

Syllabus

Music Appreciation

Course Overview

This one-semester elective course is intended as a practical, hands-on guide to help you understand, discuss, and appreciate music more knowledgeably. You will explore the history and evolution of music. You will also learn about the concepts and techniques in music and music listening. You will also learn about musical instruments, famous composers and artists, and key musical genres.

This course is structured into lessons and Course Activities as follows:

- The first three lessons introduce you to the elements of music and musical notation.
- In the next four lessons, you'll learn about the history and progression of music from ancient times to the modern classical period.
- The next three lessons discuss the evolution of American folk music, and other musical forms of the Twentieth Century, such as Ragtime, Jazz, Swing, Creole, Blues, Pop, Rock and Roll, and Rock music.
- In the next three lessons, you will learn about the influence of music on society and culture, relationship between music and other art forms, and the role of music in advertising and the electronic media.
- The next two lessons describe the various compositional and expressive devices, and methods of evaluating concerts.
- The last lesson describes various career paths in music, including performing, composing, producing, and arranging.

You will submit the Course Activity documents to your teacher, and you will grade your work in the Lesson Activities by comparing them with sample responses. Each lesson also has a multiple-choice mastery test. A multiple-choice end-of-semester test completes the course.

The Course Activities (submitted to the teacher) and the Lesson Activities (self-checked) are major components of this course. They will guide your learning as you work through this course. The last of the eight course activities will help you identify possible career paths and key skills required for a career related to a knowledge and appreciation of music.

Course Goals

This course will help you meet the following goals:

- Discuss the elements of music and musical notations.
- Trace the history and evolution of music from ancient times through to the twentieth century.
- Describe the contributions of popular music artists and composers.
- Discuss the influence of music on society and culture.
- Draw parallels between music and other art forms, such as dance, theater, and literature.
- Discuss the utility of music in television, cinema, and advertising.

Prerequisite Skills

Music Appreciation is a beginner's course and does not have specific prerequisites. Nevertheless, these fundamental skills will be helpful:

- basic computer skills
- the ability to understand the nuances of music
- an interest in musical instruments and compositions
- the ability to structure and process information
- familiarity with the writing process

General Skills

To participate in this course, you should be able to do the following:

- Perform basic operations with word processing software, such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs.
- Perform online research using various search engines and library databases.
- Communicate through email and participate in discussion boards.

For a complete list of general skills that are required for participation in online courses, refer to the Prerequisites section of the Plato Student Orientation document, found at the beginning of this course.

Credit Value

Music Appreciation is a 0.5-credit course.

Course Materials

- Notebook
- Presentation software
- Computer with Internet connection and speakers or headphones
- Microsoft Word or equivalent

Course Pacing Guide

This course description and pacing guide is intended to help you stay on schedule with your work. Note that your course instructor may modify the schedule to meet the specific needs of your class.

Day	Activity / Objective	Type
1 day:	Course Orientation <i>Review the Plato Student Orientation and Course Syllabus at the beginning of this course.</i>	Course Orientation
3 days: 2-4	The Elements of Music – I <i>Identify key elements in music.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 5-7	The Elements of Music – II <i>Identify key patterns in music.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 8-10	Musical Notation <i>Identify various elements of musical notation.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 11-13	Composition Analysis	Course Activity
1 day: 14	Music’s Impact on Your Life	Course Discussion
3 days: 15-17	The Middle Ages and Renaissance <i>Discuss the musical significance of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 18-20	The Baroque Period <i>Discuss the musical significance of the Baroque period.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 21-24	The Classical Period <i>Discuss the musical significance of the Classical period.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 25-27	The Romantic and Modern Classical Periods <i>Discuss the musical significance of the Romantic and Modern Classical periods.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 28-31	Music Through the Ages	Course Activity
1 day: 32	Music and the Way We Receive It	Course Discussion
1 day: 33	Game	Activity

4 days: 34-37	American Folk Music <i>Describe the evolution of American folk music.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 38-40	Music of the Twentieth Century - I (Ragtime, Jazz, Swing, and Creole) <i>Discuss the evolution of ragtime, jazz, swing, and creole.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 41-43	Music of the Twentieth Century – II (Blues, Pop, Rock, and Rock n Roll) <i>Discuss the evolution of blues, pop, rock and, roll and rock music.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 44-46	Influence of American Folk Music	Course Activity
1 day: 47	The Future of Music Genres	Course Discussion
1 day: 48	Game	Activity
4 days: 49-52	Music, Society and Culture <i>Discuss the influence of music on society and culture.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 53-56	Music and Other Art Forms <i>Draw parallels between music and other art forms, such as dance, theater, and literature.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 57-60	Music in Advertising and Electronic Media <i>Discuss the utility of music in television, cinema, and advertising.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 61-63	The Beauty of Music (The Interplay of Elements) <i>Describe various compositional and expressive devices.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 64-67	Musicals and Movies	Course Activity
1 day: 68	Music and Its Underlying Message	Course Discussion
1 day: 69	Game	Activity
3 days: 70-72	Responding to Concerts <i>Describe methods used to evaluate concerts.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 73-76	Concert Critique and Etiquette	Course Activity

1 day: 77	Judging of Performance	Course Discussion
4 days: 78-81	Musical Careers <i>Describe various career paths in music, including performing, composing, producing, and arranging.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 82-86	Scales and Chords	Course Activity
1 day: 87	Musical Career Paths	Course Discussion
1 day: 88	Game	Activity
1 day: 89	Course Review	
1 day: 90	End of Semester	Assessment