

Course Syllabus: **Introduction to Music** 111 70
Blue Ridge Community and Technical College

Course: Introduction to Music 111 70

CRN#: 30161

Location: Martinsburg High School

Room: 1072

Day/Time: Tuesday, 6:05 pm - 7:45pm

Instructor: Cam Millar

email: cmillar@blueridgectc.edu

phone: 876-6751

Office hours: to be arranged by phone or email, or before or after class

Textbooks:

- Classical Music for Dummies; by Dirk Sutro
- Jazz for Dummies: by David Pogue and Scott Speck
- numerous handouts and reading material from the instructor

Course Description:

Music..... Rock? Classical? Jazz? African? Indian? Pop? Broadway? Country? Hip-Hop? Opera? Well, it's all music! We'll be exploring the wide world of music in all of it's styles and forms. Along the way, we'll discover what humans all have in common the world over. It's fascinating to discover how the music of one culture has influenced that of another throughout history. We'll look at Mozart and Beethoven in a new way in order to understand why they were the 'mega-stars' of their time..... look at how Jazz in the USA is really our 'classical' music..... what does Hip Hop have in common with music from Turkey in the 11th century?..... discover that Opera in the 1800's was just as spectacular as today's Broadway shows.... and find out how the Aboriginees of Australia might truly be 'in tune' with the sounds of the universe!

There is a prerequisite for this course..... open ears, open minds, and open hearts.

Course Goal:

To have the students become aware of the history of music; to see how music can reflect major trends and thoughts particular to certain cultures at a certain time period in history: to appreciate music from other parts of the world; to gain an appreciation and understanding of the development of music in the 'Western World'; and to see how American music developed in its own unique way.

Course Objectives:

- students will develop analytical processes through trying to follow the flow of major musical ideas and concepts through many centuries and cultures.
- recognize structural patterns
- making inferences; drawing conclusions
- develop tolerance for different cultural views and ideas

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend ALL classes. Because the course meets once a week, a lot of material is covered each class meeting. Missing more than two or three classes could affect your grade. Please notify instructor and the administration of any prolonged absences that may affect your grading for a semester or that may have an effect on your financial aid situation or insurance, etc.

Assessment Techniques:

Grades will range from A to F

A (90% or better); B (80% or better); C (70% or better); D (60% or better); F (below 60%)

Tests, Quizzes:

There will be a Midterm test and a Final test to be given during class time when it is testing week. Other music listening quizzes will be announced.

A short music research paper and presentation will be required of all students.

Class Agenda (rough guide; subject to fluidity and change/additions)

- handouts and readings to be given out that are pertinent to current area of study
- textbook readings and listenings to be assigned for homework
- DVD's and videos will be viewed in class when applicable to current study

Week 1 - what is sound and music? elements of music; listening to music from various cultures.

Week 2 - more music from various cultures; introduction to the 'Silk Road'

Week 3 - the 'Silk Road' - music from Japan to Western Europe; cultural differences reflected in music

Week 4 - 'Silk Road' continued; noticing musical concepts carried over from culture to another

Week 5 - early Western European music; early Church music and the influences from Arabia and India

Week 6 - music of the Renaissance, Baroque

Week 7 - music of the early Classical composers

Week 8 - Classical music; indepth look at Mozart

Week 9 - Mozart into Beethoven and the Romantic period of the 1800's; Opera; Wagner

Week 10 - the 1800's and early 1900's; Debussy, Stravinsky

Week 11 - Blues, early Jazz in America; early Broadway show music

Week 12 - Jazz and America; Broadway; Film music

Week 13 - early Rock and Roll; the Beatles; Rock and the blues influence; classic Rock, R&B, Soul, Disco

Week 14 - Pop/Rock; World music; Rap, Hip Hop, current trends

Week 15 - in class music research presentations