

**San José State University  
School of Music & Dance  
Mus10A, Music Appreciation, Section 11, Spring 2015**

**Contact Information**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Brian Belet
<b>Office Location:</b>	Music 104
<b>Telephone:</b>	(408) 924-4632
<b>Email:</b>	Brian.Belet@sjsu.edu
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Monday: 2:00 – 3:00 pm; Tuesday: 1:30 – 2:30 pm
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	Online course
<b>Classroom:</b>	Online course
<b>Course Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/people/brian.belet/">www.sjsu.edu/people/brian.belet/</a> (see ‘Courses’ link)
<b>GE/SJSU Studies Category:</b>	C1
<b>Course Fees:</b>	\$109.95 (Connect4Education.com) Course fee and online text

**Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging**

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, course calendar, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on my faculty web page at [www.sjsu.edu/people/brian.belet/](http://www.sjsu.edu/people/brian.belet/) Students are responsible for regularly checking this web site for course updates, which will be posted throughout the semester. Students are also responsible for regularly checking with the SJSU messaging system through MySJSU (i.e., using your email address on file with SJSU) to learn any other related updates.

**Course Description**

In this course significant works of human imagination and intellect are studied as students encounter a wide range of music from the European Baroque to American music of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, including American jazz and music of diverse cultural groups. This course is designed to enable students to understand music as an art form within its historical context, primarily in Western Europe and the United States. Students will approach music as a form of expression that reflects personal creativity as well as social, political, religious, and cultural change. Further study includes the relationship of music to other forms of human expression, including art, architecture, philosophy, religion, and politics. Students will experience music through recordings, online video performances, and attendance at two approved concerts.

## Course Goals and Learning Objectives

### GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Examine music as a form of expression that reflects personal creativity as well as social, historical, political, religious and cultural changes and influences;
- Recognize the various roles or functions of musical arts in a society;
- Examine music as a process and component of culture from several points of view—that of composer, performer and listener;
- Examine and discuss music in relationship to other forms of human expression, including art, architecture, philosophy, religion, and politics;
- Be able to attend a concert of almost any kind with an appreciation of its context and cultural origins;
- Write about music analytically and affectively using language and style appropriate to the discipline while expressing ideas clearly using good grammar, syntax, and organization.

### Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze and aurally learn to recognize the processes of composition, improvisation, performance, and listening;
- Be able to hear and verbally identify technical components (cognitive response) of those processes;
- Hear, discuss, and/or write about elements of sound (melody, harmony, sonic resources, volume) time, (as the canvas, rhythmic characteristics), structures (form, growth), textures (foreground, background, density);
- Be able visually to understand and discuss or identify systems of written notation (where appropriate) and relate, on a very basic level, what they see on paper with what they hear in performance;
- Be able to communicate orally or on paper affective responses to music and whether those responses change with more intellectual knowledge about the process or for any other reason that might spark a change in attitude;
- Identify style periods in the western European musical canon and/or country or cultural origin of works studied or similar works.

## Required Texts/Readings

### Textbook

*OnMusic Appreciation* 3rd Edition (ISBN 978-0-9677747-8-7).

\$109.95 directly from the publisher:

[www.store.connect4education.com](http://www.store.connect4education.com)

Carefully follow the instructions you receive from Connect4Education after you purchase the online text in order to log on to the course. Then go ahead and begin work. Register your software and log on to the course by following this link:

[http://www.connect4education.com/st/student\\_registration.aspx](http://www.connect4education.com/st/student_registration.aspx)

**NOTE: DO NOT order the software from places like Amazon.com and eBay. Used copies of the software will not work. If you do decide to go ahead and order from such vendors, make sure the software has never been opened or used previously --- it must be a new copy! Also, make sure it is the correct edition (3rd edition).**

## Course Requirements and Assignments

This syllabus is the official administrative document for this course. The documents that I post to my SJSU faculty web site for this course are considered extensions and addenda to this syllabus, and so they are all official course documents as well. This means that students are responsible for all information contained within these posted documents. Updated documents, when posted and announced to the class email list, supersede any previous versions of those documents.

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. This is a three-unit course, so my expectation is that you devote a minimum of nine hours per week to the course.

This course begins on January 22, 2015. **You must complete Assignment 1 by February 2nd or you will be dropped from the course.** This course will have a long Wait List, and I will add students to fill the dropped slots beginning February 3, 2015. The course ends on May 13, 2015.

Grade assessment breakdown:

- 44% 30 Assessments/quizzes (one after each lesson, with grade weights varying between 1% - 3% of the total course grade),
- 26% 6 Written Assignments (Assign. #1, 2, & 3 at 3% each; Assign. #4 at 4%; Assign. #5 at 6%; & Assign. #6 at 7%)
- 10% Midterm Exam
- 20% Final Exam

Grading is based on a fixed percentage scale, with plus/minus subdivisions:

- A = 90-100%
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- F = 0-59%

All graded activities for this course have set starting and ending dates and times. For the sake of consistency and clarity, all of the start dates begin at 12:01 am and all of the end dates close at 11:59 pm (Pacific Time). The specific dates for each activity are listed on the Connect4Education course site (on the page for each graded activity, and also in the Grade Book), and are also listed on the Semester Course Calendar (posted on my course

web site), which serves as an addendum to this course Syllabus. It is important that you know the closing dates for each activity, as these are firm due dates/times, and no late work will be accepted for any reason.

There are 40 total online lessons/classes, some longer and more in-depth than others. It is especially important that you pace yourself, stay on schedule, and complete all of the assessments in order. If you do not keep up you will not pass the course, as there is no effective way to cram all of the material into a short time prior to the two exams. You may, however, finish the course before the deadline date. All of the course topics and their associated assessments (unit quizzes), and the six written assignments, are active beginning the first day of the semester. There are staggered due dates for each assessment and assignment, as listed in the Semester Course Calendar.

For all assignments and exams, do not copy & paste any material from the text or from other sources you locate online or in print. All writing needs to be your own work. Assignments 5 & 6 are concert reports: a separate document includes details for writing concert reports (also posted to my SJSU web site), and this document is considered an addendum to this course Syllabus.

The Midterm and Final Exams' questions are based on the prior shorter assessments, so review them before you start either exam. No two students will be given the same exam, as there is a large pool of questions from which the course selects questions at random. The Midterm Exam and Final Exam have set starting and closing dates, listed in the Semester Course Calendar Plan. You can take these exams any time during the open window; however, once you start a given exam you will have a single two-hour session (strictly timed) to complete the exam.

While all of the due dates are listed on the Semester Course Calendar Plan, here are the calendar plans for the two exams (start date opens at 12:01 am; end date closes at 11:59 pm):

Midterm Exam – March 20 - April 3—This will be timed once you start (2 hours).

Final Exam – May 5 - May 13—This will be timed once you start (2 hours).

**Never begin a Quiz or Exam unless you are ready. Once inside a test, the system will not allow you to access any other section of the course until you complete all the questions.**

**Please note that no late work will be accepted; manage your time so that you complete all assessments, assignments, and exams before the end of each posted closing date and time.**

To view your grades and running average in the course, click *Grades* under the *Assignment* column of your control panel.

## Grading Policy

Grading is based on a fixed percentage scale, subdivided with plus and minus as follows:

A+ = 99-100%

A = 93-98%

A- = 90-92%

B+ = 88-89%

B = 84-87%

B- = 80-83%

C+ = 78-79%

C = 74-77%

C- = 70-73%

D+ = 68-69%

D = 64-67%

D- = 60-63%

F = 0-59%

There are no provisions for extra credit.

No late work will be accepted. Late and missed work will receive a 0% grade.

Grade assessment breakdown:

44% 30 Assessments/quizzes (1 after each lesson; 1%-4% each)

13% 4 Written Assignments (Assign. #1, 2, & 3 at 3% each, & Assign. #4 at 4%)

13% 2 Concert Reports (Assign. #5 at 6%, & Assign. #6 at 7%)

10% Midterm Exam

20% Final Exam

## University Policies

### Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\\_calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

### Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University's Academic Integrity policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, requires you to be honest in all your academic

course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

### **Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. [Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\\_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

In 2013, the Disability Resource Center changed its name to be known as the Accessible Education Center, to incorporate a philosophy of accessible education for students with disabilities. The new name change reflects the broad scope of attention and support to SJSU students with disabilities and the University's continued advocacy and commitment to increasing accessibility and inclusivity on campus.

### **Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the [Academic Success Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/> located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

### **SJSU Peer Connections**

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study

and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

## **SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on



Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to scan this code.)