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MUSI 415.50: Music of the 20th Century to the Present

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The University of Montana
School of Music

Music 415: Music of the 20th Century to the Present
Upper-Division Writing Course: 3Credits
Online Section
Fall 2013

Instructor: Christopher Kirkpatrick

E-mail: christopher1.kirkpatrick@umontana.edu

Office/phone: 012 Music Building

Office Hours: By appt.

Pre-requisites:

Students must have completed both their upper-division recital program and piano proficiency degree requirements, or have the consent of the instructor to enroll in this course.

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the development of musical styles, genres, forms and aesthetic movements important to Western art music of the 20th century to the present.

Student Goals and Objectives:

- 1) A better acquaintance with the works of important composers of the 20th century and present, including an understanding of their musical styles, techniques, and sources of creative inspiration.
- 2) Better active listening skills: the ability to identify musical elements that transmit meaning in a work and to express your observations in conversation and writing.
- 3) Improved writing skills: better organization, grammar, and the logical presentation of ideas and evidence.

Required Texts

You have two required texts for this course: *20th-Century Music*, by Robert Morgan, and *Strunk's Source Readings in Music History: The Twentieth Century*, vol., 7, edited by Robert Morgan. Both are available at the campus bookstore, or, you may choose to order them online through Amazon.com or another vendor. Additional assigned readings will be posted online in PDF format as part of the Moodle course supplement.

Listening Materials

Listening examples for the course will be available through Naxos Music Library offered through our library website. All examples are available in streaming audio format, meaning that you can listen to them on your computer as if tuned in to a digital radio station. Unfortunately you will not be able to download or 'record' these selections, so you must be online in order to access the music.

Required Computer Software

To access course materials through Moodle and Naxos you will need the following software programs: Microsoft Word, Adobe Acrobat Reader, Windows Media and Power Point. Many of you will already have this software installed on your computer. If not, and you experience difficulties opening up files posted on Moodle, there are 'reader' versions of these programs available as free downloads online. See the following links:

Adobe Reader: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

MS Word, Power Point, and Windows Media: <http://www.microsoft.com/downloads>

Evaluation:

Grades will be based upon the following:

Essay I (critical review)	15%
Essay II (program notes)	15%
Essay III (comparative essay)	15%
Exam I	20%
Exam II	20%
Weekly Assignments	15%

- Paper extensions will only be permitted with a valid excuse – illness, death in the family, etc.
- Students with special needs should consult with the instructor for accommodations.

Grading scale is as follows

A	93-100%	C	73-77%
A-	90-92%	C-	70-72%
B+	88-89%	D+	68-69%
B	83-87%	D	63-67%
B-	80-82%	D-	60-62%
C+	78-79%	F	59% and below

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321.

Disability Services for Students

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommasson 154. I will work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate accommodation.

SCHEDULE

Weekly reading and listening assignments, as well as other homework will be posted on Moodle. The following schedule provides weekly topics of study, dates for exams, and due dates for your essays.

Week 1: Aug 26-Sep. 1

Illegal Harmonies: Why does 20th-century music sound so different?

Week 2: Sept. 2-8

Schoenberg and the Boys: Expressionism and the Atonal Revolution
*MOUNTAIN COMPUTER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Week 3: Sept. 9-15

Schoenberg and the Boys II: Music in 12 tones (more or less)

Week 4: Sept. 16-22

Back to their roots: Stravinsky, Bartok, and the influence of folk music

Week 5: Sept. 23-29

The Italians get Futuristic and Everyone else gets Nationalistic
*TURN IN ESSAY 1

Week 6: Sept. 30-Oct. 6

Neo-Classicism: Out of the Past, Into the Future

Week 7: Oct. 7-13

It's all Political: Music and Propaganda
*EXAM I

Week 8: Oct. 14-20

The United States: Experimentalism and Populism go hand in hand
ESSAY II INSTRUCTIONS POSTED

Week 9: Oct. 21-27

Other Nationalisms: Britain loves Britten; Art music goes to Latin America
ESSAY II DUE

Week 10: Oct. 28-Nov. 3

Total Control Freaks: Integral Serialism

Week 11 Nov. 4-10

Leaving it up to Chance: Cage and Eastern Philosophy

Week 12 Nov. 11-17

Minimalism

*EXAM TWO

Week 13: Nov. 18-24

The New Pluralism and Multiculturalism

*ESSAY THREE INSTRUCTIONS POSTED

Week 14: Nov. 25-Dec. 1

Electronica (Not the club scene, but the art music)

Week 15: Dec. 2-8

The Gender Gap: Why aren't there more Women Composers?

*ESSAY THREE DUE

Week 16: FINAL EXAM (DUE DEC. 13, BY 5:00 PM)