

**Northeastern Illinois University**  
**The Department of Music and Dance Program**  
**MUS 101 – The Musical Experience**  
**Section WL1**

Instructor: Dr. Lucia Marchi  
E-mail: lucia.marchi.2@gmail.com  
Class times: Friday, 6:10-8:50 in ELC 106  
Office hours: Friday, 5:10-6:10, or by appointment

---

**Required Materials**

Kerman – Tomlinson, *Listen*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed + 6CD set

---

**Purpose:**

This course is designed to increase the listener's understanding, and enjoyment of music. For future teachers, such increased knowledge and awareness will also be applicable to the sharing of music in the classroom.

---

**Course Objectives**

By the end of the semester the student will demonstrate knowledge/skills in the following areas to the satisfaction of the instructor:

**Music Fundamentals**

Basic understanding of rhythm, pitch, form and style

**Musical Context**

An understanding of musical periods

**Concert Observation**

An increased awareness and understanding of the procedures and context of a musical performance

---

**Course Requirements**

1. Class attendance and participation
2. Attendance at a concert of classical music and report on it (5 pages, double-space)
3. One paper on a singer/group/songwriter from the last 30 years (5 pages, double-space)
4. Midterm and final exam

**PAPER** (5 pages – double spaced)

Choose a group/singer/songwriter of the last 30 years that you like and know well. Include in your paper:

1. a short biography/history of him/her/them
2. an analysis of their public (i.e. fans; their age, ethnicity, etc...)
3. a description of their music. This is the most important part of your paper. Use the appropriate musical terms and try to place the music in the historical development studied in class.
4. your personal reaction to their music. Why do you like them?

**CONCERT REPORT** (5 pages – double spaced)

Attend a concert of classical music (attach the ticket). Include in your paper:

1. a brief description of the setting: concert hall, stage set-up, lighting, type of audience, audience reaction
2. a discussion of the music you heard. This is the main body of your paper. Include titles and composers, instrumentation; what periods of music are represented by each piece; if there are program notes, describe how they helped or hindered your appreciation of the music; describe the pieces, including tempo, texture, meter, rhythm, dynamics. Use the appropriate musical terms. You may want to focus on one section only or draw comparisons between several works.
3. **briefly** state your personal reactions to the concert and to the music and state your reasons for enjoying or not enjoying the concert.

FREE (or almost free) CONCERTS:

1. NEIU Music Department  
([http://www.neiu.edu/Academics/College%20of%20Arts\\_Sciences/Departments\\_Programs/Music/Concerts/eventschedule.html](http://www.neiu.edu/Academics/College%20of%20Arts_Sciences/Departments_Programs/Music/Concerts/eventschedule.html))
2. Chicago Cultural Center
3. Civic Orchestra of Chicago (<http://www.cso.org/main.taf?p=3,11,6&CategoryID=civic&SeasonID=0910>)
4. Chicago Symphony Orchestra - \$10 student tickets (<http://www.cso.org/>)

**Attendance**

---

Attendance is mandatory. More than **one** missed class will lower your attendance grade.

**Class preparation and participation**

---

To prepare for class, you have to do the readings and the listenings assigned for the day and be prepare to discuss them in class. Students will be evaluated for preparedness for each class, and you demonstrate this by participating in class discussions and asking appropriate questions.

**Evaluation and grading**

---

Class attendance and participation	20 points
Paper (due Oct 2)	15 points
Concert report (due Nov 20)	15 points
Midterm exam (Oct 23)	25 points
Final exam (Dec 18)	25 points

Final grades will be calculated as follows:

- 100-90 A
- 89-80 B
- 79-70 C
- 69-60 D
- 59 and less F

**Midterm and final should be taken on the scheduled day. NO make-ups!**  
**Late assignment policy:** points will be deducted from late assignments

**Syllabus**

**Friday, September 4**

Fundamentals of music: pitch, rhythm, dynamics, tone color  
**Readings:** Listen, Ch. 1 and 2

---

**Friday, September 11**

Structure of music: Melody, Harmony, Keys. The orchestra. Non-Western music ensembles and instruments  
**Readings:** Listen, Ch.3 and pp. 217-223  
**Listening:** Stravinsky, The rite of Spring (DVD, 1); Etenraku (Japanese gagaku, CD 3, 29 – listening chart p. 219). Compare the sound of the Western orchestra with the Japanese ensemble.

---

**Friday, September 18**

Twentieth-century American music. Jazz and Blues

**Readings:** Listen pp. 391-410

**Listenings:** Thomas, If you ever been down; Ellington, Conga brava (CD 6, 23); Parker, Out of Nowhere; Davis, Bitches Brew (CD 6, 22-25)

---

**Friday, September 25**

Rock and beyond

**Readings:** Listen pp. 415-424

Bring the recording of your favorite jazz/rock/indie/hip-hop/rap etc.... song to class, and be prepared to present it.

---

**Friday, October 2****PAPER DUE**

Classical style and forms: Sonata, Symphony, Concerto

**Readings:** Listen pp. 169-189

**Listenings:** Mozart, Symphony n. 40, first movement (CD 2, 16-21) and Piano Concerto K. 488, first movement (CD 2, 37-41)

---

**Friday, October 9**

Classicism and Romanticism

**Readings:** Listen pp. 227-246

**Listening:** Beethoven, Symphony N. 5 (CD 3, 5-19)

---

**Friday, October 16**

The Romantic Piano

**Readings:** Listen, pp. 254-268

**Listenings:** Schubert, Erlkönig (CD 3, 21); Chopin, Nocturne in F-Sharp (CD 3, 28)

---

**Friday, October 23****MIDTERM EXAM**

Meaning and narrativity in 19<sup>th</sup>-century music

**Readings:** Listen, p. 249 (Program music) and 268--75

**Listenings:** Berlioz, Fantastic Symphony, 5<sup>th</sup> movement (CD 4, 2-8)

---

**Friday, October 30**

Meaning and narrativity in 19<sup>th</sup>-century music/2

**Readings:** Listen Ch. 18

**Listenings:** Mahler, Symphony n.1, 3<sup>rd</sup> movement (CD 5, 7-14); Brahms, Violin concerto, 3<sup>rd</sup> movement (CD 5, 1-6)

---

**Friday, November 6**

Musical theater: Opera, Musical, non-Western musical drama

**Readings:** Listen, Ch 17 and pp. 410-15 (from The American Musical)

**Listenings:** Verdi, Aida, Act IV, Tomb Scene (CD 4, 9-12); Bernstein, West Side Story, Meeting Scene (CD 6, 27)

---

**Friday, November 13**

Musical theater: Opera, Musical, non-Western musical drama/2

**Readings:** Listen, pp. 314-317, 354 and 343-48 (Alban Berg – Wozzeck)

**Listenings:** Berg, Wozzeck, Act III, scenes iii and iv (DVD 5-6 and CD 5, 34-5); Beijing opera, The prince who changed into a cat (CD 6, 29)

---

**Friday, November 20****CONCERT REPORT DUE**

Different ways to Modernism: Debussy, Stravinsky and Schoenberg

**Readings:** Listen Ch, 19 and 331-343

**Listenings:** Stravinsky, The rite of Spring, Part I (CD 5, 21-27); Schoenberg, Pierrot lunaire, Night (CD 5, 28)

---

**Friday, November 27 NO CLASS (Thanksgiving Holiday)**

---

**Friday, December 4**

Music after World War I

**Readings:** Listen Ch. 21

**Listening:** Bartók, Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta, second movement (CD 6, 2-8); Copland, Appalachian Spring (CD 5, 42-5)

---

**Friday, December 11**

The late twentieth century: electronic music, chance music and Minimalism

**Readings:** Listen Ch 22

**Listenings:** Varèse, Poème électronique (CD 6, 16); Reich, Music for 18 Musicians (CD 6, 17-18); Adams, El niño, "Pues mi Dios ha nascido a penar" (DVD 7)

---

**FINAL EXAM: Friday, December 18, 6:10-8:50PM****Other important dates:**

1. Last day to add or change registration is Monday, September 14, 2009.
2. Last day to drop a class is Friday, November 13