



MUSI 10400 1 - Introduction to Music: Analysis and Criticism - Instructor(s) - Jennifer Iverson

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Spring 2024**

Number Enrolled: **17**

Number of Responses: **8**

Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Thursday, July 11, 2024**

What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

Comments
I learned that writing about music cannot be properly evaluated without being given a consistent vocabulary, but that there are many ways to describe one sound and analyze it.
Analyzing music, especially classical (The Magic Flute), Jazz (A Love Supreme) and Beyonce's Lemonade. Learned how to write essays about how the music makes you feel.
We learned about how to critically discuss and analyze various types of music. We focused on Mozart's Die Zauberflote, John Coltrane's A Love Supreme and other jazz, and ended on Beyonce's Lemonade. We learned how to describe not only the auditory sphere of music but also the visual element.
Primarily ways in which to analyze and write about music both with specificity and by situating it in a broader context.
Operatic structure and performance, relationship between composer, conductor, performer, and audience, jazz and structured improvisation, free improvisation, music in film.
I learned how to analyze music critically, and learned a lot of new musical lingo!
Criticism on music and basics of opera and jazz, as well as modern music

Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

Comments
Lectures often had discussions which introduced various elements of the music and about different elements. There were 4 (originally 5) assignments that had us listen to different kinds of music, which introduced us to the music along with 2 longer papers that were often more refined and took place after the discussions.
Class was mostly discussion and helped us acquire the ability to discuss music and also filled us in with elements we may have missed in our listening. We had one required concert for an improv jazz group on campus and we were able to experience what we had been discussing.
The lectures here are the primary aspect which engaged with this, especially the classes where we would go over individual pieces.
I learned most from lectures and in-class discussions. I don't think the writing assignments did much to further my interest or understanding of the material.
I think the listening assignments, which walked us through what we should be listening for, were really helpful in developing my analytical mind.
Was helpful for getting a better idea of a foreign subject

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	3.38	3.00	0.00%	12.50%	50.00%	25.00%	12.50%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.13	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	37.50%	37.50%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.75	4.00	0.00%	12.50%	25.00%	37.50%	25.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.38	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	37.50%	50.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	75.00%	25.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.13	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	62.50%	25.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.25	5.00	12.50%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	62.50%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.13	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	37.50%	37.50%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
While the environment was supposed to be friendly and supportive, I found that politics and tension were very present in every discussion.
There is a heavy racial justice element and you should ideally be comfortable talking about that. If you might err on the less controversial side with surface level analysis, your grades may suffer. There's a clear "right" answer and disagreement is not really encouraged.
Don't take this course if you want a formal introduction to music. A lot of analysis is talking about how music makes you feel using metaphors and the like. You don't really study music theory.
I felt that there was a little bit of a learning curve in the beginning for students with no prior musical experience. We spoke a lot about specific musical terms, such as timbre, meter, flow, without really going into what each of these terms meant. As a result, it was a little difficult to incorporate these terms into our first few assignments. However, as the quarter went on, the criteria for success became more clear.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	14.29%	85.71%
Anyone interested in the topic	25.00%	75.00%

Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
The professor's pauses and comments throughout the listenings helped frame things properly and allowed us to see how we are meant to approach music.
She was quite engaged in class, often leading the discussions and introducing different musical ideas.
Professor Iverson is an incredible music teacher. She is very interested in all music and this passion really shines through the teaching. She appreciates everything from classical music to jazz to rock to rap. She is really aware of the student's interests and caters the lessons to bring this out. Overall, her incredible teaching allowed me to really enjoy the class.
Lectures primarily.
It was fun getting to learn about the background of certain pieces and albums. I think knowing the context a work was created in offers a lot of insight on how to interpret it.
In class discussions, since hearing other people's perspectives was really cool and broadened my own viewpoints.
The presentations and actual examples of music we watched. I think it's hard to put a word to the experience of music and understanding through experience of visually and sonically was much better for learning.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Ideally, be somewhat clearer on the kind of work she expects for certain grade ranges.
I think in the first few weeks Professor Iverson could have spent longer explaining how to describe music and what each of the musical terms actually meant. However, If you were really struggling, she is more than happy to accommodate you and walk you through any questions you might have.
I think maybe more flexibility with the writing assignments. Especially the papers (1 and 2) felt hyper-focused and maybe would have been a little more interesting if they were broader (ability to incorporate other related works, for example).
The readings felt a bit disconnected from what was discussed in class. Having more relevant readings could help bring the course together.
Nothing
nothing. some of the classes were a little boring but otherwise they were fun

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.38	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	62.50%	37.50%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	50.00%	37.50%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	50.00%	37.50%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.13	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	37.50%	37.50%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	50.00%	37.50%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	25.00%	62.50%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.63	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	37.50%	62.50%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.63	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	37.50%	62.50%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.38	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	37.50%	50.00%	0.00%

Please include the name of the TA/CA/Intern you are evaluating. What aspects of the TA's teaching contributed most to your learning? What could the TA modify to help you learn more? Please include any additional feedback for the TA/CA/Intern.

Comments
Sophie (Will) Myers. She always had encouraging words and comments for people.
Sophie/Willow. When they lead the discussions, they were engaging and as a TA they often had useful points to say. Not sure anything more is expected of a TA.
Sophie Myers
Sophie Myers. Primarily Sophie added to discussions and lectures (with a greater emphasis on composition of music) as well as providing feedback. generally each of these were helpful.
Sophie Myers. Sophie was very helpful both in and outside of class, answering questions and providing in depth feedback on writing assignments.
Sophie Myers – she was honestly great, and added some valuable contributions to lectures and discussions.
idk

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.63	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	37.50%	62.50%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	3.88	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	62.50%	12.50%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	3.75	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	37.50%	50.00%	12.50%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.43	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	37.50%	12.50%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	62.50%	12.50%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	50.00%	37.50%	0.00%

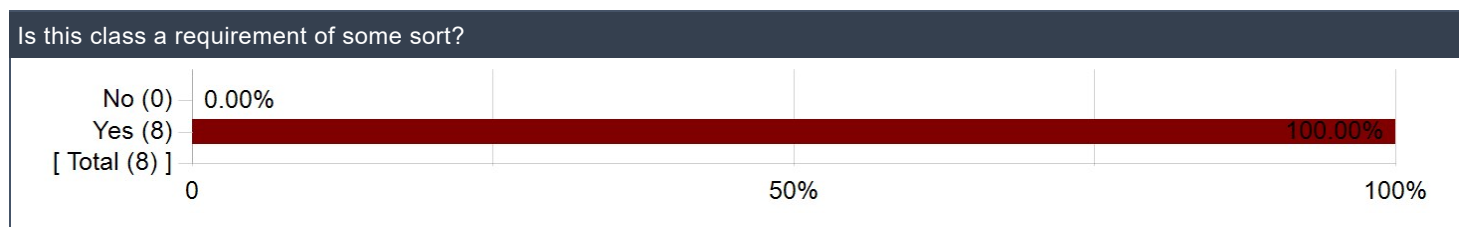
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Field Trips	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	75.00%	0.00%	25.00%
Library Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Review Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

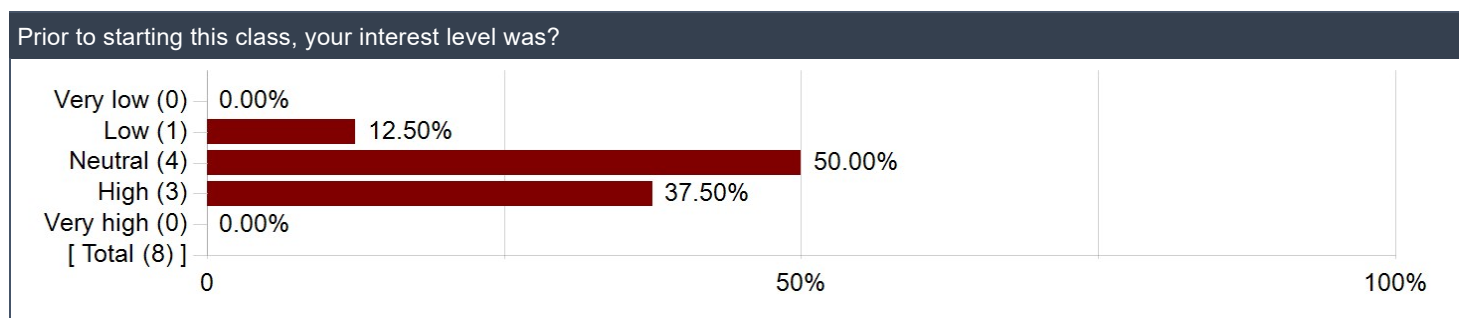
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
Concerts. It was not enjoyable nor helpful, and the class went downhill from there.
Required concert

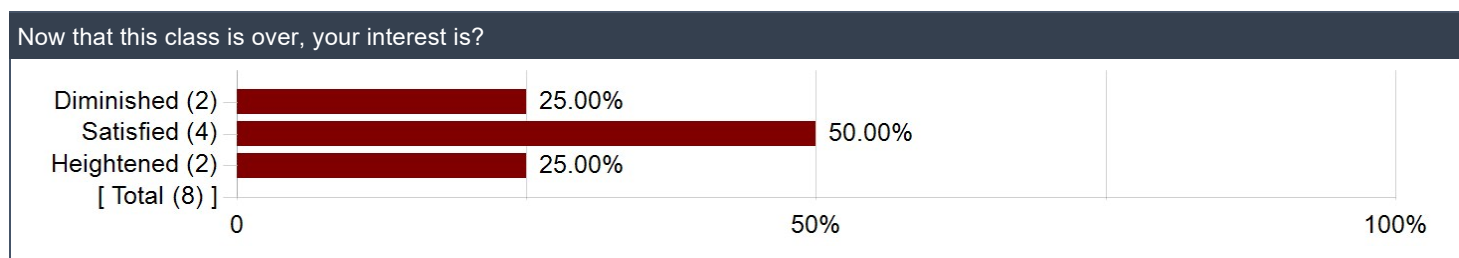
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



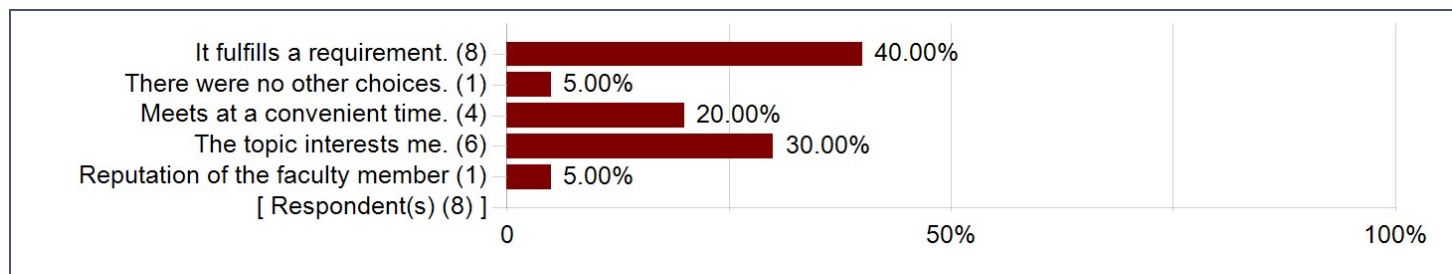
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



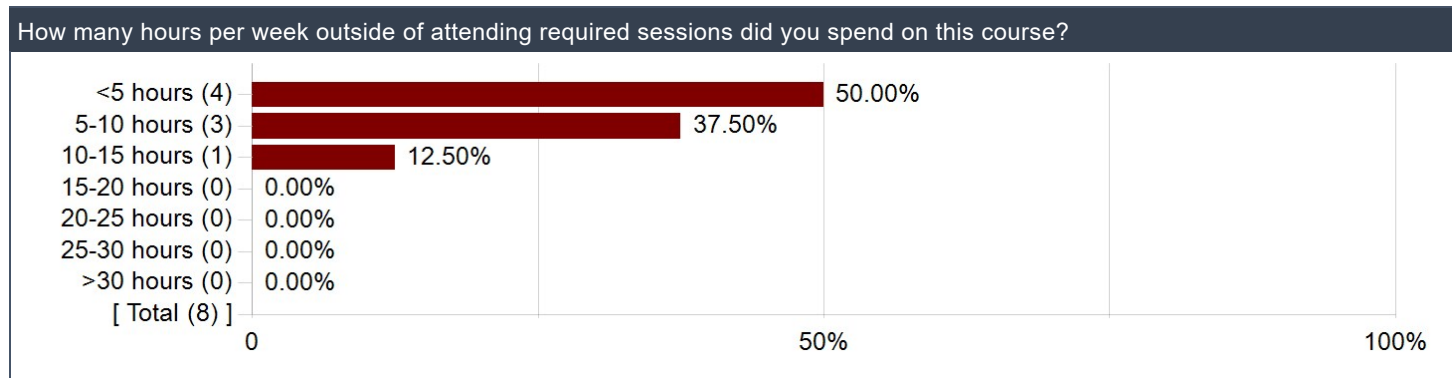
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



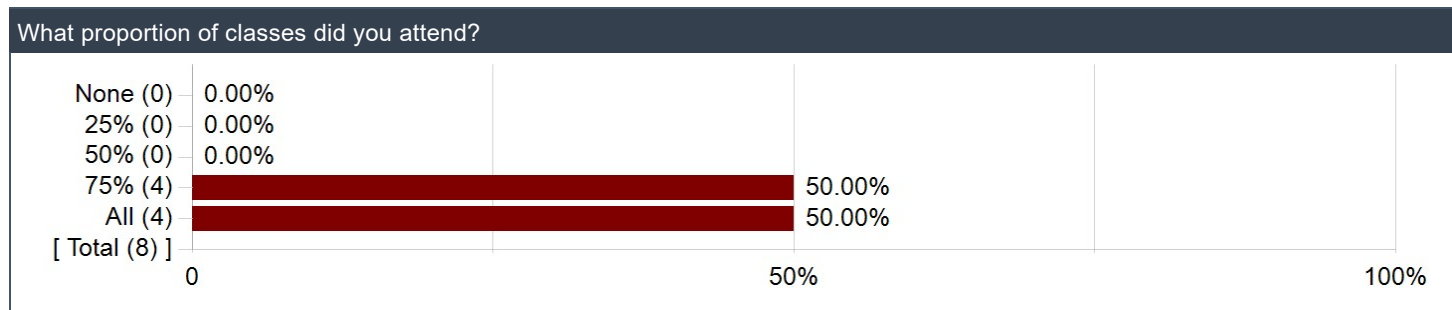
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



What proportion of classes did you attend?



Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
Having a background in piano/music theory did not help much. Look at MUSI 103 if you want to use your knowledge.
I have little musical background and thought that this class was not too difficult. Be prepared to put in the effort and participate
The class is definitely at the beginner level with a reasonable amount of work. While I enjoy music I have not engaged with it academically at all but I never felt overwhelmed or confused.
Easy to do well if you enjoy writing. There are more frequent but shorter essays compared to a HUM course or other music analysis courses.
I have no experience and am not a music major, but still found this super interesting and engaging. Would 100% recommend to complete Arts Core or just for those who are interested in learning more about music!