Texas A&M University
Core Curriculum
Initial Request for a Course Addition to the Fall 2014 Core Curriculum

Foundational Component Area: Creative Arts

In the box below, describe how this course meets the Foundational Component Area description for Creative Arts. Courses in this category focus on appreciation and analysis of creative artifacts and works of human imagination. Courses involve the synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and enable critical, creative, and innovative communication about works of art.

How does the proposed course specifically address the Foundational Component Area definition above?

MUSC 222 Music of the Americas:
This course examines the musical evolution of the Americas and the Caribbean. It traces the influence of three large differing groups of peoples (natives, people of forced relocation, and people from European communities) and the syncretic process of music making. Students engage in discussions and exercises that equip and assess them in communicating about the impacts of these factors on works of art.

Core Objectives

Describe how the proposed course develops the required core objectives below by indicating how each learning objective will be addressed, what specific strategies will be used for each objective and how student learning of each objective will be evaluated.

Critical Thinking (to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information):

Students will analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information about musical genres drawn from a variety of sources. Their blog project requires them to identify and make proper use of reliable primary resources while making connections between musical and social movements and identifying media that effectively demonstrate their points. The listening exams require students to reflect on and hone their listening habits in order to discern the specific musical properties discussed in class.

Communication (to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication):

Students practice communicating effectively in class discussions about the musical qualities they perceive in listening exercises. Students write about such musical relationships in their group projects and incorporate visual media in order to effectively communicate their points.

Teamwork (to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal):

- Students work in groups to consider each other’s interpretations of their musical selections, consider their relationships to the socio/cultural movements discussed in class, and build a web page that communicates their group’s analysis.

Social Responsibility (to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities):
Texas A&M University

Core Curriculum

Initial Request for a Course Addition to the Fall 2014 Core Curriculum

Students are tested on their understanding of how civic issues are reflected and challenged by performance, including political activism, exile, revolutions, and establishment of cultural identity. This course addresses a wide variety of cultural performance situations (e.g., literature and contexts, social and sacred) each of which considers a different set of behaviors to be appropriate and finds others offensive. Students practice this intercultural competence through performing in class, attending live performances while applying behaviors appropriate to the culture and context at hand, and writing reflections on their performance experiences. The issues of intersecting cultures covered by these discussions, tests, writings, and performances equip student to engage effectively in these regional, national, and global communities.

Please be aware that instructors should be prepared to submit samples/examples of student work as part of the future course recertification process.