COURSE DESCRIPTION
A general survey of various styles of music of the Americas, including but not limited to jazz, folk, rock and contemporary music.

REQUIRED PARTICIPATION IN AN ONLINE CLASS
Students must actively participate in an online class by completing an academic assignment required by the instructor by the official census date. Students who do not do so will be reported as never attended and dropped from the course.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Identify the elements, styles and musicians representative of music within the chosen styles(s)
- Analyze the elements and structures of music using appropriate terminology.
- Critically evaluate the influence of social, political, technological and/or cultural ideas on the chosen musical style(s).
- Articulate an informed personal reflection of the chosen musical styles(s).

Core Objectives
This course fulfills three hours of the Creative Arts requirement in the Midland College Core Curriculum. The Core Curriculum is a set of courses that provide students with a foundation of knowledge, skills, and educational experiences that are essential for all learning.

Creative Arts courses focus on the appreciation and analysis of creative artifacts and works of the human imagination. They involve the synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and enable critical, creative, and innovative communication about works of art. As part of the core, this course addresses the following four Creative Arts core objectives:

- Critical Thinking Skills: to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information. Critical Thinking will be addressed through the evaluation, comparison, and analysis of historical periods,
aesthetic principles, and artistic genres. The following course activities will be used to assess Critical Thinking: class discussions; written listening analysis assignments; quizzes; and a concert critique assignment.

- **Communication Skills**: to include effective written, oral, and visual communication. Communications Skills will be addressed through the students' expression of informed opinions, researched ideas, and visual presentations. The following course activities will be used to assess Communication Skills: class discussions; written listening analysis assignments; a video creation assignment; and a concert critique assignment.

- **Teamwork**: to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal. Teamwork will be addressed through the collaborative work between students. The following course activities will be used to assess Teamwork: class discussions.

- **Social Responsibility**: to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities. Social Responsibility will be addressed through the study of the artistic, historical, and cultural diversity of artists, composers, performers, and audiences. The following course activities will be used to assess Social Responsibility: class discussions; written listening analysis assignments; and a concert critique assignment.

**COMPUTER ACCESS**

This course relies heavily on web-based activities; therefore, it is essential that you have access to a reliable computer with internet capabilities. If your computer is slow, doesn’t support media applications, or if your internet connection is prone to disconnects, please schedule your day so that you can use a Midland College library computer (second floor, room 213A/B). Computer problems will not be considered an acceptable excuse for late or missed assignments.

If you experience problems associated with Canvas, click the Help link on the Canvas Login Page (https://midland.instructure.com/login), or from any page within Canvas after you have logged in.

**REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS (Text may vary)**

- Access to a reliable internet connection.
- A notebook and pen/pencil for taking notes.

[Adobe Reader](Links to an external site)
ACADEMIC DISHONESTY
Plagiarism is defined as the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one’s own written work offered for credit. A student commits plagiarism if he/she:

1. fails to acknowledge the sources of any information in a paper which is not either common knowledge or personal knowledge. A student can acknowledge a source through in-text citations, attribution lines, footnotes, or other forms of documentation approved by the instructor. (Common knowledge is the basic information within a field or discipline, as well as most historical dates and facts, and many ordinary observations.)

2. fails to acknowledge direct quotation either by using quotation marks or (for longer passages) indentation. Without the quotation marks or indentation, passages copied directly from a source might be considered plagiarized even if it is followed by an in-text citation or a footnote. The citation or footnote acknowledges that there is a source, but it does not indicate that the writer has borrowed someone else’s exact words. If a writer uses the language of a source, word-for-word, he/she must use quotation marks or block indentation.

3. merely paraphrases the original words of the source. Some students think they can avoid a charge of plagiarism by changing a few words in each sentence they copy or by rearranging the shape of phrases or the order of sentences in a paragraph. This is not true. When taking notes students must be careful to put ideas in their own words or to use direct quotations when relying on phrases directly borrowed from a source.

4. borrows the ideas, examples, or structure of the source without acknowledging it. A student can be guilty of plagiarism if he/she systematically borrows the ideas and organization of a source even if the language of the piece is on a major news event by using exactly the same ideas in the same order as they appear in an article in any popular news magazine.

5. takes, buys, or receives a paper written by someone else and presents it as the student’s own.

6. uses one paper for two different courses, or re-uses a paper previously submitted for credit, without the prior approval of the instructor or instructors.

Plagiarism will result in a failing grade on that assignment. A second plagiarized paper may result in an F for the course.

COURSE POLICIES

COURSE ATTENDANCE
Because our time together in class is very limited, it is essential that we make the most efficient and constructive use of that time; therefore, attendance should be considered mandatory. Excused absences will be granted only for documented medical or family emergencies; for religious or cultural obligations; or for university-sanctioned events. I will allow, however, two unexcused (2) absences for the term without penalty, no questions asked. Every unexcused absence after those two will lower your final course grade by 5%. After accumulating six unexcused absences you will be asked to withdraw from the course.

Consistent lateness to class will be treated as an absence. Three (3) tardies will count as one (1) absence. If you enter class after attendance is taken it is your responsibility to consult with me after class to change your status from absent to tardy. If you are absent, know that you are responsible for all material you miss, whether your absence is excused or not. Should you miss a class, it is your responsibility to ask a classmate, not the instructor, for all missed information.

It is expected that you have the maturity to login to Canvas at least three times a week. Failure to do so may result in you being denied access to our course website. Students who are denied access will be required to contact Midland College's registrar and withdraw from the course.

**COURSE COMMUNICATION**

You must submit a working e-mail address to Canvas during the first week of class. In addition to your email address, you can set additional preferences for course notifications. Instructions on how to properly configure your notification preferences are available by clicking [here](#).

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

Midland College's Department of Music keeps a Facebook profile. “Like” us by clicking [here](#) and you will be kept abreast of all the musical news and events happening here at Midland College. Note: This site is not for student/instructor communication. You may also wish to visit our website at [www.midland.edu/music](http://www.midland.edu/music).

**PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and will not be tolerated in this class. According to Midland College’s current student handbook, a student plagiarizes if he/she:

a. “fails to acknowledge the sources of any information in a paper which is not either common knowledge or personal knowledge.”

b. “fails to acknowledge direct quotation either by using quotation marks or (for longer passages) indentation.”

c. “Merely paraphrases the original words of the source.”

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d. “Borrows the ideas, examples, or structure of the source without acknowledging it.”

e. “Takes, buys, or receives a paper written by someone else and presents it as the student=s own.”

f. “Uses one paper for two different courses, or re-uses a paper previously submitted for credit, without the prior approval of the instructor or instructors.”

ALL ASSIGNMENTS CONTAINING PLAGIARISM, WHETHER INTENTIONAL OR NOT, WILL RECEIVE A GRADE OF ZERO.

EVALUATION OF STUDENTS

GRADING

Students are required to check their course progress frequently through Canvas. Visit the Grades course button for all assignment grades. Be aware that the TOTAL grade you see displayed under Canvas’ Grades button is an AVERAGE of only the graded assignments that you have turned in to date, and that this grade will fluctuate based on your individual assignment performance until you reach the end of the semester. To view an accurate RUNNING TOTAL percentage grade, un-check the "Calculate based on graded assignments" box in the Grades area. Grades are not rounded up. Extra credit is not made available.

METHODS FOR ASSESSING EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Will vary.

GRADING RUBRIC FOR COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

A word on my grading standards: an A-grade must be earned. Merely fulfilling the terms of an assignment, and doing so in a competent, reasonable manner, is generally only enough for a “B” grade. “A” grades will only be awarded (and should only be expected) if your work goes above and beyond terms like “good,” “solid,” and “competent” to reveal notable depths of originality, insight, and excellence.

An “A” Grade:

Excels in responding to the assignment. It is original, interesting, and strongly thoughtful. Stylistically, it is free of spelling, punctuation, and grammatical errors. It uses proper musical terminology often and addresses the required topics critically and skillfully.

A “B” Grade:
Solid, responding appropriately to the assignment. It is original and interesting, yet too
general at times. It contains a few mechanical errors, which may annoy (but not impede)
the reader. It uses proper musical terminology, but sometimes lacks sophistication.

A “C” Grade:

Adequate, but weaker and less effective than a B assignment. It is original, but lacks
interest and thoroughness. Stylistically, it contains several mechanical errors, which
may temporally confuse the reader. It uses musical terminology with some success, but
often lacks precise understanding. Demonstrates only a basic comprehension of subject
matter.

A “D” Grade:

Does not respond appropriately to the assignment. It lacks original thinking, an
interesting personal response, and depth. It contains many mechanical errors, which
block the reader’s understanding and ability to see connections between thoughts. It
uses musical terminology carelessly, often with little success or abundance.

An “F” Grade:

Does not respond to the assignment. It lacks everything an A paper exhibits. Irrelevant
details are cited. Musical terminology is not present. There is very little or no
discussion concerning the required questions.

DROP / WITHDRAWAL

The student is responsible for initiating a drop or withdrawal, not the instructor.

Withdrawal from course: The instructor is not able to withdraw a student from the
course after the census date. A student wishing to withdraw must fill out the
withdrawal form (Links to an external site) online.

### 2018-2019 WITHDRAWAL DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>End Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall First 8-Week Session</td>
<td>October 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Second 8-Week Session</td>
<td>November 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December Mini-Semester</td>
<td>December 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>April 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring First 8-Week Session</td>
<td>February 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Second 8-Week Session</td>
<td>April 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May Mini-Semester</td>
<td>May 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer I</td>
<td>June 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer II</td>
<td>August 6</td>
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ACADEMIC RESEARCH

For Research information, tutorials, library information, web links and more, access the Distance Learning Webpage for the Midland College Fasken Learning Resource Center (Links to an external site).

Academic Database Access

EBSCO (Links to an external site)
User name: mc72cc
Password: mc#chaps1mc

For the Gale Database use this username/password combination:
User name: txshracd2528
Password chaps

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you experience technical difficulties with Canvas, click the Help link at the bottom of the Canvas login page (Links to an external site), or in the top-right green toolbar from any page within Canvas, select Report a Problem, provide details, and submit the ticket. Your request will automatically be sent to the Midland College information technology support center. Check your email for support updates.

FREE ACCESS TO MICROSOFT 365

All Midland College students have a free Microsoft Office 365 account via the Midland College website https://www.midland.edu/audiences/current-students/office365.php. Students should go to that website for instructions for accessing their account to create Word, Excel, and other Microsoft documents.

INSTITUTIONAL ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

ADA Statement-- The Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act require that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be denied access to, or the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination by any program or activity provided by an institution or entity receiving federal financial assistance. It is this Section 504 mandate that has promoted the development of disability support service programs in colleges and universities across the country. Subpart E of Section 504 deals specifically with this mandate for institutions of higher education. While it does not require that special educational programming be developed for students with
disabilities, it does require that an institution (public or private) be prepared to make appropriate academic adjustments and reasonable accommodations in order to allow the full participation of students with disabilities in the same programs and activities available to nondisabled students.

Midland College provides services for students with disabilities through Student Services. In order to receive accommodations, students must place documentation on file with the Counselor/Disability Specialist. Students with disabilities should notify Midland College prior to the beginning of each semester. Student Services will provide each student with a letter outlining any reasonable accommodations. The student must present the letter to the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

Phone, Midland College Special Needs Counselor: 432-685-5598
Midland College Disability Services (Links to an external site)
Microsoft Accessibility (Links to an external site)
Canvas Accessibility (Links to an external site)
Turnitin Accessibility (Links to an external site)
Adobe Reader Accessibility (Links to an external site)
Google Reader Accessibility (Links to an external site)

ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES

Academics and Student Services (Links to an external site)

Phone, Midland College Testing Center: 432-685-4735

Phone, LanguageHub, Midland College On-Campus Writing Center: 432-685-4811, 182 TC
Language Hub Online (available to all students in Canvas)

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUE PROCESS
Midland College Student Rights and Responsibilities (Links to an external site)

PRIVACY POLICIES
The below privacy policies apply to this course, as they are applicable to your conduct on this online platform.

Midland College Website Privacy Policy (Links to an external site)
Canvas Privacy Policy (Links to an external site)
YouTube Privacy Policy (Links to an external site)
Canvas Student Guide (Links to an external site)
NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Midland College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following individuals have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

**Tana Baker**  
Title IX Coordinator/Compliance Officer  
3600 N. Garfield, SSC 242  
Midland, Texas 79705  
(432) 685-4781  
tbaker@midland.edu

Or

**Natasha Morgan**  
Human Resources/Payroll Director  
3600 N. Garfield, PAD 104  
Midland, Texas 79705  
(432) 685-4534  
nmorgan@midland.edu

For more information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the Office of Civil Rights website for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.