

Music Appreciation

Pre-Requisites:

Credits:

Estimated Completion Time:

Earliest Start Date: March 2014

Description

Music Appreciation: The Enjoyment of Listening

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Music is part of everyday lives and reflects the spirit of our human condition. To know and understand music, we distinguish and identify cultures on local and global levels. This course will provide students with an aesthetic and historical perspective of music, covering a variety of styles and developments from the Middle Ages through the Twentieth First Century. Students will acquire basic knowledge and listening skills, making future music experiences more informed and satisfying.

Major Topics and Concepts

Unit 1: The Elements of Music

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * Learn about the basic elements of music.
- * Examine pitch and melody and their roles in a piece of music.
- * Discuss some of the notations and language used to distinguish rhythm in a piece of music.
- * Consider dynamics and its effect on music.
- * Investigate form in music and how this involves the other elements of music.

Unit 2: Pop Music

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * Examine the relationship between popular music and pop music.
- * Discuss the characteristics that help define pop music.
- * Consider how technological advances helped shape pop music.
- * Investigate the history and development of pop music.
- * Discuss the current status of pop music.

Unit 3: Ancient Music

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * Learn about the history of music before the Middle Ages.
- * Discuss the role of music in ancient societies.
- * Investigate the styles of music that were present before the Middle Ages.
- * Examine what musical instruments were used in ancient times.
- * Trace the development of music through the Middle Ages.

Unit 4: Renaissance Music

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * Understand the Renaissance and its relationship to the music of this time period.
- * Discuss the effects of music on society.
- * Describe some of the instruments that were developed during this period.
- * Discuss some of the characteristics of Renaissance music and the forms of music composed.
- * Talk about a few of the influential composers of Renaissance music.

Unit 5: The Baroque Period

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * Discuss the transition from earlier forms of music to music of the Baroque period.
- * Analyze the changes that this period made to Western music.
- * Discuss opera and how it developed.
- * List some of the composers and musicians during this time period.
- * Trace the development of music during the Baroque Period.

Unit 6: The Classical Era

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * Examine the changes in music during the Classical Era.
- * Discuss the musical forms, such as sonatas, that were popular.
- * Learn about the common features of music from the Classical Era.
- * Investigate some of the composers from this period.
- * Trace the development of music during the Classical Era.

Unit 7: The Romantic Period

Objectives:

- * Examine the music of the Romantic Period and how it differs from earlier music.
- * Discuss the features and characteristics of music from this period.
- * Learn about some of the composers and musicians from this time period.
- * Investigate the role of music in society during this time period.
- * Trace the development of music during the Romantic Period.

Unit 8: Jazz

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * Investigate the musical traditions that combined in jazz.
- * Discuss the characteristics and features of jazz music.
- * Examine improvisation and its role in jazz music.
- * Learn about some of the musicians who helped to develop jazz.
- * Trace the development of jazz during the twentieth century.