

MUS 106 SYLLABUS
Exploring Music
(3 credits)
Hybrid Online
Section 001 MWF, 1:00 - 1:50 PM
Cultural Arts Building, Rooms 1059 & 2041
Fall, 2011

Contact	Text and Materials	Course Description	Student Learning Outcomes and Goals
Policies & Procedures	Assessments	Grading	Course Schedule
Attendance and Participation	Assignments	Online E-Learning Enhancements	University-Wide Policies

Contact:

Instructor	Daniel C. Johnson, Ph.D.
Office	Cultural Arts Building, Room 1056
Office Hours	MTWRF, 8 - 9 AM <i>by appointment</i>
Phone	(910) 962-7559
Email	johnsond@uncw.edu

Note: you will receive email announcements and other communication from your instructor through your official UNCW email account. Check your official UNCW email by visiting the [OWA site \(Outlook Web Access\)](#). **It is very important to check the Blackboard course site and your UNCW email regularly** for announcements and other information. For security and confidentiality reasons, course correspondence will not be sent to other email addresses. You may have your email forwarded from the UNCW address to another server if you would like; for help with this process, contact the [Technology Assistance Center \(TAC\)](#) or your off-campus email provider.

[top](#)

Texts and Materials:

Required:

- *Musical Explorations, Fourth Edition* (Johnson, 2011) published by Kendall/Hunt, available at the UNCW Bookstore. Note: a new copy of this text is required because used copies often have pages torn out and used as worksheets from previous owners.
- A pair of audio ear-buds or headphones with an eight-inch stereo adapter, available at the UNCW Bookstore and elsewhere.
- A soprano recorder (available from the UNCW Bookstore or local music stores).

[top](#)

Course Description:

This course is a general survey of the basic materials of music, including the study of musical notation, listening experiences, the piano keyboard, and related topics. The course is designed for elementary education majors, public school teachers seeking re-certification, music students who wish to prepare for MUS111, and for students who wish to increase their knowledge and understanding of music. This basic studies course is intended for the student with little or no musical training. However, it is expected that students with some musical training will find in the acquisition of aural ear-training and in the depth of theoretical study involved in this course challenging.

[top](#)

Student Learning Outcomes and Goals:

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) for Aesthetic, Interpretive, and Literacy Perspectives:

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to critically analyze, appreciate, and make cogent subjective judgments about the role of music in history and the medium of music as a means of interpretation and self-expression. (AIL 1)
2. Students will develop a familiarity with music history and musical terminology through assigned readings and lectures. (AIL 1)
3. Students will develop their creative, critical, and analytical thinking skills through analysis and evaluation of music and consideration of the distinctions between "classical" vs. popular music. (AIL 2)
4. Students will recognize the value and richness that cultural, social, and ethnic diversity bring to music and related fine arts. (AIL 2)
5. Students will understand the larger socio-historical contexts of the musical examples through assigned readings and lectures. (AIL 2)
6. Students will demonstrate the ability to critically analyze, appreciate, and make cogent subjective judgments about the role of the music in history and the medium of music as a means of interpretation and self-expression. (AIL 2)
7. Students will express themselves creatively through written assignments in response to musical experiences containing creative components. (AIL 3)

Goals:

1. To understand music in terms of its seven rudimentary elements.
2. To demonstrate rudimentary music literacy skills relating to rhythm.
3. To demonstrate rudimentary music literacy skills relating to pitch.
4. To demonstrate rudimentary music literacy skills relating to harmony.
5. To describe music listening examples and understand their impact on listeners as a part of everyday life.
6. To experience the seven elements of music through active participation in classroom exercises.

More detailed than the above learning goals are the course objectives. In each chapter, the specific course objectives are spelled out as an introduction and review.

[top](#)

Assessments:

There will be several assessments throughout the semester for you to demonstrate your achievement in this course. The four types of assessments are: quizzes, tests, surveys, and a final exam. The quizzes are designed to preview or review course material and may be taken two times; the higher score will be factored in your final grade. All quizzes are timed (lasting only five minutes) may be taken from any computer but are due according to the course schedule. Surveys are not graded but are required as another way to track your progress in this course. The tests and final exam may only be taken once and must be taken in the designated computer classroom (Cultural Arts Building 2041). See the [course schedule](#) for specific dates. When taking these assessments, be sure to have a pair of earbuds or headphones so you can hear the audio files.

To address the content of the syllabus and the required materials, you will have a syllabus test. The syllabus test will be administered near the beginning of the semester. Since I consider the syllabus a contract between myself and my students, its review is paramount. Major concepts, policies, and procedures indicated in the syllabus will be included on the test. Also, basic features of the textbook and other required materials will be included on the syllabus quiz. *Before taking the Syllabus Test*, you need to do three things: (1) complete the Computer Based Training course Blackboard Learn Orientation, (2) complete the Listening Survey I, and (3) get your own copy of the textbook (the most current edition). **Blackboard Learn Orientation** is an online orientation to Blackboard presented through Skillport, available via the Student Tab in [SeaPort](#); further instructions will be sent via email. Once you complete this CBT, you need to print and submit a copy of the certificate verifying you have completed this orientation. The **Listening Survey I** is a way to establish your current listening skills; it is not graded but important as a comparison for the follow-up Listening Survey II. Also, each student needs to present his/her **own copy of the textbook** at the time they take the Syllabus Test. See the [course schedule](#) for that date.

Quizzes on chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 are given periodically throughout the course to either preview or review course material. **All quizzes are due by 11 PM on the dates indicated in the course schedule.** To prepare for these relatively easy quizzes, read through the chapter and be able to explain the main ideas of each chapter. As indicated above, the quizzes are designed to preview or review course material and may be taken up to two times; the higher score will be factored in your final grade.

There will be three content-based tests, organized by chapter. Also, there will be one cumulative final exam. Although anything is "fair game," I will ask questions to allow you to demonstrate your knowledge of the important content. Before each scheduled assessment, there will be ungraded, practice test offered for self-study online as part of the Blackboard enhancements in this course. The quiz and tests will be made available for a limited time, on the dates indicated in the [course schedule](#). *There will be no make-up opportunities for these assessments, so make arrangements to take these assessments on time.*

[top](#)

Assignments:

In-class and online assignments will be assigned to accompany class lectures. To monitor your progress and assist you in learning the material, you will complete numerous in-class and take-home assignments to reinforce the content of each chapter.

You will receive **full credit** for complete, correct assignments submitted on time. (At my discretion, I may excuse minor errors and award full credit.) You will receive **partial credit** awarded on a sliding scale for incomplete assignments containing substantial errors submitted on time. You will receive **no credit** for missing assignments.

[top](#)

Online Learning Enhancements via BlackBoard:

- **Content Enhancements**

Review and supplemental material relating to course content are posted by textbook chapter. These include web site references, stand-alone applications, and video demonstrations.

- **Announcements**

To facilitate online communication, use the UNCW email for course business as a default. Also, periodic announcements will be posted in Blackboard as reminders or for new information.

- **Learning Modules**

For each chapter, click on the icon from the Course Content Home Page to open the associated Learning Module. Here, the study guide, associated assessments, and other links are posted.

- **Assignments**

Assignments are submitted in hard copy (to the Music Office, my office door, or at class meetings). See the [late work policy](#) on earning credit for submitted assignments. The same policy applies to assignments submitted before/after class as in the face-to-face class meetings.

- **Grades and Progress**

You can navigate to the Assignment and Assessment tools to track you scores.

- **Assessments**

There are four types of assessments in this course: Quizzes, Tests, Surveys, and the Final Exam. The quizzes and surveys will be available online in one of the UNCW computer labs, from your home computer, or from any other computer with an Internet connection. Tests and the Final Exam will be delivered online only in the designated computer classroom (Cultural Arts 2041). All assessments will be available for a limited time according to the [course schedule](#). Electronic assessments save time, reduce grading errors, allow for rapid feedback, and provide in-depth item analysis.

Skillport

Blackboard Learn Orientation is a required course delivered via Skillport; you can access this course via the Student Tab in [SeaPort](#). It is a computer-based training course (CBT) that introduces the fundamentals of Blackboard. Prior to taking the Syllabus Test, you need to have completed this CBT and submitted your printed certificate from this orientation (by taking the Blackboard Orientation test). This is a prerequisite to accessing the Syllabus Test.

[top](#)

On-Line Code of Conduct

- *You are responsible for your own learning--including in-class and online learning.* If you realize that you are unable to log on to the web site or are not receiving responses to e-mail when you should be receiving them, don't wait for days expecting that it will be "worked out." Make sure that you keep alternative contact information on-hand (and not just on-line).
- You may not use the following excuse "I can't read off the screen." I am not a big fan of reading off of the computer screen myself. So, I print the messages--no excuses.
- I recommend that you check email and set aside time to visit the course web site more often than you think is necessary, especially at beginning of the course. You can always cut back if you find you are checking too frequently.

[top](#)

Attendance and Participation:

Most required class meetings are scheduled on Mondays and Wednesdays, with *most* Fridays reserved for online work. In addition, attendance at three concerts outside the normal class meeting times is required. The tentative schedule is listed below, and your instructor will announce any changes to the schedule in class at least one week before they take effect.

While your attendance and participation factor into your final course grade, your musical skills do not. In other words, do not worry about becoming a recorder virtuoso or master drummer in this course. Just do your best and engage with the classroom activities to make music.

[top](#)

Grading:

Calculation of the final course grade is as follows:

Syllabus Test	5%
Chapter Quizzes	10%
Tests (3)	45% (15% each)
Final Exam	10%
Assignments	20%
Attendance	10%
TOTAL	100%

Note: students earning a 93% or better on the last day of classes are excused from the Final Exam – those students earn an “A” for the course. Students earning between 90 and 92% may either take the final exam or elect to earn an “A-” for the course. Students earning less than a 90% on the last day of classes are required to take the Final Exam.

For the final course grade, a ten-point grading scale will be used as follows:

92-90=A-	100-93=A	
82-80=B-	86-83=B	89-87=B+
72-70=C-	76-73=C	79-77=C+
62-60=D-	66-63=D	69-67=D+
	59-below=F	

[top](#)

Course Schedule (tentative)

There are eight chapters in the text, each reflecting the [course goals](#), [course objectives](#), and the tentative calendar (below). The class meets at 1:00 PM most Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays in the Cultural Arts Building in room 1059. Often, Fridays are reserved for online work and to prepare for the three required concert attendance outside normal class meeting times. Your instructor will announce more specifics about assignment due dates during the course of the semester.

Week of:	Topic/Agenda	Assessments/Assignments
8/24	Welcome, Syllabus, & Chapter 1	None
8/29	Chapters 1 & 2 Last day to add/drop a class	Syllabus Quiz, Friday Sept. 2 Blackboard Learn Orientation DUE Listening Survey I DUE
9/5	Chapters 2 (cont.)	Quiz 2, Sept. 9 <u>Exploring the World of Music Video</u> Program #4: Transmission
9/12	Chapter 3	Quiz 3, Sept. 16 <u>Exploring the World of Music Video</u> Program #5: Rhythm
9/19	Review for Test 1	Test 1, Friday Sept. 23
9/26	Chapter 4	Quiz 4, Sept. 30 <u>Exploring the World of Music Video</u> Program #6: Melody
10/3	Chapter 4 (cont.)	Quiz 5, Oct. 7 <u>Exploring the World of Music Video</u> Program #1: Sound, Music, & the Environment
10/10	Chapter 5	Concert Report 1, due Monday Oct. 17
10/17	Chapter 5 (cont.)	<u>Exploring the World of Music Video</u> Program #12: Music & Technology
10/24	Review for Test 2	Test 2, Friday Oct. 28
10/31	Chapter 6	Quiz 6, Nov. 4 <u>Exploring the World of Music Video</u> Program #9: Harmony
11/7	Chapter 7	Quiz 7, Nov. 11 <u>Exploring the World of Music Video</u> Program #7: Timbre
11/14	Chapter 7 (cont.)	Quiz 8, Nov. 18 Concert Report 2, due Monday Nov. 21
11/21	Chapter 8	Concert Report 3, due Monday Dec. 5
11/28	Chapter 8 (cont.)	Test 3, Friday Dec. 2
12/5	Comprehensive Review	Listening Survey II Course Survey
12/12	Reading Day/Exams	Final Exam, Monday Dec. 12 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Assessment Schedule

The online assessments for this course are listed below. Quizzes may be taken twice, while each test and the final exam may be taken only once.

The Assessment Tool link will close **immediately** after the due time. If you cannot take an assessment, it is after the due time. Do NOT wait until the last minute to take assessments--the Blackboard clock controls this tool. "But I forgot my. . ." and "The Blackboard clock must be fast because. . ." are not acceptable excuses.

Tests and the exam may ONLY be taken in the announced computer classroom (usually Cultural Arts 2041). The quizzes and surveys, however, may be taken from any Internet-enabled computer. Prior to each assessment, it is recommended that you take the Practice Quiz or Test online which will be available at least two days before the assessment date. Although not required, these practice assessments serve to review the material and are designed to improve your assessment grades.

Note: Students with an "A" or an "A-" average (90% or higher) on the last day of classes are not required to take the final exam. Those students will receive their pre-final grade as their final course grade. All other students are required to take the final exam.

***Prerequisites for the Syllabus Test** are: successful completion of Blackboard Learn Orientation (a Skillport course), completion of the Listening Survey I, and having your own copy of the textbook.

****Prerequisites for the Final Exam** are completing the Listening Survey II and the Course Survey.

[top](#)

Late Work Policy:

Assignments are due on the due date and by the due time, usually submitted as hard copy at the instructor's office (room 1056) or as scanned file (electronic document) via the Blackboard Assignment Tool. In the event that you do not turn in a posting by the due date and time, it will be given half credit (50%) if you submit it during the next 24 hours after it was due either as a hard copy at my office or electronically via Blackboard. Assignments submitted more than 24 hours late will not be graded.

If submitting electronically, you must turn your assignments and any other materials into me via the Assignment Tool at the time that the assignment is due. The Assignment Tool will close **immediately** after the due time. If you cannot upload your assignment, it is after the due time. Do NOT wait until the last minute to upload assignments--the Blackboard clock controls the dropbox. "But I forgot my. . ." and "The Blackboard clock must be fast because. . ." are not acceptable excuses. If you cannot submit your project via the dropbox because you are late (yes, even a few minutes makes a difference), you can earn no more than 50% credit. This policy is also subject to the 24-hour rule. After 24 hours, the assignment will neither be accepted nor graded. Additionally, timestamps will be checked to make certain that the work was actually completed on time.

[top](#)

Class Policies & Procedures

- Read your syllabus (repeat this three times).
- I believe in being fair to EVERYONE. That means that I don't cut much slack. After all, how can it be fair to the students who turn assignments in on time if I am asked to allow someone else to turn assignments in after the due date/time without point penalty?
- I am not a big fan of "excuses." I have heard nearly every possibly excuse for why students can't complete assignments or make it to class and would prefer not to hear another story. If you there's a catastrophe, tell me. In this case, it is not better to not complete an assignment and ask for forgiveness later. I appreciate honesty far more than a story about your great aunt Matilda who died twice and fried your hard drive so you can't do your homework.
- Even though this course has a traditional face-to-face component, the online e-learning enhancements are a major part of this course. These features enhancements provide a greater sense of freedom and flexibility. *With this freedom comes a responsibility to manage your own time when not in class.*
- Read course announcements, e-mail, the textbook, and all online course information THOROUGHLY (including this syllabus). There is nothing more annoying and a larger waste of time then to repeat the same instructions multiple times. Let me know if you have any trouble accessing this information; remember you are responsible for all assigned information posted online or in the textbook.
- If you decide to complete assignments online, keep a copy of each assignment on your computer as a "back-up." I have innumerable disks crash every semester and the data was irretrievable. I have also heard the excuse of a missing/lost disk. I will not give you extra time if your disk crashes or you have a missing/lost disk and you do not have a back-up copy.
- Finally, I have three big DON'TS:
 1. Don't expect me to be available 24/7. Just because this course is enhanced with Blackboard features that are available 24/7 doesn't mean that I can be available for all students, all the time (because I am only human). I promise--I will get back with you promptly regarding questions. Just as if you were in a traditional class and sent an email, you have to give me time to respond. Please ask questions if you have them...but give me time to answer them.
 2. Don't panic. It goes along with all of the others that I've mentioned. Think. Breathe. Relax. Sure, I have rules, but I am fair. If you would like to meet with me, drop by my office or call me during my conventional [office hours](#) or make an appointment.
 3. Don't forget to read! This syllabus is detailed for a reason. Have a question about an assignment? Have you checked the syllabus first? Have you re-read the chapter? Have you checked the course announcements and your email? All of this comes FIRST before you send an email or post a message. Please think before you post.

University-Wide Policies

Religious Observance Policy

In accordance with NC SL 2010-211, you are entitled to **two excused absences for religious observances per academic year**. You must inform your instructor in writing the first week of class if you will be missing any classes due to religious observance and using one of the two permissible absences for the academic year. In addition, please inform the Registrar the first week of class who will then confirm your intentions to miss class with the impacted course instructors. Any absence for religious purposes will be considered unexcused unless you submit the request in writing the first week to either your instructor and the Registrar.

Zero Tolerance Policy

UNCW practices a zero tolerance policy for violence and harassment of any kind. For emergencies contact UNCW CARE at 962-2273; Campus Police at 962-3184; or Wilmington Police at 911. For University or community resources visit: <http://www.uncw.edu/safe-relate/campusResources.htm>. Violence prevention information and resources available at <http://www.uncw.edu/safe%2Drelate/>. We will focus several class discussions on the importance of reducing violence and increasing tolerance in schools and at UNCW.

Cell Phones, PDAs, Laptops

Please silence your cell phone and do not make calls, access applications or text during class. If you have a personal, urgent matter for which you need to be on call, please let your instructor know in advance. In addition, please do not have active any PDAs or laptops/netbooks/iPads open and active unless the activity warrants. We will use these devices in selected activities and they are permissible then.

The UNCW Statement on Diversity in the University Community

As an institution of higher learning, the University of North Carolina Wilmington represents a rich diversity of human beings among its faculty, staff, and students and is committed to maintaining a campus environment that values that diversity. Accordingly, the university supports policies, curricula, and co-curricular activities that encourage understanding of and appreciation for all members of its community and will not tolerate any harassment or disrespect for persons because of race, gender, age, color, national origin, ethnicity, creed, religion, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, marital status, or relationship to other university constituents. Students with Disabilities information and resources available at <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/disability/>

[top](#)

*The above syllabus for this course is subject to change.
In the event of any alteration, written changes to the syllabus will be provided at least two days (48 hours) before they take effect.*