

The University of Calgary
Faculty of Arts
School of Creative and Performing Arts
Music

MUSI 309
The Art of Music Listening

COURSE OUTLINE

Fall 2019

Lec 01 MWF 13:00 CH-F202

Instructor

Prof. Allan Bell
CH-F224
220-5725 (office)
agbell@ucalgary.ca

Graduate Assistant

Mr. Seth McMillan

Office hours: MW 15:30-16:30 F 14:00-15:00 or by appointment

Description

An introduction to the sensuous, expressive and structural elements of music, leading to a greater appreciation for the art of music in a global multi-cultural context.

Prerequisite

A love of music

Learning Outcomes

Through lectures, discussions, and guided listening to recordings and in-class performances, students will acquire a vocabulary that will enable them to listen more deeply to the expressive qualities of music and to gain an understanding of how music, as an art form, is constructed. General topics will include rhythm, melody, texture, timbre and form. Students will listen to music from a variety of cultures and genres. In addition, students will encounter some of the recent research on music listening coming from psychology and neuroscience.

Part of every class will be devoted to listening carefully to music, with examples drawn from many genres, historical periods, and places of origin.

Note:

1. A complete understanding in any music course can only be accomplished through careful listening. Because listening requires awareness, attention and memory, **laptops or any other electronic devices are not allowed** in class.
2. The instructor will send information regarding listening tests via D2L. Students should ensure that they have a current University of Calgary e-mail address.

3. Assignments may be submitted in-class on the due date or to the SCPA reception (CH D100) before 4:00 of the due date. Late assignments will be accepted only under extenuating circumstances through prior arrangement with the instructor.

Readings

There is no text for the course.

All technical musical terms will be clearly explained in class. For assistance with definitions of musical terms or other kinds of research, the University Library provides two online resources: library.ucalgary.ca > Research > Databases > All Databases > Subject – Music > Grove Music Online or Music Online/Garland encyclopedia of world music

Listening Material

Students will need to download a free copy of Spotify from spotify.com

The instructor will create two listening lists:

- A list that will include all of the recorded music presented in class as well as supplemental listening suggestions. This list will be cumulative.
- A listening list for each of the listening tests and the mid-term test

Instructions for reaching these lists are available on D2L.

Dates

- **Listening Tests**

September 30

October 21

December 4

The instructor will provide students with a required listening list via D2L one week prior to each test. In order to succeed on these tests, students are advised to listen to each piece numerous times so that they will be able to:

- Identify the piece (provide the title and the composer (where appropriate))
- For each of several questions about the music, circle the terms that accurately describe what is technically occurring in the music (only terms that have been discussed and practiced in class will be on the test)
- Provide a one-sentence clear description of the states of being that the music suggests (this will be clearly discussed and practiced in class)

- **Mid-term test**

November 18

The mid-term will comprise a listening test with a required listening list and two mystery pieces. The format will be same as for listening tests as described above.

- **Concert Reports**

September 23

October 28

November 25

Students are required to attend three concerts. They will provide the instructor with the printed program and a one-page (12 pt Times, 1.5 space) report, half of which is devoted to a description of the states of being suggested by the music and the other half to a musical description, using terms discussed in class, of **one piece** on the program. The quality of the prose will affect the quality of the grade.

For the September 23 deadline, students may attend any concert at a venue of their choice, provided that the purpose of the concert is for the audience to listen to the performers of the music. This excludes bars, restaurants, clubs, etc. Also excluded are theatrical events where the music is only supplemental. Students may choose to attend SCPA Music events for this deadline. If there is any doubt about the appropriateness of the event, students should consult with the instructor.

For the other deadlines, students will attend two concerts chosen from list of events presented by the School of Creative Arts (Music) and listed on the website: scpa.ucalgary.ca/events/upcoming-events/music

The SCPA provides **free** admission to all of its events (Dance, Drama, Music) through the Claim Your Seat program. Please note that seating is usually not a problem for all Music Division Ensemble, Orchestra or Choir concerts, but may be limited for some subscription Music Series concerts. Students must consult the Claim Your Seat webpage for information regarding this program:

<https://arts.ucalgary.ca/schools/creative-performing-arts/events/claim-your-seat>

Unless noted, all concerts take place in the Eckhardt-Gramatée Hall in the Rosza Centre and begin at 8:00 pm. Subscription Music Series concerts begin at 7:30 pm.

Students should look at the complete calendar of events (September through December) in order to plan their attendance.

▪ **Structured Self-Evaluation**

Second class: Seven excerpts will be played. Students will write down everything that they hear. The document will be placed in a sealed envelope.

Last class: The same excerpts will be played. Students will write down everything that they hear. Then they will compare what they have written with what they wrote during the second class. They will then evaluate themselves according to a series of structure questions provided by the instructor. Students will grade themselves for this component.

Grading

Listening Tests (3 @ 10%)	30%
Mid-term Test	24%
Concert Reports (3 @ 12%)	36%
Structured Self-Assessment	10%

For tests or assignments where a percentage is given, the following translation to letter grades applies:

A- 90 – 93	A 94 – 97	A+ 98-100
B- 75 – 79	B 80 – 84	B+ 85 - 89
C- 60 – 64	C 66 – 69	C+ 70 - 74
D 50 – 59	F 0 - 49	

Grading scale	For the course as a whole, letter grades should be understood as follows, as outlined in the section F.1.1 Undergraduate Grading System of the Undergraduate Calendar for 2019-2020 OR as outlined in the section H.1 Distribution of Grades of the Graduate Calendar for 2019-2020 :	
	Grade	Grade Point Value
	A+	4.00
	A	4.00
	A-	3.70
	B+	3.30
	B	3.00
	B-	2.70
	C+	2.30
	C	2.00
	C-	1.70
	*D+	1.30
	*D	1.00
	F	0.00
**I	0.00	
CR		
Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A grade of "C-" or below may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation, see specific faculty regulations. The number of "D" and "D+" grades acceptable for credit is subject to specific undergraduate faculty promotional policy. 		

Student Support	Please visit this link for a concise list of UCalgary's student support services: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines
Academic integrity, plagiarism	The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are referred to the section on plagiarism in the University Calendar (ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-

	<p>3.html; ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html) and are reminded that plagiarism—using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it—is an extremely serious academic offence. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university. You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people’s words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources. Please consult your instructor or the Student Success Centre (TFDL 3rd Floor) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.</p>
<p>Internet and electronic communication device</p>	<p>elearn.ucalgary.ca/category/d21/ ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/emergency-instructions/uc-emergency-app</p> <p>The in-class use of computers may be approved by your Instructor. Cell phones and other electronic communication devices should be silenced or turned off upon entering the classroom. If you violate the Instructor’s policy regarding the use of electronic communication devices in the classroom, you may be asked to leave the classroom; repeated abuse may result in a charge of misconduct. No audio or video recording of any kind is allowed in class without explicit permission of the Instructor. For more information on Freedom of Information and Privacy visit: ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip</p>
<p>Copyright</p>	<p>All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.</p>