I. GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COMPETENCIES:

A. Critical Thinking: Students will evaluate the validity of their own and others’ ideas through questioning, analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating results into the creative process.

B. Communication/Interpersonal: Students will develop effective reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills to communicate verbally and nonverbally.

C. Scientific and Mathematical Literacy: Students will apply an understanding of mathematical, natural, and behavioral scientific principles and methods to solve abstract and practical problems.

D. Information Literacy: Students will develop the information literacy skills to confidently and competently locate, use, and evaluate information.

E. Cultural Literacy: Students will develop an appreciation of human culture and its diversity and the role of the creative arts in society.

II. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Understanding music through the study of cultural periods, major composers, and musical elements. Illustrated with audio recordings and live performances. Designed for non-music majors. Special Fee: $2.00; Internet Enrollment Special Fee: $60.00

III. REQUIRED BACKGROUND:

None

IV. TEXTS, OTHER REFERENCE MATERIALS:

Traditional Lecture Class:
CDs of music for listening outside class time
COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: MUSI 1306 Music Appreciation

Internet Class:

V. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Assigned reading of text and research materials, lectures (in-class or online), guided listening sessions, discussions (in class or in online forum), concert attendance or independent listening assignments.

Students desiring auxiliary aids and services for this course should make their requests to the instructor and the Special Services Director.

VI. COURSE CONTENT:

The goal of this course is very simple: To provide the student with the tools for a basic understanding of music. It will not make you a musician or teach you how to write music. It will, however, give you the necessary background to understand what is going on technically when you are listening to music so that your experience is not limited to a wash of sound that evokes a certain feeling.

The course will concentrate on:
The development of an attentive style of listening
The introduction and systematic study of the building blocks of music
Enhancing awareness of the main musical styles of selected western and non-western cultures, and
A brief overview of the main periods of music history

VII. LEARNER OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course each student should be able to:

1. Identify the elements that make up musical sound and its organization.
2. Relate each element to the musical whole.
3. Outline major historical milestones of the Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and 20th Century time periods.
4. Relate music to its roots in each period’s social environment.
5. Identify music by its style period through informed listening.
6. Compare and contrast music from various style periods.
7. Describe aspects of a specific piece of music using appropriate musical vocabulary.
8. Pursue topics beyond the scope of the text by effectively using research materials.
9. Critique live performances of music and reach informed judgments of the quality and effectiveness of the performances.
VIII. ASSESSMENT:

Course grades will be derived from a variety of assessment instruments. These will include:
A. Written Exams
B. Assignments completed outside class
C. Critiques of live concerts or approved independent listening assignments
D. Intelligent listening-based Final Exam

The student must earn an average of 65 or above to pass this course. The final numerical average will be converted to a letter grade using the following system:

- A = 90-100
- B = 80-89
- C = 70-79
- D = 65-69
- F = Any grade below 65

Vernon College does not discriminate on the basis of color, race, gender, age, religion, national origin, or disability.