

Grande Prairie Regional College

An Introduction To Music

MU 1010 A2 3(3-0-0) Winter 2002

M, W: 16:00-17:20 Room L-107

University Transfer to UofA, UofC, AU, AUC, ConUC, KUC, and CanUC.

Instructor: Geoffrey Whittall
 Office: L-119 (office hours as posted or by appointment)
 Phone: 539-2823
 E-mail: gwhittall@gprc.ab.ca

Prerequisite: None

Required Materials: Musical Encounters by David C. Nichols, Prentice Hall 2001.
 Set of 4 CDs is packaged with the book.

MU 1010 is an introduction to both listening to music, and to the development of several types of music that contribute to our societal history. The majority of the semester will be dedicated to discovering the Western "art" music tradition, and sampling music from the Medieval, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and 20th century periods. The rest of the course will be dedicated to exploring sound and talking about how we can think about music, and use music in our lives.

This course is designed to help develop a greater understanding and appreciation of music. By the end of the course, you will be able, by listening, to identify elements within a piece of music, and identify several different genres and forms of Western art music. To achieve this, the beginning section of the course will focus on music fundamentals: learning what we can and do hear, discussing some basics of music theory, and learning terminology so that we can discuss what we are hearing. Throughout the semester, we will look at music history in its cultural context, examining it in relation to other arts and non-musical historical events that helped shape the music. We will study a wide variety of works, from the medieval period to modern times. These pieces are representative and often major works of the periods from which they are selected, and will represent various genres and media from the period. When we study the music of the 20th century, we will see how music from other parts of the world has influenced and helped shape our music.

Evaluation:	Final Exam	40%
	Midterm (October 24)	30%
	Quizzes (4 or 5)	30%

Listening to music will be a central element of the course, and therefore will be part of the quizzes and exams, along with content from both the textbook and lectures. Attendance at lectures is mandatory, and I expect that all students will attend all scheduled classes. We will listen to many pieces in class, which are outside of the textbook and CDs.

The music section of the Fine Arts Department puts on several formal concerts each semester, along with our less formal "MAD" performances. These should give you ample opportunity to put your listening skills to use, and you may attend for free any of these concerts. There are also several other performing groups and series (e.g. the guitar series) in Grande Prairie and area that will provide performances over the course of the semester. These performances are a good place to use the skills we develop in this class, in the real world.

Progression Policy: This is Fine Arts Department policy. All students who are absent from more than 20% of this class may be told to leave the class.

Probable Course Syllabus:

Section One Experiencing Music

Introduction, Language, Listening, and Performance and Industry
P. 1-91 ch. 1-4
Quiz #1

Section Two Art Music

Early Music: The Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, and Classical
Periods P. 93-143 ch. 5-6
Quiz #2 (maybe)

Midterm Exam (somewhere near February 20)

The Romantic Period
P. 144-195 ch. 7-8
Quiz #3

The Twentieth Century and Postmodernism
P. 197-238 Ch 9-10
Quiz #4

Section Three Music as Social Force (we may not get through all of this...)

Music Sociology, Religion, Love, and War
Quiz #5

Final Exam