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MUSI 416.01: Modern Chamber Music

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**School of Music
University of Montana
Music 416: Modern Chamber Music
Upper-Division Writing Course: 3 Credits
Fall 2014**

Instructor: Dr. Christopher Kirkpatrick

E-mail: christopher1.kirkpatrick@umontana.edu

Office/phone: 012 Music Bldg. / ext. 6889

Office Hrs: T/Th 11:00-12:00, or 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 will explore some of the landmark chamber music works that helped shape the Modern Period of Western art music. The Modern Period will be defined for our purposes from the year 1900 to the present. The class will also take a look at significant commissioning bodies and chamber ensembles that not only funded composer's works, but also inspired them to write in a new way.

Student Goals and Objectives:

- 1) A better acquaintance with the chamber 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 one required text for this course: *Twentieth-Century Chamber Music* by James McCalla. It is available at the campus bookstore, or, you may choose to order it 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 on Spotify. 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. I will post links to playlists for each week to the

course Moodle shell. *For details about how to subscribe to Spotify, please visit <http://www.spotify.com/us/get-spotify/overview/>.*

Required Computer Software

To access course materials through Moodle and Spotify 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:

Paper I - Medium/Chamber Ensemble Overview: 20%

Paper II - critical review of Third Angle concert: 20%

Midterm – take home exam: 20%

Paper III - Chamber Literature relative to student's study/medium: 20%

Presentation: 10%

Class Participation, Homework and Attendance: 10%

- 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/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php

Accessibility Statement

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students. If you think you

may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or 406.243.2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.

SCHEDULE

Weekly reading and listening assignments, as well as other homework, will be posted in the Weekly Assignments folder on Moodle. The following schedule provides dates for exams, the required Mountain Computer Music Festival performance, and due dates for your essays. The following timetable is by necessity tentative.

September 11: **Essay I - Medium/Chamber Ensemble Overview**

September 30: Mountain Computer Music Festival; **required attendance**

October 9: **Essay II Due - critical review of Mountain Computer Music Festival**

October 16: No class (All State Music Festival)

November 4: No class (Election Day)

November 6: **Midterm Due**

November 11: No class (Veterans Day)

November 27: No class (Thanksgiving)

December 2: Presentations

December 4: Presentations

December 9: **Final Paper Due**