



HONORS THESIS READINGS

MUS 491-02H

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2025

Instructor Information

Instructor:	Darla Meek, Lecturer in Music Education
Webpage:	www.darlameek.com
Classroom Location:	Music Building, Room 211
Office Location:	Music Building, Room 222
Office Phone:	903-886-5294
Office Fax:	903-468-6010
University E-mail:	Darla.Meek@etamu.edu
Preferred Form of Communication:	email
Communication Response Time:	48 hours, or please email again
Office Hours:	Tuesday/Thurs 1:30–4:30 Wednesday 10:00–12:30, 1:30–4:00 (by appt. via Zoom) Friday 8:00–3:00 (by appt. via Zoom)

Course Information

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- NO SPECIFIC TEXTS OR MATERIALS REQUIRED
- To be successful in this course, you will need to have access to a computer, email, notation software, and D2L.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Honors Thesis Readings affords undergraduate students the opportunity to pursue special interests or research not treated in the regular curriculum. The student will conduct in-depth research on a topic pertinent in music education and craft a final project.

COURSE OUTCOMES

The student will complete a rigorous activity with the aid of the instructor who approves, directs, and

evaluates the product of the study. The activity may include, but is not limited to, conducting a research project, preparing a paper for publication, crafting a series of lessons on a particular topic, participating in a unique learning opportunity, or producing a performance. The work must result in some tangible product, such as a thesis, a digital resource, etc.

The student will meet with the instructor regularly to discuss progress and brainstorm ideas about revision and reorganization. The student will defend the thesis proposal before a committee.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES OR TIPS FOR SUCCESS IN THE COURSE

- Organize your materials in an orderly fashion.
- Attend every required face-to-face meeting fully prepared.
- Prepare all assignments and readings thoroughly and completely.
- Refer to MyLeo Online/D2L Brightspace for assignment instructions.
- Contact the instructor with any questions.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

This course will be blended. Students will be expected meet with the instructor regularly and complete benchmark assignments in D2L.

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 and posted on D2L.

Technology Requirements

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University 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
- 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.

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>

OTHER RESOURCES

- Quicktime (www.apple.com), RealPlayer (www.real.com), and Windows MediaPlayer 11.0 (www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/download) will enable you to view videos.

AI Use in Course

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.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

Borrowing Materials

You have free access to the instructor's personal books, recordings, and teaching materials. Several of these items will be placed under reserve in the library. These items are for use in the library only. Simply present your student ID card at the front desk.

If you would like to borrow a resource overnight kept in the Music Education office, simply sign the **Resource Checkout** book in the office. Since other students may need the same item, please return any item you borrow the following class session. **You must not lend any items checked out to any other individual. You yourself must check them back in by writing the date and your initials in the resource checkout notebook.**

If a resource checked out to you is lost or damaged, you are expected to replace it as soon as possible. If you fail to return the item before the end of the semester, **a hold will be placed on your account and you will receive an Incomplete for this course.**

Please take care that you observe the copyright laws and the limits of fair use.

Assignments

Over the course of the semester, the student will complete each step of the process by the dates determined between instructor and student.

These steps will not only help the student stay on track in completing this project but will also determine the grade at the end of the project.

Below is an example of the steps needed to submit a thesis:

1. Identify a workable, relevant, and realistic research idea.
2. Submit a PROPOSAL FOR HONORS THESIS form.
3. Complete and submit an Internal Review Board (IRB) proposal, if needed.
4. Complete the Introduction Page.
5. Complete the Literature Review.
6. Complete the Methodology section.
7. Complete the Bibliography Page.
8. Submit the rough draft.
9. Submit the finished project.

Course Evaluation

Grades are based on individual meeting participation, timely assignment completion, and quality/quantity of work.

- An A will be earned by the student who prepares and submits a paper or project of significant length and quality in publishable form and completes every assignment on time.

- A B will be earned by the student who prepares and submits a paper or project of significant length and quality, though not necessarily in publishable form, and completes every assignment on time.
- A C will be earned by the student who prepares and submits a paper or project of unacceptable length and quality and/or does not complete assignments on time. This student will earn an Incomplete or repeat the course.
- An F will be earned by the student who does not prepare and submit a paper or project.

Attendance Policy

Class meetings will be determined by the student and the instructor. Attendance is expected at every scheduled meeting.

Classroom Expectations

All students are expected to follow the Tenets of Common Decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. These tenets are outlined in the *Student's Guide Handbook* under "Policies and Procedures: Conduct." The tenets also apply to all communication to me outside the classroom.

ETAMU 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.

University and Department Information

UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

East Texas A&M University nurtures and educates for success through access to academic, research, and service programs of high quality.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC MISSION STATEMENT

The East Texas A&M University School of Music promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

STUDENTS REQUESTING ACCOMMODATIONS DUE TO DISABILITIES

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

East Texas A&M University

Velma K. Waters Library- Room 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

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

MUSICIAN HEALTH AND SAFETY

Valuable information and resources are provided on the Music Education website to assist the musician in the prevention of injury and to provide a resource for discovering information about injury assessment and injury recovery.

For more information, go here:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/music/musicianHealthSafety.aspx>

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 ETAMU 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/rulesProcedures/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 ETAMU campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Academic Honesty

It is expected that you will exhibit ethical behavior concerning your work in this class. Students are expected to do their own work, use their own words in papers, and to reference outside sources appropriately. It is not appropriate to use one assignment for two courses. Failure to uphold the

standards of academic honesty will result in an automatic fail for this course and will be considered for removal from the undergraduate program.

For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

- [Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)
- [Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)
- <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>
- <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>