I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: MUSC 102: Introduction to Music

B. New or Modified Course: modified

C. Date of Proposal or Revision: Semester: Fall Year: 2014

D. Sponsoring Department: Visual and Performing Arts

E. Semester Credit Hours: 3

F. Weekly Contact Hours: 3 Lecture: 3 Laboratory: 0

G. Prerequisites: None

H. Laboratory Fees: None

I. VAPA Chair: Dennis Russo, Co-Chair, Performing Arts (908) 526-1200 x8391, drusso@raritanval.edu

II. Catalog Description

Introduction to Music is for students with little or no previous musical background as well as for beginning music majors. This course is recommended as an introductory course designed to increase the student’s enjoyment and understanding of music. Students will learn enhanced listening skills with which to experience both recorded and live performances; they will learn to approach music as both an intellectual and an emotional activity; they will learn about music’s historical, sociological, cultural, and biographical contexts; and they will gain knowledge of the many traditions of music: art and folk music, Western (European classical) and non-Western (World) music, and American (classical, jazz, and popular) music. Attendance at live performances is required.
III. Statement of Course Need

A. Sometimes titled “Music Appreciation,” this course is a standard offering at virtually all two- and four-year colleges and universities. This course reflects a broad world music concept as well as addresses the needs of beginning music majors.  
B. Course transferability: Based on the evaluations of this course at the NJ transfer.org website, Introduction to Music transfers to most colleges as a General Education course in the Arts and Humanities, as an Arts elective, or as a Free elective.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

A. Free Elective  
B. This course serves as a General Education course in the Humanities and Appreciation of the Arts.  
C. This course is a program requirement for AFA Music, AA Liberal Arts Music Option, and AFA Dance.  
D. This course can serve as a VAPA elective for AAS Early Childhood Education.  
E. To see course transferability for New Jersey colleges and universities, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; for other colleges and universities, go to the individual college website.

V. Outline of Course Content

A. The Nature of Music: Music and Learning - Listening to Music  
   Sound and Time: Pitch and Rhythm  
   Melody, Harmony, Timbre, Texture, Dynamics, Tempo, Form  
B. Performance Media: Voices and Instruments  
   Solo and ensemble combinations  
C. An historical survey of the history of Western Music from the Middle Ages to the present will be outlined, focusing on significantly representative composers, pieces and styles.  
D. Music covered will include classical, folk, World Music, and significant genres in American 20th Century music, including jazz, the musical, popular music, fusion and contemporary styles.

VI. General Educational Goals and Learning Outcomes

A. General Educational Goals:

The student will:

1. demonstrate both orally and in writing an appreciation of the art of music, through the historical study and cultural perspectives of Western art music,
significant American musical contributions and aspects of World music. (GE-NJ 1, 6, 7, *)
2. use general and/or discipline-specific information sources to better identify, determine and apply research or information need. (GE-NJ IL)

B. Learning Outcomes:

The student will be able to:
1. demonstrate general knowledge of major composers, musical trends and representative works from the history of Western and World music.
2. recognize musical style characteristics such as classical, folk, popular, jazz, and world music.
3. identify musical devices and processes that are common to all types of music.
4. critique a musical piece with description of its general characteristics.
5. research, write and present a selected project relevant to the course content.

(* embedded critical thinking)

VII. Modes of Teaching and Learning

A. lecture/discussion
B. guided exercises in listening to various musical styles
C. attendance at live performances
D. student presentations, research projects, critiques

VIII. Papers, Examinations, and other Assessment Instruments

A. Exams:
1. Written – knowledge of composers, historical context, style characteristics, musical vocabulary
2. Listening - recognition and description of assigned listening examples and style characteristics
B. Written essay and presentation of a selected research project relevant to course content (required)

IX. Grade Determinants

A. Exams and Quizzes (written and listening)
B. Completion of written research reports and oral presentations
C. Attendance/Participation

X. Texts and Materials

Package will include coordinated musical selections on 4 CDs.
XI. Resources

A. Soundproof music classroom with piano
B. Classroom stereo and media systems