

IDS 2935 Musical Elements of Emotion

Quest 1

Quest 1 Theme: The Examined Life

Honors

SPRING 2025

Syllabus

Class location: Matherly, 0007

Tuesdays: 11:45am-1:40pm

Thursdays: 12:50pm-1:40pm

Instructor Information

Instructor: Maggie Clifford, PhD
Email: mclifford@ufl.edu
Office Hours: Wednesdays 1-2pm or by appointment
Office Location: Innovation Square (Ayers Building)
720 SW 2nd Ave, suite 208
Gainesville, FL 32611

Primary General Education Designation

Humanities (H)

Humanities courses provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and theory or methodologies used within a humanities discipline or the humanities in general. Students will learn to identify and to analyze the key elements, biases and influences that shape thought. These courses emphasize clear and effective analysis and approach issues and problems from multiple perspectives.

Writing Requirements (WR): 2000 words

A minimum grade of C is required for general education credit. Courses intended to satisfy the general education requirement cannot be taken S-U.

Course Description: MUSICAL ELEMENTS OF EMOTION

This course explores three essential questions related to the Examined Life:

- What role does music play in understanding emotions?
- How does music contribute to and shape the human experience?
- Does live musical performance enhance the emotional experience?

Students will investigate the theoretical and historical musical elements that elicit emotion. This course explores how music shapes, and is shaped by, human experience by discussing theories of emotion, emotional intelligence, wellbeing, consumerism, and musical film scores. Students will observe their emotional responses to music and analyze the musical elements that elicited that response by actively listening to music compositions of various styles and genres. In addition, students will be required to attend one live music performance to compare the emotional experience of hearing music performed live to hearing music as a recorded object.

Course Materials

Materials Fees: N/A

Required

- The following film is available at the Smathers library and/or on subscription streaming platforms.
 - Docter, P. (Director). (2015). *Inside Out* [Motion picture]. Disney.

All required course materials will either be available to students through university resources and/or made available by the course instructor.

Required readings and online resources are posted in Course Materials on the course website in Canvas. These required readings will be posted at least one week in advance of the date on which they will be covered.

Recommended

Machlis, J., & Forney, K. (2003). *The enjoyment of music: An introduction to perceptive listening* (11th). New York: WW Norton.

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). Washington: DC: American Psychological Association

Purdue Online Writing Lab (n.d.). APA formatting and style guide. Retrieved from: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.htmlLinks to an external site.

Coursework & Schedule

Table of Graded Work

Assignment	Objective	Word Requirement	Percentage of Final Grade
Attendance & Participation	Class attendance is required for this course		5%
Hearing-loss Simulation Essay	Describe emotional experience of having temporary hearing limitations	200-250 words	10%

Concert Review	Critical analysis of a live performance	500 words	15%
Musical Film Score Analysis	Apply course materials in musical elements to analyze the role of a film's musical score in conveying emotional tone, character and narrative development	500 words*	15%
Listening Essays	Summarize and reflect on assigned composition; present a song of your choosing to the class once during the semester (Tuesdays)	1200 words (12 100-word essays)	25%
Music and Emotion Analysis Paper	Examine the relationship between music and emotion by conducting a comparative analysis of at least two assigned compositions	1500 words*	30%

*Indicates assignments which count toward 2000-word Writing Requirement

Modules & Course Themes

Week	Class Topic/s	Readings & Assignments <i>(due the following class period)</i>
1	Introduction to course: music theory basics, key musical elements, assignments and expectations for class.	
2	Intro to Musical Origins, Cultures: what roles does music play in civilization? Major influences and composers in Western music. Composer of the week: Mozart	Readings: The Forest People chapter (Turnbull) Assignments: Listening Essay 1
3	Research Writing Intro/Life with(out) sound: examining life experiences with reduced hearing, the influence of Beethoven	Readings: Machlis, pp. 4-36 Assignments: - Listening Essay 2 - Prepare for Hearing Loss Simulation
4	Theories of Emotion/Theories of Music: introducing basic theories of emotion and relationships to sound and music	Readings: - "How to Read a Research Article" - Review "APA Style Writing" Assignments: - Listening Essay 3

		- Hearing Loss Simulation Essay due
5	Raised on Music/Music in Childhood: music for children and music of childhood. Composer of the week: Brahms	Readings: Machlis & Forney Assignments: Hearing Loss Essay
6	Music and Emotional Wellbeing	Readings: Read all materials in Module 6 Assignments: Listening Essay 4
7	Hearing & Seeing Music/Music & Emotion in Film: analyzing the role of music in film. Composer of the week: Michael Giacchino	Watch: <i>Inside Out</i> (1 hr. and 42 min.) Assignments: - Listening Essay 5
8	Music and Emotional Intelligence: examining research on the effects of playing music together. Composer of the week: Maurice Ravel	Readings: Machlis & Forney Assignments: - Listening Essay 6 - Film Score Analysis essay due
9	Music & Marketing: how is the emotional power of music used by companies to sell products? Is it effective? Composer of the week: Chopin	Readings: Read materials in Module 9 Assignments: Listening Essay 7
10	Music and Emotional Expression: exploring the transformation and communication of emotion through music. Composer of the week: Clara Schumann	Readings: Read materials in Module 10 Assignments: Concert Review paper
11	Together in Music/Music & Community: the role of music in shaping, maintaining, and building culture. The multiculturalism of Yo-Yo Ma.	Readings: Read materials in Module 12 Assignments: DRAFT of final paper
12	Musician Perspectives on Emotion: investigating the inspirations behind famous compositions. Composer of the week: Liszt	Readings: Module 12 readings Assignments: Peer reviews of DRAFT paper due
13	Music, Emotion, & Performance: how and in what ways does music influence performance? Composer of the week: Bill Conti	Readings: None Assignments: Final Paper due

*Syllabus is subject to change

Grading

Statement on Attendance

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/Links to an external site.>

Course objectives will be met by attending and actively participating in each class session. Students are expected to arrive to class on time, stay the entire class period and be prepared to participate in all class discussions and activities. Arriving 30 minutes late or leaving 30 minutes early will receive a 50% deduction in attendance points for that class. Every 2 late arrivals or early departures will result in an absence. Students are accountable for materials covered in lectures and discussions. If a student misses a class, it is their responsibility to contact other students to find out what was missed.

If you have personal issues that prohibit you from joining freely in class discussion, (e.g., shyness, language barriers, etc.) see the instructor as soon as possible to discuss alternative modes of participation.

COVID-19: If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class.

Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work.

Student Expectations

This course is a sequential course (meaning we have a set meeting time each week). There are also set deadlines each week. All courses require personal time management and attention to deadlines.

This course is 3 credits and is 15 weeks long. As a student, you should expect 2-3 hours of work outside of classroom time per 1 credit in a course. Since this is a three course, you should anticipate spending 6-9 hours a week on assignments outside of class. This time will be split between reading and watching course material, working on group activities, attending a concert, and writing your course papers. The amount of time per week will vary. Some weeks you will have much less than 6 hours of work and other weeks you might have more depending on what is assigned, what is due and how you manage your time.

Courtesy Policy: Students are expected to behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and fellow students. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be minimal. Inappropriate behavior will result in a request to leave class.

Course Communication

It is the student's responsibility to communicate with the instructor promptly concerning any circumstances that might affect participation in the course. Please do not let any questions or concerns go unattended. It is the instructor's intention to respond to all e-mail communication within 24 hours of receiving the email on weekdays. Emails sent after 12pm on Fridays might go unanswered until the following business day. It is important to email the instructor through the Canvas feature as the instructor prioritizes these emails.

Netiquette/Communication Courtesy: Written communication and electronic interaction are central to learning. All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions, and other communication structures. Students are expected to understand the common principles of netiquette. Additionally, please check spelling, grammar, and formatting as is consistent with college-level correspondence.

Canvas Notifications: It is strongly recommended that students set their Canvas notifications to alert them by email to the following course communications from the Instructor:

- Announcements
- Submission Comments
- Conversations (Canvas emails)
- Grades

Due Dates

Students can change their notification settings by clicking on their Avatar on the left navigation bar > Click Notifications > and make sure that the checkmark icon is toggled green under the appropriate functions. Students will be responsible for timely responses (within 24 hours) to these Instructor communications even if they do not set their notifications.

General Course Questions: Before asking general questions of the instructor, be sure to check the syllabus, the course Canvas website, Announcements, and the Student-to-Student Discussion, as your instructor will direct you to these sources. If your question is specific to your own work, progress, circumstances, grade, or is personal in nature, please email the instructor privately using the mail function in Canvas.

Office Hours: Students are highly encouraged to attend office hours with the instructor at least once during the semester. Office hours are held weekly. Office hours can be useful to: Get to know your faculty member and ensure they are getting to know you as a student, talking through issues that are confusing or unclear from class, getting assistance with writing assignments in advance of the assignment deadline, following-up after an assignment has been graded to ask questions and learn how to improve for future assignments, to ask questions about course content that there wasn't time for in class, and talking to your faculty member about future goals that might relate to course content or their area of expertise. If you have class during the instructor's office hours, please email through Canvas and request an alternate meeting time.

Assignments

All assignments should be submitted through Canvas and are due by 11:59pm on their due date, unless otherwise indicated.

Assignment Schedule:

Late assignments: A deduction of 5% of the total assignments will be deducted per 24-hour late period. After 7 days, late assignments will not be accepted without a University-approved reason. No late work will be accepted for unexcused absences.

Formatting style for Documents: All work submitted must use APA formatting. Please do not turn in documents unless they include document formatting (name, title, and page numbers). You also need to include in-text citations, and reference lists when appropriate for the assignment. Be sure to properly cite all sources that you quote or paraphrase. See the APA Style

Guide: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.htmlLinks to an external site.or the recommended course text *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.)*.

Students should be mindful that formatting from other sources, especially automatic formatting software such as Google Scholar, may not be reliable and points will be deducted for improper formatting.

Written Requirement (WR) Statements and Grading Rubric

	SATISFACTORY (Y)	UNSATISFACTORY (N)
CONTENT	Papers exhibit at least some evidence of ideas that respond to the topic with complexity, critically evaluating and synthesizing sources, and provide at least an adequate discussion with basic understanding of sources.	Papers either include a central idea(s) that is unclear or off-topic or provide only minimal or inadequate discussion of ideas. Papers may also lack sufficient or appropriate sources.
ORGANIZATION AND COHERENCE	Documents and paragraphs exhibit at least some identifiable structure for topics, including a clear thesis statement but may require readers to work to follow progression of ideas.	Documents and paragraphs lack clearly identifiable organization, may lack any coherent sense of logic in associating and organizing ideas, and may also lack transitions and coherence to guide the reader.
ARGUMENT AND SUPPORT	Documents use persuasive and confident presentation of ideas, strongly supported with evidence. At the weak end of the Satisfactory range, documents may provide only generalized	Documents make only weak generalizations, providing little or no support, as in summaries or narratives that fail to provide critical analysis.

	discussion of ideas or may provide adequate discussion but rely on weak support for arguments.	
STYLE	Documents use a writing style with word choice appropriate to the context, genre, and discipline. Sentences should display complexity and logical sentence structure. At a minimum, documents will display a less precise use of vocabulary and an uneven use of sentence structure or a writing style that occasionally veers away from word choice or tone appropriate to the context, genre, and discipline.	Documents rely on word usage that is inappropriate for the context, genre, or discipline. Sentences may be overly long or short with awkward construction. Documents may also use words incorrectly.
MECHANICS	Papers will feature correct or error-free presentation of ideas. At the weak end of the Satisfactory range, papers may contain some spelling, punctuation, or grammatical errors that remain unobtrusive so they do not muddy the paper's argument or points.	Papers contain so many mechanical or grammatical errors that they impede the reader's understanding or severely undermine the writer's credibility.

The Writing Requirement (WR) ensures students both maintain their fluency in writing and use writing as a tool to facilitate learning.

Specific assignments that meet the 2000 level WR requirement are:

- o Musical Film Score Analysis Paper (500 words)
- o Music and Emotion Analysis Paper (1500 words)

The instructor will evaluate and provide feedback, on all of the student's written assignments with respect to grammar, punctuation, clarity, coherence, and organization.

WR Course grades have two components. To receive writing requirement credit, a student must receive a grade of C or higher and a satisfactory completion of the writing component of the course."

Grading Scale

Letter Grade % Equivalency GPA Equivalency

A	94-100	4.00
A-	90-93	3.67
B+	87-89	3.33
B	84-86	3.00
B-	80-83	2.67
C+	77-79	2.33
C	74-76	2.00
C-	70-73	1.67
D+	67-70	1.33
D	64-66	1.0
D-	61-63	.67
E	60 or below	0.00

For information on how UF assigns grade points, visit: [https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/Links to an external site.](https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/Links%20to%20an%20external%20site)

Grading Feedback from Instructor

It is the instructor’s intention to grade all assignments within 2 weeks of their submission. Assignments that have a rubric will be used by the instructor to evaluate students’ submissions. Rubrics for assignments can be found directly under the assignment instructions. The instructor will leave grading feedback in at least one of the following three ways:

- Assignment Rubrics
- Submission Comments
- In-text annotated feedback in the text of the document submitted

Students are responsible for checking all these places to benefit from instructor feedback. Your grades may be dependent on reading this feedback and making appropriate adjustments to future assignments.

Additionally, the instructor will actively engage with students through weekly discussions, lectures, and in-class demonstrations, and be available for one-on-one meetings to clarify assignments and feedback.

Quest Learning Experiences

Experiential Learning Assignments

Concert Review (15% of total grade): Students are required to attend one concert and submit a critical analysis of the performance that is a minimum of 250 words. Students will be given a list of approved local performances taking place during the semester. These concerts can be vocal (choral or solo) or instrumental (solo, orchestral or chamber), but they must be in the classical music genre. Reviews should include the date and place of concert, reaction to the concert, information about the performers, performance space, composition, and composers. Also, include a scanned copy of the program with your review essay submission (see Canvas for full details and grading rubric).

Hearing Simulation Essay (15% of total grade): Students will wear a pair of clean earplugs for a total of 12 hours, but not consecutively. Wear them eating, showering, walking, communicating with friends and family, listening to music, etc. It is strongly advised to let your friends and family know when you are doing this experience. Do not wear them while biking, driving, or in a class. Write 200 words about your emotional experience, unexpected challenges, reactions from others, and random acts of kindness you observe (see Canvas for full details and grading rubric).

Self-Reflection & Engagement Assignments

Attendance and in-class assignments (10% of total grade): Thoughtful participation in online and in-class discussions is expected of each student. Students will be required to submit assignments during class time throughout the semester to receive credit for their attendance and engagement with in-class course materials.

Listening Essays (15% of total grade): Students will be assigned one song to listen to each week that require reflection on personal experiences related to emotion. Each essay should be 100-200 words. Essays should include details of the listening experience through use of music vocabulary, period specific characteristics, personal associations, emotional response, and address the question “What was my emotional experience listening to this piece?” Because these essays count toward the total word requirement for the Writing Requirement portion of this course, it is important that essays include original ideas with thoughtful analysis (see Canvas for full details and grading rubric).

Additional Assignments

Musical Film Score Analysis: (15% of total grade): Students will compare the effectiveness of two musical film scores to induce emotional response. The analysis should be a minimum of 500 words. In this analysis, students will compare the film scores from *North by Northwest* and *Out of Africa*. Students will provide a detailed analysis of both film scores with constructive comments regarding strengths and weaknesses of each film’s ability to convey an emotional response through the musical score. (See Canvas for full details and grading rubric).

Music and Emotion Analysis Paper (30% of total grade): Students will write a 1,000-word research paper examining the relationships between music and emotion. Students will deeply and critically examine a classical musical composition to understand its importance within the discussion of emotion. Students will evaluate meaning of the composition, the influence of the composer, corresponding emotional theories, and historical context. Students will substantiate their claims with valid and relevant resources. They will also discuss implications of the musical composition for humanity. Students may

select their own classical musical composition or choose from an instructor approved list in Canvas (see Canvas for full details and grading rubric).

V. General Education and Quest Objectives & SLOs

Course’s Objectives—Gen Ed Primary Area and Quest Humanities + Quest 1 + Course Objectives

Humanities Objectives →	Quest 1 Objectives →	This Course’s Objectives → (This course will....)	Objectives will be Accomplished By: (This course will accomplish the objective in the box at left by...)
Humanities courses provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and theory or methodologies used within a humanities discipline or the humanities in general.	Quest 1 courses address the history, key themes, principles, terminologies, theories, or methodologies of various arts and humanities disciplines that enable us to ask essential questions about the human condition.	Explore the theories and relationships that exist between music and emotion.	<p>Discussing how theoretical and historical elements of music are utilized to elicit emotional responses.</p> <p>Assessing how music impacts emotion through historical, social and cultural perspectives.</p> <p>Examining theories of emotion</p>

Humanities Objectives →	Quest 1 Objectives →	This Course's Objectives → (This course will...)	Objectives will be Accomplished By: (This course will accomplish the objective in the box at left by...)
Students will learn to identify and to analyze the key elements, biases and influences that shape thought.	Students learn to identify and analyze the distinctive elements of different arts and humanities disciplines, along with their biases and influences on essential questions about the human condition.	Identify what role music plays in understanding emotion.	Evaluating how individual understanding of music impacts emotion.
These courses emphasize clear and effective analysis and approach issues and problems from multiple perspectives.	These courses emphasize clear and effective analysis and evaluation of essential questions about the human condition from multiple perspectives.	Explore how music contributes to the human experience.	Critiquing how music communicates emotion. Discussing the relationship between music and emotion and the collective experience of emotion.
	Students reflect on the ways in which the arts and the humanities impact individuals, societies, and their own intellectual, personal, and professional development.	Examine whether live musical performance enhances the emotional experience	Assessing how music impacts emotion through historical, social and cultural perspectives. Developing a deeper appreciation for classical music.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)—Gen Ed Primary Area and Quest
 Humanities + Quest 1 + Course SLOs

	Humanities SLOs → Students will be able to...	Quest 1 SLOs → Students will be able to...	This Course's SLOs → Students will be able to...	Assessment Student competencies will be assessed through...
Content	Identify, describe, and explain the history, underlying theory and methodologies used.	Identify, describe, and explain the history, theories, and methodologies used to examine essential questions about the human condition within and across the arts and humanities disciplines incorporated into the course.	Demonstrate an understanding of how theoretical and historical elements of music are utilized to elicit emotional responses. Assess how music impacts emotion through historical, social, and cultural perspectives.	Music and Emotion Analysis Paper Musical Film Score Analysis Concert Review Listening Essays Discussion Boards Accountability Quizzes

	Humanities SLOs → Students will be able to...	Quest 1 SLOs → Students will be able to...	This Course's SLOs → Students will be able to...	Assessment Student competencies will be assessed through...
Critical Thinking	Identify and analyze key elements, biases and influences that shape thought within the subject area. Approach issues and problems within the discipline from multiple perspectives.	Analyze and evaluate essential questions about the human condition using established practices appropriate for the arts and humanities disciplines incorporated into the course.	Critique how music communicates emotion. Appraise the effect musical elements have on emotions.	Listening Essays Musical Film Score Analysis Concert Review Music and Emotion Analysis Paper
Communication	Communicate knowledge, thoughts and reasoning clearly and effectively.	Develop and present clear and effective responses to essential questions in oral and written forms as appropriate to the relevant humanities disciplines incorporated into the course.	Discuss the relationship between music and emotion and the collective experience of emotion. Relate basic elements of classical and other music to their influence on emotion.	Music and Emotion Analysis Paper Accountability Quizzes Listening Essays Musical Film Score Analysis Discussion Boards
Connection	N/A	Connect course content with critical reflection on their intellectual, personal, and professional development at UF and beyond.	Develop deeper appreciation for classical and other music. Evaluate how individual understanding of music impacts emotion.	Listening Essays Discussion Boards Concert Review Musical Film Score Analysis Music and Emotion Analysis Paper

VI. Required Policies

1. Students Requiring Accommodation

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting [https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/Links to an external site..](https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/Links%20to%20an%20external%20site..) It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

2. UF Evaluations Process

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/Links to an external site.>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/Links to an external site.>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/Links to an external site.>.

3. University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. 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.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/Links to an external site.>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

4. Counseling and Wellness Center

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/Links to an external site.>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

5. The Writing Studio

The writing studio is committed to helping University of Florida students meet their academic and professional goals by becoming better writers. Visit the writing studio online at <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/Links to an external site.> or in 2215 Turlington Hall for one-on-one consultations and workshops.