

Instructor: Dr. Sandra McClain, Instructor of Music/Artist in Residence
smcclai2@fau.edu, 561-297-4065, AL226, Office hours: Tues. 9-10. Wed. 1-2 or by appointment

Prerequisites: MUS4910

Course Description: This course is taken the final semester of the senior year in fulfillment of the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music. The course requirements consist of an independent research project on an original topic in music history or theory and a formal paper at the advanced level with full supporting documentation.

****COMPOSITION OPTION:** Composition students may choose (with approval of the Faculty Composition Advisor) to submit an original major work or series of smaller works comparable to the scope and intent of the research project. There are two options for presentation of the composition option. The composition(s) may be presented either in a recital or described in a formal of a paper as per the history or theory project requirements (see above). Both options must include complete scores with analysis

Course Objective: Upon completion of the research project, the student will have learned to
Explore a single area of scholarly interest in depth
Narrow the scope to formulate a specific thesis statement
Develop a scholarly writing style appropriate to the discipline
Document the research in the style and standard acceptable in the discipline

Required Texts:

1. Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, Seventh Edition*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-226-82337-9
2. *FAU Department of Music Writing Guidelines* (available on Blackboard course website)

Course Requirements: The student will complete an independent research project, the topic of which must have been approved in MUS4910. The project will consist of a fully documented paper ranging from 20-35 pages in length as is deemed appropriate by the advisor for the topic of the project.

Grading Methods: The final grade for the project will be the average of the grades from the three faculty readers. The readers will submit the grade to the advisor who will then average the grades and submit the final grade to the course coordinator to be recorded with the registrar. A grade of C (73%) or better is required to pass the course and satisfy the degree requirements for graduation. In the event of a non-passing grade, students will be given one (1) opportunity to resubmit the project within six months of the original deadline

Grading Policy: Students will be scored on the following scale: A = 93-100%, A- = 90-92%, B+ = 87-89%, B = 83-86%, B- = 80-82%, C+ = 77-79%, C = 73-76%, C- = 70-72%, D+ = 67-69%, D = 63-66%, D- = 60-62%, F=below 60%.

Course Schedule:

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Class meetings: This course is a supervised, independent research project. The student is required to meet with the chosen advisor every week as agreed upon in contract signed by student and instructor in triplicate at the end of the semester in which student completed MUS4910. The advisor and student should each keep one copy and one should be given to Dr. McClain for her files. The contract will state the agreed upon topic and the meeting plans for the semester. (If student took MUS4910 prior to the initiation of the signed contract procedure, the contract should be signatures should be acquired at the beginning of the semester in which the project will be completed.

The contract can be found on the Blackboard site for MUS4912 if needed.) A schedule should be agreed upon in the first week of classes at the first meeting with the advisor. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the advisor immediately at the beginning of the semester and arrange a regular meeting schedule. The advisor will not initiate the contact. Failure to meet regularly with the advisor as arranged will jeopardize the student's status in the class and in some cases delay graduation if there is not sufficient time to properly revise and finish the project.

PLEASE NOTE: Dr. McClain will be the coordinator and will submit final grades for this class after your committee and advisor have assigned the final grade. Your direct instructor/supervisor will be the advisor whom you have contacted to direct your project and with whom you will meet regularly. More specific guidelines will come from your project advisor. If you do not have a project advisor, please contact Dr. McClain at the above email or in room AL226.

The project completion date is **three weeks before the end of the semester** at which time the project should be sent to the three readers for grading (one reader is the project advisor). The three weeks allows faculty time to adequately evaluate the project before the exam period begins and time constraints are more pressing.

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Make up/ Late Work: There is no makeup work. If the previously mentioned deadline three weeks prior to the end of the semester is not met, the readers are under no obligation to read the project.

Plagiarism Detection: All written work will be submitted through Blackboard to the SAFEASSIGN plagiarism detection program of the university. All work is subject to the FAU Honor Code and academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade for the course.

Required Formats: The completed paper must be typewritten, from 20-35 double-spaced pages in length plus reference list, with formatting and parenthetical references consistent with Turabian style from A Manual for Writers that was taught in MUS4910 and with the FAU Department of Music Writing Guidelines (available from advisor, on Blackboard, or in department office).

Classroom etiquette:

Students are expected to refrain from the use of handheld Internet or texting devices during meetings with advisors and may only use computers to aid in note taking.

Cell phones should be turned off.

Out of courtesy to other students and to the professor, students are asked to arrive for appointments in a timely manner. Appointments that need to be changed for any reason should be done prior to 24 hours before the appointment except in dire emergencies.

Students with Disabilities: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) located in Boca Raton - SU 133 (561-297-3880). Any student registered with the office of Student Disabilities should present verification and need of assistance during the first week of classes. All possible and reasonable accommodation will be offered to that student through the course of the semester.

Religious Holiday Accommodation: If your scheduled meeting time falls on a religious holiday and you need accommodation, please notify your advisor in writing in advance.

Incomplete Policy: A grade of Incomplete will be assigned rarely and only in the case of extreme emergency or illness.

Course Communication: All electronic communication must originate from a valid FAU email address. Blackboard will be used for communication between the student and the course coordinator (Dr. McClain) and should be checked often for announcements and reminders. There will also be links on Blackboard to help with the writing process.

1. **HONOR CODE:** Code of Academic Integrity policy statement

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see the Code of Academic Integrity in the University Regulations at http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Code_of_Academic_Integrity.pdf.