Humanities Department

MUS1211 Music of Latin America
Pathways: Creative Expression

Description: A study of the music of Latin America including African, Native American and European cultural influences. Melodic patterns, rhythms and harmonic structures of the music, as well as the influence of social settings and religious rituals are examined and discussed.

3 hours, 3 credits
Prerequisite: Eligibility for ENG1101 or ENG 1101CO or ENG 1101ML

Objectives:

Students will:
Achieve a thorough understanding of basic music terms and their application to music in general.
Compare and contrast the music of different countries and style periods studied.
Gain an in-depth understanding of the cultural forces and traditions that influenced the works studied.
Be able to differentiate between purely instrumental music, song, opera, musical, oratorio, ballet, and film music.
Demonstrate knowledge of the skills of composers and performers involved in the creative process.

Text: The Garland Handbook of Latin American Music Edited by Olsen and Sheehy, Routledge. This text comes with two CDs of listening examples.

Grading:
Exam 1 25%
Exam 2 (midterm) 25%
Exam 3 25%
Exam 4 (final) 25%

Assessment of Student Learning and Outcomes:

1. Students will learn and apply fundamental concepts, here called musical elements, in exploring, discussing, and analyzing selected music compositions. This will be accomplished through class music listening sessions and subsequent discussion. The mastery of these concepts will be demonstrated through their use in discussion and through exams.
2. Students will analyze music from different countries and historical periods and learn the particular significance of each work in its own time and place. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of this through class discussion and exams.

3. Students will articulate how meaning is created in music and how they understand a work of music. This will be accomplished through class discussion and through exams.

4. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of the skills of composers and performers involved in the creative process. This will be accomplished through class discussion and through exams.

Week 1 Orientation, Important musical terminology

Week 2 The European Influence (Musical instruments, vocal classifications, musical forms, culture, language, religion, Amerindian and African Influences.

Week 3 Exam 1, Mexico-Cortes and the Aztecs.

Week 4 Mexico

Week 5 Brazil

Week 6 More Brazil

Week 7 Brazil and Exam 2 (midterm)

Week 8 Argentina

Week 9 Venezuela

Week 10 Venezuela

Week 11 More Venezuela and Exam 3.

Week 12 Modern South American Amerindians and Cuba

Week 13 Cuba

Week 14 Cuba

Week 15 Review and Final Exam
**Humanities Department Attendance Policy**

It is the conviction of the Humanities department that a student who is not in a class for any reason is not receiving the benefit of the education being provided. Missed class time includes not just absences but also latenesses, early departures, and time outside the classroom taken by students during class meeting periods. Missed time impacts any portion of the final grade overtly allocated to participation and/or any grades awarded for activities that relate to presence in class.

**Plagiarism and NYCCT Academic Integrity Policy:**

"Students and all others who work with information, ideas, texts, images, music, inventions, and other intellectual property owe their audience and sources accuracy and honesty in using, crediting, and citing sources. As a community of intellectual and professional workers, the College recognizes its responsibility for providing instruction in information literacy and academic integrity, offering models of good practice, and responding vigilantly and appropriately to infractions of academic integrity. Accordingly, academic dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and at New York City College of Technology and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion." (See pp. 73-76 in the student handbook).

**Accessibility Statement**

City Tech is committed to supporting the educational goals of enrolled students with disabilities in the areas of enrollment, academic advisement, tutoring, assistive technologies and testing accommodations. If you have or think you may have a disability, you may be eligible for reasonable accommodations or academic adjustments as provided under applicable federal, state and city laws. You may also request services for temporary conditions or medical issues under certain circumstances. If you have questions about your eligibility or would like to seek accommodation services or academic adjustments, you can leave a voicemail at 718 260 5143, send an email to Accessibility@citytech.cuny.edu or visit the Center’s website: http://www.citytech.cuny.edu/accessibility/ for more information.

N.B., Students who miss a scheduled presentation or exam due to illness or medically-related emergencies will be referred to the Center for Student Accessibility. The CSA will review any documentation requested and give the student a letter to share with the relevant instructor if accommodations need to be made.

**Humanities Department Commitment to Student Diversity**

The Humanities Department complies with the college wide nondiscrimination policy and seeks to foster a safe and inclusive learning environment that celebrates diversity in its many forms and enhances our students’ ability to be informed, global citizens. Through our example, we demonstrate an appreciation of the rich diversity of world cultures and the unique forms of expression that make us hum
## Course Intended Learning Outcomes and Assessment Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students will learn and apply fundamental concepts, here called musical elements, in exploring, discussing, and analyzing selected music compositions.</th>
<th>This will be accomplished through listening sessions and subsequent discussion. The mastery of these concepts will be demonstrated through their use in discussion and in a concert report. In addition they will be the subject of quizzes and an exam.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students will analyze music from different countries and learn the particular significance of each work in its own time and place. Cultural norms, historical events, and politics will all be addressed.</td>
<td>Students will demonstrate their knowledge of these through class discussion and exams.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students will articulate how meaning is created in music and how a work of music is understood by them</td>
<td>This will be accomplished through class discussion and through exams.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students will demonstrate their knowledge of the skills of composers and performers involved in the creative process.</td>
<td>This will be accomplished through class discussion and through exams.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gain an in-depth understanding of the cultural/historical forces and traditions that influenced the development of various styles.</td>
<td>This will be accomplished through class discussion and exams.</td>
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## General Education Intended Learning Outcomes and Assessment Methods

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<th>Learning Outcomes Creative Expression</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
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<td>Knowledge: Students will develop a musical vocabulary and be able to communicate in a coherent manner to both professional and non-professional audience as good musical critics</td>
<td>Class discussion and exams.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skills: Students should be able to develop good writing skills</td>
<td>Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Values: Have an appreciation of aesthetic values</td>
<td>Class discussion and exams</td>
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Updated March 2021

Porter