Instructor: Madison Heying  
Email: mheying1@gmail.com  
Office Hours: Tuesday 2:30-3:30, Wednesday 12-1 (or by appointment)  
Office: Music 25

Course Overview and Description: Music 151 is a humanities course that is designed as an introduction to music for non-music majors. This course focuses primarily on the history of Western Music and explores the role music played in the shaping of culture and history. This course will examine issues concerning music discourse, and music’s role in contemporary culture. Students will formulate their own critical perceptions about history and identifying their role in it. Students will develop listening strategies and be exposed to many different kinds of music in the hope that their understanding of music will increase and heighten their experience with music.

Student Learning Outcomes: This class is a course in Humanities and Fine Arts, highlighting music as an integral part of culture. Through this course, students will learn to:

- Critically examine and interpret works of art, literature and music within their respective cultural and historical contexts
- Identify and explain diverse cultural aesthetic value systems and ideas and how they shape perceptions of history and culture
- Develop critical listening skills in order to understand elements of music, how they are employed and why they are employed
- Articulate connections between the music studied in class and heard in throughout the concert series as well as how the music relates to issues of culture and history

Course Requirements:

Concerts: There is no required textbook for this course; Students are required to attend 4 concerts throughout the semester. Each concert must be of a different genre of music. Students are encouraged to take advantage of the concerts on SDSU’s campus at Smith Recital Hall. Please contact me if you have any questions as to whether a concert is appropriate to fulfill this requirement. To verify attendance students must submit a ticket and program from the concert.
Concert schedules and tickets for SDSU concerts can be purchased at the Smith Recital Hall Box Office or online at music.sdsu.edu with a Visa, Master Card, or Discover Card. Tickets may also be purchased the day of each concert however, they are more expensive and there tends to be a long line for tickets.

Assignments:

**Concert Reports** (4 at 100 pts each- 400 points possible)

For each concert report students must write a **400-word** reflection paper (approx 2 pgs.) on each of the 4 concerts attended. Aspects to discuss include, programming (pieces performed), instrumentation, anything you found unique or interesting about the performance. Your report should demonstrate an engagement with the performance that goes beyond your own preference; however you may include how a particular performance affected you or an emotion, picture, etc. the performance evoked. **It is also important to connect the performance to in class discussions and lectures.** Concerts reports must be double spaced and 12 pt. font and submitted at the beginning of class. **To verify concert attendance students must submit a ticket and program from the concert.**

**Due Dates:** September 20  
October 11  
November 6  
November 20

**Tests:** (3 at 100 points each- 300 points possible)

Each test will consist of 40 multiple-choice questions (2 pts. each) and 2 short answer essays.

**Test Dates:** September 27  
November 1  
November 29

**Final Project:** (200 points possible):

The final project consists of an essay and presentation in which each student will choose a contemporary song and connect its musical and extra-musical elements to concepts previously studied in class. More information will be provided regarding the final project.
Class Participation: (100 points possible)

Class participation includes attendance to all class sessions. Engagement and regular contribution to class discussions as well as a demonstration that you have completed assigned readings for each class is expected to receive full credit.

Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>930-1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>900-929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>830-869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>800-829</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>730-769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>700-729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>630-669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>600-629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>870-899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>770-799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>670-699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-599</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class Website: Students may consult the syllabus, class lecture schedule, assigned listening, group assignments and concert reports at anytime on the course website on Blackboard. [http://blackboard.sdsu.edu](http://blackboard.sdsu.edu). Grades will be posted on Blackboard so that students may check their progress in the class.

Classroom Policies:

Classroom Discussion: Part of your grade is based on participation in classroom discussion. It is expected that student’s opinions will vary and that students will treat each other in a respectful manner. Failing to be respectful during class time and discussions will result in deduction from participation grade.

Make-Up Policy: There are no alternatives for these concerts; however, if a student who has purchased a ticket-package misses a concert, they may use that ticket for any other Music and Dance concert of their choice and submit it to me for approval as a replacement concert. Approval is not guaranteed, and the student must be able to demonstrate a critical understanding of the concert attended, being able to contextualize the concert within what has been discussed in class.

Late Work: No late assignments will be accepted. Make-up exams, quizzes or concerts will only be allowed with an excused absence or documented illness.

Cell Phones and Laptops: All cell phones (ipods, personal devices, etc.) must be turned off and stowed away during class time. If you wish to use a laptop you are responsible for using it respectfully so as not to distract other students. If a student is caught using a cell phone, laptop or other device in a distracting manner it will be confiscated until the end of class.
Illness/Family Emergency: If you are ill or if you have a family emergency it is your responsibility to inform me prior to class time, otherwise, your absence will be considered unexcused and you will miss out on participation grade for the day. Be prepared to provide documentation of the illness or emergency if you wish the absence to be excused.

Statement on Cheating and Plagiarism: “Cheating is the actual or attempted practice of fraudulent or deceptive acts for the purpose of improving one’s grade or obtaining course credit; such acts also include assisting another student to do so. Typically, such acts occur in relation to examinations. However, it is the intent of this definition that the term ‘cheating’ not be limited to examination situations only, but that it include any and all actions by a student that are intended to gain an unearned academic advantage by fraudulent or deceptive means. Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating, which consists of the misuse of the published and/or unpublished works of others by misrepresenting that material (i.e., their intellectual property) so used as one’s own work. Penalties for cheating and plagiarism range from a 0 or F on a particular assignment, through an F for the course, to expulsion from the University.

Students with Disabilities: Students requesting academic accommodations based on a disability must register with Student Disability Services (http://www.sa.sdsu.edu/sds/index.html) who will issue a verification letter. Students must submit to me a verification letter within the first two weeks of class. SDS is located in Calpulli Center, Suite 3101, and is open from 8:00 am - 4:30 pm, M-F. Their number is 619-594-6473.

Syllabus is Subject to Change: This syllabus and schedule are subject to change if deemed appropriate by the professor. Each student is responsible to check the course website in the event of an absence to adjust to any changes made.