

## **MUSC 10A, Music Appreciation**

### **Section 81**

**Summer 2019 (2<sup>nd</sup> SJSU Summer Session)**

**SJSU Online course**

**Course managed by Connect4Education ([SJSU-SOMAB-10A-81-Sum19](https://store.connect4education.com/product/onmusic-appreciation))**

Welcome to *Music Appreciation* (MUSC 10A). This course section will be conducted entirely online – there is no classroom component and no direct student contact with the course instructor. There is no physical (paper) textbook as the entire course is self-contained online. You might want to have paper around to take some notes to review for the unit assessments, as well as the midterm and final exams. All assignments, unit quizzes ('assessments'), and exams are taken online with your own computer. You will need to purchase *OnMusic Appreciation*, 4th edition (not the 'Blackboard' version), through the **Connect4Education** website at:

<https://store.connect4education.com/product/onmusic-appreciation>

Be sure that you have a good Internet connection. Also, be sure to register for the course section that I am teaching, as listed above. The SJSU Bookstore has a small number of 'Access Cards' for this course as well. The purchase price is the same either way.

Note that this Connect4Education [C4E] course registration & purchase is separate from and in addition to enrolling in the course at SJSU. Registering for and purchasing the course from C4E gives you access to the entire course, including its online text. Please note that the entire course is managed directly through the C4E web site's learning management system; this is *NOT* a Canvas course.

The course is easy to navigate. All of the audio files are streamed, so you can instantly click and hear them as well as save them to your computer. There are interactive videos and striking, high-quality graphics - more than twenty hours of full-length classical, jazz, pop and world music.

Computer software and hardware requirements:

PC users need to use either Firefox or Chrome browsers, and a PC with a Pentium 2 GHz CPU or faster, 1 GB RAM, Sound card, and OS Windows XP, Vista, or newer.

Macintosh users need to use either Firefox or Safari browsers, and Mac with a G4, G5, or Intel CPU, 1 GB RAM, and OS 10.4+ ("Mohave"). Please note that Safari or older OS versions will not work with this course, so it is time to upgrade to the newest OS if you have not already done so!

The lessons and your submitted written assignments will all take place through the *Connect For Education* website – do not send assignments to me separately. Please note that C4E is an independent business not affiliated with SJSU, and the course content and online process are all created by C4E. As course instructor, I read and grade your five written assignments, while your topic assessments (unit quizzes) and the two timed exams (midterm and final) are created and graded automatically by the online course software.

I post relevant course materials to my music web site:

<http://www.beletmusic.com/sjsu-courses.html> (see 'MUSC 10A' list of files)

This is where I post the course syllabus, course calendar for the semester, detailed instructions for the two concert reports, and other important documents (including this welcome message). You are responsible for all of the information contained in all of the posted course documents. I upload and update documents on the site throughout the course session, so I advise you to check weekly for current information.

Each graded activity (unit assessments, written assignments, and two exams) has a set due date. The course content, unit assessments and six written assignments are open as of the first day of the summer session (July 8, 2019, at 12:01 am), and each close at 11:59 pm on their posted due date (all times are PDT – please note this if you are taking this course in a different time zone). The two exams are open only for a limited number of days – you can take the exams only during their open window:

<u>EXAM</u>	<u>OPEN</u> (12:01 am)	<u>CLOSE</u> (11:59 pm)
Midterm	July 26	July 31
Final	August 2	August 9

Each graded activity carries a percentage weight for the overall course grade (total = 100%). These percentage weightings are listed in the course grade book, on each graded activity page; a summary of these weights is also listed in the course Syllabus document posted to my web site.

Even though this is an online class, you will still be able to communicate with other Music Appreciation students through the Discussion Forum portal as well as contact with the course instructor (comments connected to the assessments and assignments, and via regular email). Thus, you will have the benefits of a multi-media course with the convenience of self-paced learning.

That stated, I emphasize that this course is not for students who are not already self-motivated, focused, and disciplined with excellent time management skills. Further, in my professional opinion, large online courses with no in-class synergy and no physical in-class lecture/discussion time with an expert professor are simply not as good as traditional campus classroom courses. This online course is certainly not easier than the regular classroom version of this course; I think it is actually more difficult for most students. So, you enter this adventure at your own risk. Please note that all of the graded items have firm due dates, and no late work will be accepted for any reason (late work earns a grade of 0%, which much lower than a regular 'F' grade of 50% or 59%). Once you get behind it is very difficult to catch up and salvage the course. Also, as this course is managed by an independent company not directly affiliated with SJSU, I have very little administrative flexibility with the flow of the course. For example, the two timed exams (midterm and

final) each have a two-hour active clock once you start them. If your session times out, for whatever reason, it simply times out and you fail the exam.

Students who need any type of course modifications (e.g., extra exam time) need to first be registered with SJSU's Accessible Education Center [AEC]. AEC then contacts me with relevant details. All of this needs to occur before the course starts, and it is a student's responsibility to take care of these details in order and on time.

With this lengthy preamble, welcome to the course and enjoy the fast-paced summer experience.

Dr. B. Belet  
Professor, School of Music & Dance, SJSU  
Brian.Belet@sjsu.edu  
[www.sjsu.edu/people/brian.belet](http://www.sjsu.edu/people/brian.belet)  
[www.BeletMusic.com](http://www.BeletMusic.com)