

**IDH 3931:**

**Storytelling through Music**

**Section 02A2**

**Wednesdays, 10:40-11:30**

**Hume 119**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

Storytelling has been used throughout history as a way of sharing information and inspiring others. This course will explore the tradition of storytelling through instrumental music. Using a variety of musical techniques, composers have depicted heroic and villainous characters, beautiful landscapes and scenes, and wondrous events. In this class, we will study the story behind some of these pieces and how composers were able to convey each story using only instrumental music.

As a group project, students will present on a tone poem or other musical work that tells a story. Presentations will include background on the composer’s life, their musical education and influences, and listening examples from the chosen piece, as well as discussion of the musical devices employed throughout the piece to portray the story. Students will also be required to attend the Moscow State Symphony Orchestra performance on November 16, 2017. For their final project, each student will create their own story album of 5-7 pieces to tell a story. Assignment details will be provided in class.

**INSTRUCTOR**

Miranda Sims - msims@honors.ufl.edu

Phone: 352-392-1519

Office hours: Tuesday 1:30-3:30pm, Wednesday 2-4pm, Thursday 9:30-11:30am

**CLASS SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE)**

* August 23- Lecture
* August 30- Lecture
* September 6- Lecture
* September 13- Group presentation
* September 20- Lecture
* September 27- Lecture
* October 4- Group presentation
* October 11- Lecture
* October 18- Group presentation
* October 25- Lecture
* November 1- Group presentation
* November 8- Lecture
* November 15- Lecture and concert prep
* **November 16- Moscow State Symphony Orchestra concert (required)**
* NO CLASS November 22- Thanksgiving Break
* November 29- Final projects
* December 6- Final projects

**ACADEMIC HONOR CODE AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

**Preamble:** In adopting this Honor Code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students who enroll at the University commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the Honor Code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon community acceptance and enforcement of the Honor Code.

**Pledge:** On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

Before submitting any work for this class, please read the policies about academic honesty at www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr, and ask the instructor to clarify any expectations you do not understand.

**ADA STATEMENT**

UF provides high-quality services to students with disabilities, and we encourage you to take advantage of them. Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations should 1) Register with and provide documentation to Disability Resources (https://www.dso.ufl.edu/), and 2) Bring a letter to the instructor from Disability Resources indicating that you need academic accommodations. Please do this as soon as possible, preferably within the first week of class.

**EVALUATIONS**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at [https://evaluations.ufl.edu](https://evaluations.ufl.edu/). Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Your presence is crucial to our learning environment. **An unexcused absence from class will result in the loss of a whole letter grade from your final grade. If you are late to class or leave early, you will lose half of your attendance/participation points for that day. Being late twice is equivalent to one absence.**  If you are late or miss a class, please contact your instructor immediately. Also, please do not schedule any personal appointments during class time. There will be numerous group discussions and in class activities. Your level of participation in these activities will be evaluated in each class. **Two tardy attendances will result in one absence. Written documentation must be provided for excused absences.**

**GRADING**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A | 90-100 | C+ | 77-79 | D | 63-66 |
| B+ | 87-89 | C | 73-76 | D- | 60-62 |
| B | 83-86 | C- | 70-72 | E | 0-59 |
| B- | 80-82 | D+ | 67-69 |  |  |

Attendance and Participation = 30 points

Group Presentation = 20 points

Concert Attendance = 20 points

Final Project = 30 points

**Total = 100 points**