



SCHOOL OF
Music

MUS 523 01E
Music of the Classic Era
Course Syllabus: Spring 2025

Instructor Information

Instructor:	Dr. Jessica Stearns
Classroom Location:	Music Building Rm. 214; W 5:00pm-6:50pm
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

Styles, forms, and composers from the pre-classic school to the death of Beethoven.

Student Learning Outcomes

In this course, students will:

- Become familiar with practices and issues related to music during the Classic period through exploration of topics such as institutions, music societies, patronage, and education
- Gain knowledge of scholarly approaches to music from this period.
- Demonstrate an ability to conduct academic research by completing a final research paper.

Required Textbook

Rice, John. *Music in the Eighteenth Century*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2013.

Course Requirements

Instructional Methods

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

Assessments

Participation: This course is based on in-person discussion and not lectures. Students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss assigned readings and pieces.

Reading Responses: Students will post brief reactions to assigned readings in D2L before class.

Style Analysis: Students will complete a written analysis of JS Bach in the context of the Learned and Galant styles.

Class Lecture: Students will submit an outline for a class lecture covering a topic in 18th-century music using AI and evaluate it.

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

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

Presentation: Students will give a presentation outlining the major findings of their final paper.

Final Paper: The final paper will cover a research topic of the students' choosing within Classical music 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

Participation	140
Reading Responses	210
Style Analysis	50
Class Lecture	50
Annotated Bibliography	100
Abstract	100
Presentation	125
Final Paper	225
Total	1000

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 a graduate-level course, students are expected to attend every class and arrive on time. Absences will result in a zero for participation on those days.

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.

Classroom Etiquette

You are by no means required to like all of the music assigned in this course or to agree with the views expressed by the composers and scholars we will be studying. You are, however, expected to be thoughtful and courteous in expressing your opinions and in responding to those of your classmates.

Electronic Devices

Students may use laptops or tablets to take notes and access readings during class. The use of cell phones is prohibited. Please silence and put away (completely out of sight) your cell phone.

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University 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)

East Texas A&M University 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 (including Grammarly) 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; 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 East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M 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 East Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, 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

Course Calendar

Week	Content
Week 1: 1/13-1/17	Course Introduction; The Encyclopedic Century R: Rice, Ch. 1
Week 2: 1/20-1/24	Music and the Transatlantic Slave Trade; Learned and Galant R: Hunter, "The Beckfords in England and Italy: A Case Study in the Musical Uses of the Profits of Slavery"; Rice, Ch. 2
Week 3: 1/27-1/31	Naples; Carnival Opera in Rome and Venice R: Rice, Ch. 3 and 4 <i>Style Analysis due</i>
Week 4: 2/3-2/7	Instrumental Music in Italy and Spain; Paris of the Ancien Regime R: Rice, Ch. 5 and 6
Week 5: 2/10-2/14	Georgian London; Vienna under Empress Maria Theresa R: Rice, Ch. 7 and 8
Week 6: 2/17-2/21	Haydn's Vienna; Leipzig and Berlin R: Van Horn Melton, "School, Stage, Salon: Musical Cultures in Haydn's Vienna"; Rice, Ch. 9 <i>Class Lecture due</i>
Week 7: 2/24-2/28	Courts of Central Europe; Meaning in Haydn's String Quartets R: Rice, Ch. 10; Sutcliffe, "Before the Joke: Texture and Sociability in the Largo of Haydn's Op. 33, No. 2"
Week 8: 3/3-3/7	Galant Music in the New World; Music in the French Colonies R: Rice, Ch. 11; Powers, "Introducing the Stars" and "Breaking through the Barrier" <i>Annotated Bibliography due</i>
Week 9: 3/17-3/21	Thomas Jefferson's Library; St. Petersburg under Catherine the Great R: Gordon, "What Mr. Jefferson Didn't Hear"; Rice, Ch. 12
Week 10: 3/24-3/28	Foreigners in Paris; Mozart's Vienna R: Rice, Ch. 13 and 14
Week 11: 3/31-4/4	Presenting Research and Writing About Music; Prague R: Presentation Guidelines; Final Paper Guidelines; Rice, Ch. 15 <i>Abstract due</i>
Week 12: 4/7-4/11	London in the 1790s; Vienna in the Napoleonic Era R: Rice, Ch. 16 and 17
Week 13: 4/14-4/18	Individual Meetings
Week 14: 4/21-4/25	Presentations
Week 15: 4/28-5/2	Presentations <i>Final paper due (5/5)</i>