

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus
MUHS 44433 Survey of American Music

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Prerequisite: Junior standing and ENGL 10203 Composition II or ENGL 14343
Honors Composition
Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

21st century. Includes Native American songs and chants, as well as music of Survey of folk, popular, and classical music of the United States from the sacred works of the 1500s to the classical, jazz, popular and rock music of the Spanish, French and English colonists, African slaves, and other immigrants to North America.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Identify and describe the important musical periods as they have developed in American society.
2. Identify the important figures in American music.
3. Write an essay describing significant and unique characteristics of American music.
4. Write an essay describing contributions of selected American musical figures.
5. Write an essay describing selected American musical institutions.
6. Write an essay describing the basic relationships that exist between American music and selected aspects of American culture.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking

Students will draw conclusions and/or solve problems using proper musical

terminology; personal expression within the context of musical performance.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently using proper musical terminology; personal expression within the context of a musical performance.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes whether in musical research, presentation, or performance.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will appreciate and reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. The history of music in America from the 1600's to 2000's
- B. The relationship of music to cultural and political events in American history.