



MUS 550

**Seminar in Music Education  
Course Syllabus: Summer 1-2022**

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### Instructor Information

Instructor:	Dr. Eric Branscome; <i>Music Department Head</i>
Classroom Location:	MPLX Room 217; M-F, June 6-17; 9:00am to 1:00pm
Office Location:	Music Building Rm. 188
Office Hours:	by appointment only, through the music office
Office Phone:	903-886-5327
Office Fax:	903-468-6010
University E-mail:	<a href="mailto:eric.branscome@tamuc.edu">eric.branscome@tamuc.edu</a>
Preferred Form of Communication:	email
Communication Response Time:	24 hours

### Course Information

#### Course Description

This course is designed to explore the philosophical, sociological and psychological foundations of music and the way in which it is taught and learned.

#### Required Texts and Materials

- Mark, M., & Madura, P. (1996). *Contemporary music education (4<sup>th</sup> ed.)*. Boston, MA. Thompson Schirmer. ISBN: 978-1-133-95630-3
- Access to the D2L shell for MUS 550

#### Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will:

- demonstrate knowledge of the prominent philosophies of music education
- identify and compare the traits of important philosophical perspectives and how they relate to historical and current societal, artistic and educational trends
- describe relevant sociological and psychological perspectives of music and music education as they relate to current societal, artistic and educational trends

## Course Requirements

### Grading

Attendance and Participation	10% of final grade
Daily Reflections / Discussion	30% of final grade
Written Assignments	40% of final grade
Exams	20% of final grade

A = 100 - 90%    B = 80 – 89%    C = 70 – 79%    D = 60 – 69%    F = 59% % below

### Assignments Overview

(additional details are available on the course D2L shell)

**Reading Reflection / Discussion:** Students will read the assigned chapters and related articles, and come prepared to discuss/share reflections in class. Occasionally, written reflections will be requested (due in class).

**Article Reviews:** Students will submit one written review of a scholarly article of their choosing, related to one of the major course topics. Students will also give an informal presentation / overview of their article in class.

**Philosophy of Music Education:** Students will submit a one-page philosophy of music education that reflects course content and scholarly writing at the graduate level. Students will also informally present their philosophy statement in class.

**Reflection Essay:** At the conclusion of each day, students will submit a summary paragraph of the day's content as it relates to their individual teaching situation and experience.

**Thesis Abstracts:** Students will submit an abstract for 2 to 3 research topics that could be explored in future classes or as possibilities for a thesis or dissertation study.

### Attendance and Engagement

Regular and prompt attendance and active engagement in the class is expected. The student's attendance grade is calculated by the number of times present divided by the total number of class meetings. Students who are present but not engage in the discussion may not receive attendance at the discretion of the instructor.

### Late Assignments or Work

Late papers, assignments, and exams will not be accepted *unless prior arrangements have been made*. A student who is absent on the day of a quiz or exam will receive a "0" for that quiz/exam *unless prior arrangements have been made* (in the case of university-sponsored absences in accordance with campus policy).

### Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Use of the learning management system (D2L). Use of regular classroom and music pedagogy technological applications.

## Instructional Methods

This course includes a blend of presentation of new materials (lecture) with class discussions regarding contemporary issues in music education.

## Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success

Summer courses are fast-paced and intense. Keep up with the reading and assignments, and do not let the end of the seminar sneak up on you. More importantly, do not hesitate to share connections from the class to your professional experiences as music teachers.

## Course Calendar

Monday, June 6	Course Introduction & Overview History of American Music Education (ch. 1)	
Tuesday, June 7	History of American Music Education Cont'd	
Wednesday, June 8	Pivotal Events of Contemporary Era (ch. 2) (Legislation!)	
Thursday, June 9	Philosophy & Psychology of Music Education (ch. 3)	
Friday, June 10	Philosophy & Psychology of Music Education	Philosophy Statement Due
Monday, June 13	Advocacy for Music Education (ch. 4)	
Tuesday, June 14	Music Education Methods & Research (ch. 5 & 6)	
Wednesday, June 15	Music Education Methods & Research (ch. 5 & 6)	Abstracts Due
Thursday, June 16	Assessment of Music Education (ch. 9)	
Friday, June 17	The Education of Music Teachers (ch. 8) & Tying it All Together	Final Exam (take-home exam)

## Course and University Procedures / Policies

### Technology Requirements

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

### Access and Navigation

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

### Communication and Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

### Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance

## Student Conduct

All students are expected to follow the Tenets of Common Decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

## TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>  
<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

## Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

## Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

### Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained. Please let me know what pronouns you would prefer I use for you in class and in conversation.

### **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

### **A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)