimer:

Every effort is made to limit explicit or potentially offensive content in this class without ignoring essential issues in the history of American music. This is not always possible when the title of a song or recording, or the lyric within that song or recording may include explicit or culturally sensitive language. In this course, you will be required to listen to, view, and analyze materials that you may consider offensive.

We do not intend in any way to offend, nor do we as the content and technical team, the School of Music, the Herberger Institute of Design and the Arts, or Arizona State University share in the opinions of the musicians and their songs that may offend. Nonetheless, because these materials speak to issues and controversies in the history of American music that are essential to this course, no suitable substitutions are available for them, and none will be provided.

By continuing with this course, you are agreeing to be held academically accountable for all required materials in the syllabus, regardless of their potentially offensive nature. Students who are unwilling either to hear or think critically about such material are encouraged to drop this course.

How the Course Works:

This is not a typical online course! Not all of the material is required, so you can choose which materials you will study, and when you will take the exams (within limits). The course is divided into three Units. Each unit contains three or more “segments.” Some of these segments are mandatory, and some you can choose not to study. Here’s how it works:

Unit 1: Open Monday, January 8 – Monday, February 5

All 3 segments in this unit are required:

- 1 - Course Introduction
- 2 - Musical Terms, Part 1
Musical Terms, Part 2
Musical Terms, Part 3
- 3 - Basic Survey - Study all timelines, listening examples, and diagrams.

Exams: 3 exams correspond to the segments above

- Syllabus and Course Introduction Exam: 15 questions, 15 minutes, worth 15 points
- Musical Terms Exam: 30 questions, 30 minutes, worth 60 points
- Basic Survey Exam: 50 questions, 50 minutes, worth 100 points

You must keep track of your own time. The exams DO NOT have built in timers. You will lose .5 points as a penalty for every minute you go over the allotted time.

Unit 2: Open Monday, January 29 – Monday, April 9

Choose 6 from the following modules:

- 1 - Afro-Cuban Music in America
- 2 - Aaron Copland
- 3 - Émigré Composers: Stravinsky, and Schoenberg
- 4 - Experimentalists: Cage, Cowell, and Ives
- 5 - Heavy Metal
- 6 - Jazz
- 7 - Minstrelsy
- 8 - Powwow
- 9 - Psychedelic Rock
- 10 - Spirituals

Exams: 1 exam for each segment chosen, 6 exams total

- 20 questions each, 20 minute time limit on each exam, worth 100 points each

You must keep track of your own time. The exams DO NOT have built in timers. You will lose .5 points as a penalty for every minute you go over the allotted time.

Unit 3: Open Monday, April 2 – Friday, April 27

Choose 3 from the following segments:

- 1 - Music and Race
- 2 - Music and Gender
- 3 - Music and Class
- 4 - Music and Age

Exams: 1 exam for each segment chosen, 3 exams total:

- 20 questions each, 20 minute time limit on each exam, worth 80 points each
You must keep track of your own time. The exams DO NOT have built in timers. You will lose .5 points as a penalty for every minute you go over the allotted time.

More information about each unit:

For Unit 1: Be sure to study the lectures, timeline, and other course materials. As you finish the segments (1, 2, and 3), take the corresponding exam. **Take all three (3) exams before the Unit 1 deadline.** Unit 1 has quite a bit of information, including vocabulary and dates to be learned, so please be prepared to spend as much time as possible with this unit to be prepared for the exam.

For Unit 2: You have some choices! Choose the six (6) segments that you would most like to learn about, and study the materials in each of those segments. When you finish a segment, take the exam for that segment and move on. All of the Unit 2 segments are available for several weeks, so feel free to browse around and explore. **Just be sure to complete six (6) Unit 2 segment exams before the deadline.** Since the exams are detailed and there's a lot of material to study, it is strongly recommended that you work at a steady pace, rather than waiting until the last minute to take all of your segment exams.

For Unit 3: You have more choices! Chose the three (3) segments in Unit 3 that you would like to learn about, and study the materials in each of those segments. When you finish a segment, take the exam for that segment and move on. All of the Unit 3 segments are available for several weeks, so feel free to browse around and explore. **As with the previous unit, be sure to complete three (3) Unit 3 segment exams before the Unit 3 deadline.** Also, please work at a steady pace rather than cramming at the last minute.

Important Dates and Exam Windows:

Unit 1: Opens 01/08/2018 at 6:00 am and closes 02/05/2018 at 11:59 pm

Unit 2: Opens 01/29/2018 at 6:00 am and closes 04/09/2018 at 11:59 pm

Unit 3: Opens 04/02/2018 at 6:00 am and closes 04/27/2018 at 11:59 pm

NOTE: All times listed are for the Arizona time zone, and you are responsible for making any time-zone adjustments for your area. Arizona does **not** switch to daylight savings time. **With weeks to complete and submit, no late exams or assignments will be accepted under any conditions.**

Semester/Course Calendar:

Monday, January 8	Classes begin
Sunday, January 14	Last day to drop/add without Institute approval
Sunday, January 21	Tuition and Fees 100% Refund Deadline
Monday, January 29	University 21st Day
Sunday, April 1	Course Withdrawal Deadline
Friday, April 27	Complete Withdrawal Deadline/Last Day of Classes

Course Withdrawal Deadline:

If you wish to withdraw from this course, it is your responsibility to do so by **Sunday, April 1**. Course registration changes are processed through MyASU: <http://my.asu.edu>.

Religious Holidays:

A list of recognized religious holidays may be found at: <http://students.asu.edu/cora/holidays>. Students who will experience exam conflicts while observing any of these holidays must notify the professor within the first 3 weeks of class to arrange for accommodation.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING PROCEDURES

Grading Scale:

895 - 1015	=	A
795 - 894	=	B
695 - 794	=	C
595 - 694	=	D
0 - 594	=	E

Workload:

Students should expect to devote at least 8–10 hours per week to this course throughout the semester. As noted below, student obligations include listening assignments, readings, recorded lectures, demonstrations, worksheets, and interviews, videos, and exams. **No extra credit is offered with this course.**

Listening/Viewing Assignments:

Our listening/viewing assignments for this term will be available on the course website itself.

Exams and Quizzes:

All exams and quizzes will be taken online through the course website. **Do not use a wireless Internet connection when taking exams or quizzes.** Use the “practice test” immediately before each exam and quiz to verify that your computer is properly configured.

Exam Resets:

Exam resets are only available in instances of computer and technical errors.

If you experience computer or technical problems during an exam, **DO NOT SUBMIT IT!** You have only two resets for the entire semester (see below), so do not reset an exam unless you've read and understood this entire paragraph. If you encounter technical problems, first exit the browser, and take appropriate steps to identify and solve the problem with your computer (by using the practice test, moving to a different computer, or contacting technical support). Once you have resolved the problem, then return to the exam page on your course website to reset your exam. Use the practice test again before taking the reset. The system will allow you to reset your own exam if you have not already submitted or reset that exam. **NOTE: Only two resets, total,** are allowed for the semester. An exam you choose to reset can only be reset once, so you must take all reasonable steps to resolve any technical difficulties before attempting the reset. No resets will be allowed outside of the exam period.

Make Up Exams for Extenuating Circumstances:

Make up exams will be allowed only in documented cases of bereavement, hospitalization, or doctor's note specifying you were unable to leave your bed during the designated exam window. If one of these unfortunate circumstances befalls you, please notify your professor within 1 week (7 days) of the exam and present documentation of your reason for missing the exam. No make-up exams will be given to students who 1) "miss" or "forget to take" an exam, 2) encounter work or transportation conflicts, 3) were sick but did not get a doctor's note specifying that the student was unable to complete the exam during the entire exam period, or 4) who do not contact the professor within 1 week of missing the exam. The authenticity of all documentation will be confirmed; do not submit false documentation.

Exam and Assignment Receipts:

All submitted exams and assignments are given a confirmation number via a submission results page if the submission is successful. **If you do not receive a confirmation number for an exam or assignment, that submission has NOT been successful**, and you should contact Computer Support immediately at HOLSupport@asu.edu OR visit <http://herbergeronline.asu.edu/help> to submit a support ticket.

If you have no confirmation number, you have no grade. It is your responsibility to print or write out each confirmation number you receive for each exam/topic assignment you submit. This is your official receipt for work completed, so it is important to print and keep these receipts. Inquires about missing grades sent to faculty, staff, or to Computer Support will be ignored if they do not have the confirmation number(s) for the exam/assignment in question.

Your grades can be viewed by clicking on the "Grades" link in the course navigation menu after logging in. Please allow Computer Support several hours after each exam period has ended to process and post scores. It is your responsibility to keep track of your status in the course by regularly checking your grades, as no academic warnings can be sent due to the large numbers of students enrolled. For that same reason, final grades cannot be submitted until the last possible due date of the semester, and may

not be officially posted until after graduation. Please visit the Grades page after you complete Unit 3 to determine your final grade.

Testing Procedures:

Access to a non-wireless, high-speed Internet connection is required for test taking. There will be several video clips and a few video presentations lasting in excess of 40 minutes. The examinations may include audio and still images. Adequate bandwidth is essential.

Please use headphones or stereo speakers when listening to musical examples. Built-in computer speakers offer poor sound quality, and may reduce scores on assignments.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & POLICIES

Student Conduct:

Students are expected to abide by the Arizona Board of Regents Code of Conduct (available at <http://students.asu.edu/srr/code>) and the ASU Student Academic Integrity Policy (available at <https://provost.asu.edu/index.php?q=academicintegrity>).

No collaboration or use of outside sources of any kind is allowed on any tests, assignments, etc. This includes viewing the course website on your phone or another computer or device while taking the exam, listening to audio excerpts on another student's exam, discussing the exam with another student before taking it, and other such behavior. The exams are not open-book or open-note.

Do NOT navigate away from an exam/quiz once you've opened it for any reason! No other web pages or computers should be open while taking an exam. Accessing, or trying to access course lectures or any other course page while you are taking an exam - or opening new browsers - is in violation of academic honesty.

Any violation of this policy will result in sanctions and may result in further disciplinary action. Sanctions may include failure of the course (E), failure by reason of academic dishonesty (XE), and others as outlined by the ASU policy. All violations of the Code detected during the term will be sanctioned, even if the assessment has already been graded and points assigned. Do not share your course ID and password with anyone. Log out of the course website when you are finished with it. Do not allow another student to use the course website under your password, even if s/he is also in the course. Each student is fully responsible for all activity that takes place on the course website under his/her password.

Special Accommodations:

To request academic accommodations due to a disability, please contact the ASU Disability Resource Center www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc/# (Phone: (480) 965-1234; TDD: (480) 965-9000). This is a very important step, as accommodations cannot be made once an exam has been taken. If you have a letter from their office indicating that you have a disability which requires academic accommodations, please fax the letter to 480/965-2659, attn: Professor (named on page 1 of syllabus) or scan and email the letter to MUS355@gmail.com or have DRC personnel email that address with your information no later than the end of the first week of the semester. If you qualify as a DRC student, please contact Computer Support immediately regarding any necessary online accommodations. No special accommodations can be given without prior official DRC documentation. Sorry, accommodations cannot be made retroactively.

Adding, Dropping, and Withdrawing:

If you wish to withdraw from this course, it is your responsibility to do so. Course registration changes are processed through My ASU: <http://my.asu.edu>.

Please visit <http://students.asu.edu/drop-add> or speak with your advisor or college major office for complete information regarding Withdraw dates and policies. No late W grades are available, and the grade of I (Incomplete) is no longer an option for MUS 355. As per university policy, students do not qualify for Academic W status if they are not doing acceptable or passing work. ASU policy does not allow an instructor to assign a W simply because a student is dissatisfied with the grade earned.