Course Syllabus
School of Arts and Sciences
Music Appreciation
MUSC 1100-103
Fall 2025
CRN-80389

Instructor Information	Name: Val Parker
Office location:	_A237_____
Office telephone:	404-756-2932_____
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Office Hours:	M/W 11:30-12:30 T/R 12P-2P
• Online	
Course Information	
Pre-requisites	_____
Credit Hours	_3.0_____
Catalog Description	_____
Orienting Questions	
Course Start and End Date	8/18/2025-12/5/2025
Career-Ready Competencies	• Ethical Reasoning • Information Literacy • Intercultural Competence • Critical Thinking Development
Course Textbook	https://wwnorton.com/books/9781324088158
Required Resources	_____
Recommended Resources	Monsieur De Saint George "The American" Alain Guede, tr. from the French by Gilda M. Roberts ISBN 0-312-31028-5 Mozart the Freemason: Masonic Influences on His Musical Genius, Jacques Henry tr. from the French by Jack Cain ISBN-13: 978-1-59477-128-6 (pbk)
Core IMPACTS Learning Outcomes	Students will effectively analyze and interpret the meaning, cultural significance, and ethical implications of literary/philosophical texts or of works in the visual/performing arts
Program Learning objectives	_____
Course Learning Objectives	*Students will* Identify at least one mode of communication (oral or written) and utilize appropriate guidelines and conventions in expressing ideas and/or opinions. _____

Important Dates (Note: for complete list of all dates for all Class times, consult the Academic Calendar https://www.atlm.edu/downloads/Spring-2024-Academic-Calendar.pdf	Holidays	Attendance Verification (No Show Date)	Last Day to Reinstate	Midterm	Last Date to Withdraw Without Penalty	Last Day of Class	Final Exam Period
	09/01/25 11/27-28/25	08/22/25	08/28-09/02	10/04/25	10/20/25	12/06/25	12/09-12/11

Course Delivery Method	F@F
Email Preference	*D2L/BrightSpace*
Online Courses	Please use the internal course e-mail for general correspondence. I provide my external e-mail address for emergencies only. I cannot answer questions, accept assignments, or discuss grades via external e-mail so please use it for emergencies only.
Email Response Time	Unless you are notified otherwise, I will strive to respond to all student questions and emails within 24 hours during the week and within 48 hours during the weekend.
Attendance:	Attendance is required at Atlanta Metropolitan State College. Students may view their attendance record by going to the Brightspace course page and clicking on "Attendance" from the "Assessments" menu at the top. It is the responsibility of each student to ensure that his or her recorded attendance is accurate. Any errors need to be brought to the attention of the instructor as soon as they are discovered.
Online Attendance and Participation Policy	Being "Present" in class is determined by the student's active attendance and participation in an "academically related activity" which includes actual presence in a virtual class, submission of an assignment, group projects, completion of an exam or quiz and discussion forum posting.
Conduct:	Refer to AMSC College Catalog, page 54

Late Policy:	Unless otherwise posted in D2L, all assignments should be posted/uploaded by the due dates listed in D2L. If there are no due dates posted, you may complete the assignments at your leisure, making certain that no work is turned in past the last day of class. Work posted after last day of class will not be accepted.	
Enrollment Status:	Students are ultimately responsible for ensuring that the course(s) in which they enroll are included in the approved degree plan and program map for their program of study. Students must periodically check their enrollment status in this course during the semester. The student is responsible for determining changes, if any, in enrollment status and taking necessary steps (e.g., pursuing re-instatement in this course) following those outlined in the AMSC catalog.	
Attendance Verification (No Show)/Reinstatement	Atlanta Metropolitan State College has a "No-Show" Reporting (Attendance Verification) policy. This policy is to comply with Federal Financial Aid regulations. Financial Aid recipients at Atlanta Metropolitan State College may become ineligible for funds by not attending class session (per enrolled course). Students who do not complete Mandatory Attendance Assignments and attend class sessions are NOT entitled to keep their financial aid award. The Registrar's Office will notify the students and faculty when the Attendance Verification Period has opened. The established "No-Show" Reporting (Attendance Verification) procedure will enable Atlanta Metropolitan State College to adjust financial aid awards before funds are issued to students (thereby eliminating liability for both the College and the student). A student reported as non-attending a course must seek the approval of the instructor in order to be reinstated. Once approved, the student will complete the Reinstatement form and submit it. The Office of Registrar will notify students when course reinstatement process has been completed during Reinstatement Period.

The student can demonstrate compelling reason (s) that have prevented attendance and the instructor believes that there is a strong probability that the student can catch up in the class OR The instructor made an error, and the student was in attendance prior to being dropped. | |
| **Computer Hardware & Software Requirements:** | One of the challenges many encounter with enrolling in and completing an online course is the accessibility to the required and recommended software and hardware. Different institutions, and even different courses within the same institution, have varying technology requirements. Check your hardware and software systems to determine its compatibility with the online course you have selected. | |

Minimum Hardware Recommendations to take courses:	D2L System Requirement Internet Connection: · Ethernet Network Capability required · Wireless Network Capability required Operating System Requirements - PC: - Compatible Operating System: - Web Browser: Firefox, Chrome - Mac: - Compatible Operating System: - Web Browser: Firefox, Chrome, Safari Hardware requirements: Minimum Technical Specifications for Hardware: - A processor of 2GHz or faster 4GB RAM or greater 500 GB of Hard Drive space - Monitor and video card with a minimum resolution of 1024x768 - Keyboard and mouse Minimum Technical Specifications for Computer Peripherals: - Speakers - Headphones - Microphone - Webcam **Software requirements**: Browser Requirements/Supported Browsers Compatible Browsers: - Apple Safari - https://support.apple.com/downloads/safari (Mac) - Google Chrome - https://www.google.com/chrome/ (Mac or PC) - Mozilla Firefox - https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/ (Mac or PC) Application Software - Microsoft Office 2016 (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) (Mac or PC) - Adobe Reader - https://get.adobe.com/reader/ Plug-ins - Java - https://www.java.com/en/download/ - Adobe Flash Player - https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/

	• Windows Media Player - https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=20426 • Apple QuickTime - https://support.apple.com/downloads/%2523quicktime • Microsoft Silverlight - https://www.microsoft.com/getsilverlight/Get-Started/Install/Default **Accessibility:** Wi-Fi is also available for use in the campus parking lots.
Tutoring Services	Students improve their self-confidence and increase their chances of excelling in their courses when they utilize their college/university academic support services. The following tutoring services are available to AMSC students: ❖ The AMSC Writing Center is open year-round to support students, staff, and faculty at AMSC. It offers virtual and in-person tutoring for various writing projects, assists at any stage of the writing process, and increases improvement in structure, use of sources, style, grammar, and more. The Writing Center is located in Building 100, Room 211. Students can walk in during hours of operation or schedule an appointment at https://calendly.com/amscwritingcenter/30min ❖ Tutor.com is a virtual space for students to access writing tutors outside of AMSC faculty. Access tutor.com in Brightspace by logging into your course. Next, click the 'Free Tutoring' tab and choose Tutor.com from the dropdown options. Students are granted five (5) hours per semester, and registration is not required. Contact the Center for Student Success and Advising at (404) 756-5690 for assistance. ❖ TutorOcean is a tutorial for students enrolled in STEM courses such as Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, and Computer Science. Access TutorOcean and sign up at https://atlm.tutorocean.com .
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement	Atlanta Metropolitan College is committed to providing support for all students and making their college experience an enriching opportunity. In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, The Department/Office of Counseling and Accessibility Services**,** located in the Student Services & Success Center, building 650-Suite 252, oversees the coordination of services for students with documented disabilities. The Coordinator of Disability Services collaborates with faculty and staff to offer provisions for reasonable accommodation to students who meet the requirements.

		It is the policy and practice of AMSC to make all Web information accessible to students with disabilities. If you, as a student with a disability, have difficulty accessing any part of the course materials for this class, please notify the instructor immediately. Accommodation cannot be provided until a reasonable accommodation plan is in place. To the greatest extent possible, all college representatives shall observe confidentiality.
	Office of Counseling and Accessibility Services	The Office of Counseling and Accessibility Services operates under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) laws in order to assist in leveling the playing field for students who have disabilities with those who do not. The amended ADA, otherwise known as ADAAAA defines "disability" as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. If you feel that you have a disability or impairment that may limit your academic functioning, please contact Dr. Dorothy Williams, the Director of Counseling and Accessibility Services at 404-756-4016 or at https://www.atlm.edu/students/counseling-and-disability-services.aspx. The Coordinator of Counseling and Accessibility Services reviews all accommodation requests. In order to receive accommodation, the student's illness or disability must be verified in writing by a physician, psychiatrist, or some other health care provider or specialist. Students choosing to access disability support services should contact the Coordinator as soon as possible after acceptance to AMSC. Please be aware that late notifications may result in complications for establishing accommodation in a timely fashion.
	Withdrawal	**Withdrawal from a course is solely the responsibility of the student.** Instructors will not initiate student withdrawals. A student who wishes to withdraw from a course **MUST** submit a completed Withdrawal Form (Schedule Reductions Form) to the Registrar's Office before mid-term in order to receive a grade of **"W"** for the course.

		A student who withdraws after the Midterm date receives a "WF" unless the Vice President for Academic Affairs determines that it is a hardship case, then a "W" will be recorded. The possibility that a student may fail the course will not be considered a hardship
	Incomplete Grade Policy	An incomplete may be awarded at the instructor's discretion for non-academic reasons which prevent the student from completing the course requirements. The student must be passing the course at the time that the Incomplete is awarded and must sign an "Awarding of Incomplete" agreement. Unless otherwise stated, the incomplete should be removed by the end of the following semester; otherwise, the instructor will change the grade to an "F" grade.
	Time Commitment	To successfully complete this course it requires discipline, devoted time and commitment. A student must arrange his / her schedule to allow for the required time for this course. Expect to spend a minimum of seven (7) to ten (10) hours per week to thoroughly read each chapter and complete the required chapter assignments. Additional time most likely will be required to complete quizzes and exams.
	Student Expectations	Students are expected to be fully invested and engaged in their learning. The following guidelines are included to facilitate your course success. • Participate in this course by following the guidelines of this syllabus and any additional information the instructor provides by email, telephone, discussion forums, etc. • Please speak with your instructor **in advance** if you have extenuating circumstances that prevent you from completing your assignments by the designated due dates. If a medical emergency occurs, you will need to provide a written medical / doctor's notice for the period in which you are unable to participate in class or complete any of the assignments (discussion, case studies, quizzes, exams, etc.). Without a medical / doctor's notice, all assignments missed will be scored as zero. • Sign-in to Brightspace D2L and / or Courseware to complete assignments regularly. • Read, study, and complete all assignments by the due dates. • Monitor Brightspace D2L course calendar. • Have access to a computer and the Internet. Make certain computer meets the technical requirements for computer course. • Be courteous, polite and respectful to faculty, staff and fellow students.

	For online courses, the instructor will use Brightspace D2L email for all course related correspondence. Check **Brightspace D2L email** as well as **Ginger email daily** to stay abreast of what is going on in class.	
Textbooks	If for some reason there is a problem accessing your textbook, contact the bookstore manager. If issues persist, use the publisher's link (listed above) to purchase from the publisher.	
Degree Relevance and Enrollment Status	Students are ultimately responsible for ensuring that the course(s) in which they enroll are included in the approved degree plan and program map for their program of study. Students **must** periodically check their enrollment status in this course during the semester. The student is responsible for determining changes, if any in enrollment status and taking necessary steps (e.g. pursuing re-instatement in this course) following those outlined in the AMSC catalog	
Abandoning a Course	Abandoning a course should be avoided at all cost. Abandoning a course instead of following official drop procedures will result in a grade of ―F at the end of the course. It is the student's responsibility to initiate and complete the withdrawal process.	
Academic Honesty	Only the epitome of professionalism is expected of each student. Cheating or the abetment of cheating is not tolerated**.** Per page 91-93 of the 2019-2020 Atlanta Metropolitan State College Catalogue the Penalties for Academic Misconduct states: - In cases where a student is found guilty of cheating or exhibiting academic misconduct involving an instructor-generated assignment or examination, the instructor may impose a penalty. - Types of penalties may include, but are not limited to, the instructor assigning a grade of "F" for the assignment, the instructor not accepting the work, the student being assigned additional work, or the student receiving a grade reduction for the assignment. **The maximum penalty the instructor may impose is a grade of "F" for the course.**	
Class Cancellation	Procedure regarding long-term emergency closure of the college (attendance policy): In the event of an emergency that forces the college to close for an extended period, students MUST contact the instructor of this class within 48 hours using the contact information (e.g., email address in BrightSpace/D2L) on the syllabus to obtain directions for continuing	

	the course. The instructor will provide directions for the transmission and submission of course assignments and course assessments, including due dates.

The student is responsible for submitting valid, accurate contact information, including an active AMSC email address to the instructor by the end of the first week of the course. Students can obtain an Atlanta Metropolitan State College Student email address in the Academic Support Center on the third floor of the Library Building.

If the instructor for the course cannot be reached within the specified period (within 48 hours), the Dean of the School responsible for the course can be reached at the email address posted on the college's website |
| **Grading Scale** | 100-90=A
89-80=B
79-70=C
69-60=D
Below 60=F |
| **Grade Distribution** | Music Listening Journals-25%
Concert Report-25%
Video Presentation-25%
Quizzes-25% (Note: in order to obtain the full 25% 90 -95% of quizzes must total a grade of 75 or more) |
| **Grade Appeals and Student Complaint Policy and Process** | Please follow the Grade Appeals Process outlined in the AMSC Student Catalog, Pages 61/62.

You can also refer to the Grade Appeal brochure at:
https://www.atlm.edu/downloads/advisement/CAAS%20Grade%20Appeal%20Brochure.pdf

For student complaint policy and process, refer to AMSC student catalog pages 51/52. |

Frequently Asked Questions and Helpful Links	
I need:	**LINK**
What is Brightspace (D2L) and how can I access it?	Brightspace(D2L) is the virtual space where students access their online courses and some Face2Face class resources, quizzes, assignments, etc. You can access Brightspace (D2L) from https://atlm.view.usg.edu/ You can also access Brightspace (D2L) from the College's webpage and click on Brightspace (D2L) on top.
Who is my Advisor? Where can I receive Advisement and Tutoring assistance?	Center for Academic Advising and Success (CAAS)
What do I do if I face technical issues while taking a quiz or turning in an assignment in Brightspace	https://d2lhelp.view.usg.edu/ You can reach the GaView Helpdesk 24/7/365 days at 18557724423 If you are unable to submit a quiz or assignment or face a technical glitch, please contact the University System of Georgia's GaView Helpdesk at 1855 772 4423. The Helpdesk is open 24/7 all 365 days. If your issue cannot be resolved right away, the Helpdesk will issue a ticket to your Atlm Ginger email address. That ticket needs to be forwarded to your instructor to prove that you faced a technical issue that forced you to miss a deadline.
I can't download Respondus Lockdown Browser. What do I do?	If you are unable to download Respondus to your computer, please email the Office of Testing at Testing@atlm.edu at least 24 hours in advance requesting a testing appointment at the Testing Lab. For Respondus issues, please contact https://web.respondus.com/contact/.
Where do I go for ADA Accommodations	https://www.atlm.edu/students/counseling-and-disability-services.aspx
I have a complaint. Where do I go?	Fill out and submit the Student Complaint form
I have an issue with my grade. How may I appeal my grade.	Read the brochure and follow the instructions to appeal your grade.
How do I Withdraw from a Course	Follow the Course Withdrawal Process **here**
I have a Hardship. How do I do a Hardship Withdrawal?	Follow the Hardship Withdrawal Process **here**
To Know the Campus Carry/HB 280 Policy	House Bill 280 Guidelines

Disclaimer	*Information contained in this syllabus and schedule was, to the best knowledge of the instructor, considered correct and complete when distributed for use at the beginning of the semester. This syllabus should be considered only a guide for instructor and students, not a formal contract between Atlanta Metropolitan State College and any student. The instructor reserves the right, acting within the policies and procedures of AMSC, to make changes in course content or instructional techniques.*

Any questions that you have about Assignments (i.e. Concert Report, Soundscape Ethnographic, Video Presentation) will be answered in class.

Basic Rubrick for each assignment:

Concert Review/Report

All Concert reports should be no less than three (3) to four (4) pages in length. This does not include reference page or cover page.

Reports should be written in MLA format. Use this link: https://www.unr.edu/writing-speaking-center/writing-speaking-resources/how-to-write-a-concert-review

One page, one paragraph papers not following the directions above will not be accepted. Make certain that you write a minimum 3 page paper.

What should your review/report be about? You may choose from any music related topic that reflects cultural, musical or soundscape aspects or focus. Content, adherence to the topic, use of language, length of paper, etc will be part of the rubrick.

Video Presentation

All videos should be no more than three minutes in length because the D2L upload file will not accept more than a 3 minute presentation.

Do not post any assignment to email. Post all assignments in the assignment folder provided.

III. Conclusion (approx. 30 seconds)

- *Summarize the main points: Briefly recap how B.B. King uses specific elements to express profound emotions in the song.*

- *Restate the thesis in a new way: Reiterate the emotional power of the song, but use different phrasing from your introduction.*

- *Call to action/memorable closing: Encourage the audience to revisit the song with a new appreciation for its emotional depth or share their own experiences with music and emotions.*

Key tips for creating the video

- *Keep it visually engaging: Use relevant images, short video clips of the performer (if allowed), or even visually represent the musical elements you're discussing.*

- *Practice your timing: Rehearse the presentation to ensure you stay within the 3-minute limit.*

- *Use clear and concise language: Avoid jargon and use simple terms to explain musical concepts.*

- *Show enthusiasm: Your passion for the music will resonate with the audience and make the presentation more enjoyable.*

Soundscape Ethnographic

Creating a soundscape ethnography

A soundscape ethnography is an in-depth study that examines the sounds within a particular environment and the cultural meanings and significance people attach to those sounds. It goes beyond just recording sounds to understand how individuals and communities perceive, interact with, and are shaped by their sonic surroundings.

Here's a guide to creating a soundscape ethnography:

1. Choosing your research site and focus

- *Define your area of interest: This could be a specific place (a city park, a bustling market, a quiet library), a particular community or social group, or even a specific event or activity.*

- *Consider the interplay of sounds and culture: Think about how sounds might reflect or influence cultural values, traditions, and practices within your chosen context. For example, the use of drums in African cultures to convey messages and tell stories could be a fascinating focus.*

2. Research methods
- *Field recordings: Use high-quality recording equipment to capture the sounds of your chosen environment over a period of time.*

  o *Consider different types of microphones (e.g., lavalier for interviews, shotgun for directional sound) and recording setups (mono versus stereo) based on your research goals.*

  o *Think about ambient noise reduction techniques to ensure clear recordings, <u>according to Fiveable</u>.*

- *Participant observation: Immerse yourself in the environment, actively listening to the sounds and observing how people interact with them.*

- *Interviews: Talk to individuals and groups about their experiences and perceptions of the soundscape, exploring the meanings and emotions they associate with specific sounds.*

- *Sound diaries: Ask participants to keep a record of their sonic experiences over a period of time, noting down specific sounds they hear and their reactions to them.*

- *Sensory walks or soundwalks: Conduct guided walks with participants, focusing their attention on the sounds of the environment and prompting discussions about their auditory experiences.*

3. Data analysis

- *Transcription: Convert audio recordings into written text, capturing spoken words, non-verbal cues, and other relevant sounds. You might use verbatim transcription to preserve the authenticity of the conversation, says Fiveable.*

- *Sound analysis software: Utilize software tools to visualize sound intensity and patterns (waveform analysis), examine frequency components (spectral analysis), or even automatically transcribe speech.*

- *Qualitative analysis: Analyze interview data and sound diaries for recurring themes, patterns, and cultural meanings associated with the soundscape.*

- *Acoustic Ecology Framework: Consider using a framework like R. Murray Schafer's, which highlights the social, political, and ideological aspects embedded within a soundscape.*

4. Ethical considerations
- *Informed consent: Obtain consent from individuals whose voices or sounds might be captured in your recordings.*

- *Anonymity and privacy: Protect the identities of your participants, especially when dealing with sensitive information.*

- *Representation and interpretation: Be mindful of your own biases as an ethnographer and strive to accurately represent the perspectives and experiences of the community you're studying.*

- *Impact of research: Consider the potential effects of your research on the community and strive to conduct your study in a way that is respectful and beneficial.*

Examples of soundscape ethnography
- *One example is "Soundscapes of the People: A Musical Ethnography of Pueblo, Colorado," which explores the music and sounds that have shaped the history, politics, and intersecting cultures of the city.*

- *Another example is an ethnography that includes the daily sounds of New York City, like traffic, construction, and sirens, and how these sounds can provide insights into the city's culture.*

  Another example includes ethnographic fieldwork in San Francisco, audio-recording different soundscapes of the city, record company offices, clubs, and rehearsal studios to establish the fieldsite through sound. The researcher termed this practice "acoustic ethnography" or "acoustigraphy."
  By following these steps, you can create a compelling soundscape ethnography that offers unique insights into the intricate relationship between sound, culture, and human experience.

Quizzes

Chapter Quizzes
Read each Chapter (there are 10 Chapters total) use the preview Quizzes before taking the Actual Quiz. (The actual quiz is in the Quizzes section of D2L. Do not attempt these quizzes if you have not read the Chapter. You will not be able to retake the Quizzes in D2L once you have completed them. You are responsible for completing all 10 Chapter Quizzes. The Preview Quizzes you may take as many times as you wish before taking the Quizzes in D2L. There is a two hour (120 minutes) limit once you begin the Quizzes in D2L. No due dates will be listed on the Chapter Quizzes.

Listening Quizzes

You will not be responsible for all Listening Quiz examples. Only the examples that have Due Dates will be the ones that you are responsible for completing.