

University of Waterloo: Conrad Grebel College

MUSIC 246: Soundtracks

Winter 2019

Evening Section

Instructor: Simon Wood

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Course Objective: Music 246 is a historical and aesthetic survey of the styles, trends, and important figures in the development of narrative film music, from the invention of moving pictures to the present day. The course will also include a discussion of the technical process of creating film music, as well as a review of the role of popular music in film.

Required Texts:

Roger Hickman, Reel Music: Exploring 100 Years of Film Music: 2nd Edition (New York: WW Norton, 2017).

Methods of Evaluation:

Assessment	Weighting	Date
Term Test I	25%	Tuesday October 8 th at 7:00 pm
Term Test II	30%	Tuesday November 12 th at 7:00 pm
Final Examination	45%	TBA during the December Exam Period

Term Test:

The written tests and exams will consist of multiple-choice questions. The questions will be drawn from readings, viewing assignments and lectures (thus it is essential that you attend class!). There will be no deferred writing of tests and exams without medical or similar certification. **If you miss a test, notify me at once through email.** A deferred test will be arranged within one week of the original date.

Final Examination:

The final exam is scheduled by the registrar's office. Students are warned that travel arrangements should not be made until the exam date is posted, as no deferred exams will be granted for anything other than health or family emergencies.

Please note that all marks are final – adjustments or deferred test/examinations will only be granted in the case of documented illness or family emergency.

Viewing:

Students must view one film every week, as indicated in the Course Schedule. Questions will be posted on the course web site that will act as a guide to your viewing. Most of these films can be found through on-line streaming services, are available from the local public library, and all can be found in the Conrad Grebel Music Library. The films are central to the course and will feature in the midterm test and final exam.

Web Page: This course will make use of a WATERLOO LEARN website. This site will provide general information for the course, study guides and grades for term tests. Important announcements such as the cancellation of class due to illness will also be posted there, so please try to check the site before each class, just in case.

Please Note: While the class is too large to take attendance each week, lectures are considered MANDATORY.

The general Faculty and University policy:

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4.

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals.

Other sources of information for students:

Academic Integrity website (Arts)

Academic Integrity Office (UWaterloo)

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Note for students with disabilities: The AccessAbility Services office, located in Needles Hall Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.

Course Outline:

Course topics and readings:

Week 1, 2 and 3: Course Introduction, What to Listen For in Film / Technical Details, How It's Done / Early History, The Silent Era

Reading: Chapters 1-8

Week 4: The Birth of Sound, and the Orchestra in Hollywood:

Viewing: *The Adventures of Robin Hood* (1938)

Reading: Chapters 9 and 10

Week 5: Film Music Comes of Age (1940-1950):

Viewing: *Laura* (1944)

Readings: Chapter 11 to 13

Week 6: The 1950s and Hitchcock/Herrmann:

Viewing: *Psycho* (1960)

Readings: Chapters 14 and 15

Week 7: The 1960s/Goldsmith:

Viewing: *Planet of the Apes* (1968)

Readings: Chapters 17 and 18

Week 8: The 1970s/Williams:

Viewing: *Jaws* (1975)

Readings: Chapters 19 to 21

Week 9: The 1980s/Horner:

Viewing: *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan* (1982)

Readings: Chapters 23 to 25

Week 10: The 90s:

Viewing: *Edward Scissorhands* (1990)

Reading: Chapters 22 and 27

Week 11: Current Trends:

Viewing: *Inception* (2010)

Reading: Chapters 26, 29 and 30

Week 12: (Time Permitting) Music For Television:

Viewing and Readings TBA