



SCHOOL OF  
**Music**

**MUS 595 01W**  
**Research Literature and Techniques**  
**Course Syllabus: Fall 2024**

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## Instructor Information

Instructor:	Dr. Jessica Stearns
Classroom Location:	Online
Office Location:	Music Building Rm. 220
Office Hours:	MW 1:00 pm-3:00 pm; F 9:00 am-10:00 am
University E-mail:	Jessica.Stearns@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication:	Email
Communication Response Time:	24 hours

## Course Information

### Course Description

Bibliographical material, library resources, and research techniques applicable to graduate study in music will be surveyed.

### Student Learning Outcomes

In this course, students will:

- Learn how to find and properly cite appropriate academic sources
- Become familiar with appropriate scholarly writing style and how to write for different audiences by completing a grant proposal and program notes
- Learn to engage with and assess academic sources
- Demonstrate the ability to construct an argument-driven scholarly project by writing a research paper

### Required Textbook

Turabian, Kate. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* ninth edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018.

## Course Requirements

### Instructional Methods

Students will follow outlined activities for each week that include readings, discussions, and assignments.

## Assessments

Discussions: Students will post responses to prompts related to weekly class topics.

Practice Bibliography: Students will find examples of specific types of sources and properly cite them.

Program Notes: Students will write notes for a program of their choosing.

Grant Proposal: Students will find a grant relevant to their field of music and write a proposal for it.

Annotated Bibliography: Students will create a bibliography for their proposed research paper topic and provide annotations.

Abstract: After initial research, students will submit an abstract summarizing their research paper.

Research Paper Outline: Students will submit a detailed outline of their research paper.

Research Paper: This paper will cover a research topic of the students' choosing within humanistic music studies and will be at least 2,400 words. Students who submit a paper below the required word count will automatically receive a zero on the assignment.

## Grading

Discussions	150
Practice Bibliography	100
Program Notes	100
Grant Proposal	100
Annotated Bibliography	100
Abstract	125
Research Paper Outline	125
Research Paper	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>

**A=900-1000 B=800-899 C=700-799 D=600-699 F=Below 600**

## Course and University Procedures / Policies

### 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

## Attendance Policy

Because this is an online course, there is no attendance policy. It is the responsibility of each student to keep pace with the course and complete work on time.

## Late Assignments or Work

Assignments submitted within one week of the deadline will incur a 50% penalty. No assignments will be accepted beyond one week after the deadline.

## Online Etiquette

Students are expected to be thoughtful and courteous in expressing their opinions and in responding to those of their classmates.

## 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](#)

## AI Use in Course (University Statement)

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

## AI Use in Course (Instructor Statement)

As an instructor, I recognize the potential of AI as a useful tool to aid learning, create content, and refine writing skills. However, I will not utilize AI to generate course materials or provide feedback to students. In this class, students are permitted to incorporate AI into assignments only when explicitly instructed to do so. Any other use of AI on assignments or exams will be deemed as academic dishonesty.

## 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, contact the Office of Student Disability Services at 903-886-5150, 903-886—5835; email [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu); online at [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#); or in-person in Room 162 of the Velma K. Waters Library.

## Tenets of Common Behavior

All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See current Student Guidebook);

## Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Campus Concealed Carry - 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 <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedure/s/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf> and/or consult your event organizer). 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.

## Course Calendar

<b>Week</b>	<b>Content</b>
Week 1: 8/26-8/30	Course Introduction; Types of Sources R: Turabian, Ch. 3 and 15 <b><i>Discussion 1 due</i></b>
Week 2: 9/2-9/6	Finding and Citing Sources R: Turabian, Ch. 16 <b><i>Practice Bibliography due</i></b>
Week 3: 9/9-9/13	What is Research? R: Turabian, Ch. 1 <b><i>Discussion 2 due</i></b>
Week 4: 9/16-9/20	Writing about Music for General Audiences R: Syracuse University Libraries, "Music: Write Program Notes" <b><i>Program Notes due</i></b>

<b>Week</b>	<b>Content</b>
Week 5: 9/23-9/27	Finding Grants R: TAMUC Office of Sponsored Programs, "Grant Search Tools" <b>Discussion 3 due</b>
Week 6: 9/30-10/4	Writing Grants R: TAMUC Office of Sponsored Programs, "Proposal Writing" <b>Grant Proposal due</b>
Week 7: 10/7-10/11	Picking a Research Topic R: Turabian, Ch. 2 <b>Discussion 4 due</b>
Week 8: 10/14-10/18	Initial Research R: Turabian, Ch. 3 <b>Annotated Bibliography due</b>
Week 9: 10/21-10/25	Writing a Thesis Statement R: Turabian, Ch. 5; Indiana University Writing Services, "How to Write a Thesis Statement" <b>Discussion 5 due</b>
Week 10: 10/28-11/1	Writing an Abstract R: Abstract Examples <b>Abstract due</b>
Week 11: 11/4-11/8	Creating a Draft R: Turabian, Ch. 6 <b>Research Paper Outline due</b>
Week 12: 11/11-11/15	Individual Meetings R: Turabian, Ch. 7
Week 13: 11/18-11/22	Individual Meetings R: None
Week 14: 11/25-11/29	Finalizing a Draft R: Turabian, Ch. 9 and 10
Week 15: 12/2-12/6	Finalizing a Draft R: None <b>Research Paper due</b>