**Music Department**
**Texas A&M University - Commerce**
**Syllabus for MUS 595.001 – Research Literature and Techniques**
**Fall 2014**

**Mission Statement**
The Music Department of Texas A&M University – Commerce promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

**Instructor:** Dr. Julee Kim Walker
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(903) 886-5328
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Office Hours: Posted outside room 219 or by appointment

**Librarian:**
Megan K. Beard, MLIS
Research & Instruction Librarian for CHSSA
Gee Library Office #217
903-886-5719
Megan.Beard@tamuc.edu

**Texts:**
*Introduction to Music Research by Ruth Watanabe
*A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations by Kate L. Turabian
*Music Reference and Research by Vincent Duckels
*Writing About Music by Richard Wingell
*How to Design and Evaluate Research in Education by Jack R. Fraenkel and Norman E. Wallen
*Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Fifth Edition
*Technical Communication in the Information Age by Brenda R. Sims

*Denotes on Reserve at TAMU-C Gee Library

**University**
All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment *(Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct.)*

## Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**
**Texas A&M University-Commerce**
**Gee Library**

**Room 132**
**Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835**
**Fax (903) 468-8148**
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

**Student Learning Objectives:** Upon completion of the curriculum,

1) Students will learn how to effectively query the library's database.
2) Students will learn how to write in scholarly style culminating in a 12-15 page paper on a topic of interest to them and approved by the instructor.
3) Students will become acquainted with the library's general resources for research and specific resources for music research by writing annotations on specified items.
4) Students will become acquainted with historical as well as modern musicological publications and research through the writing of annotations on specified items in the library and through classroom lectures.

**Course Description and Expectations:**

MUS 595 Research Literature and Techniques: Bibliographical material, library resources, and research techniques applicable to graduate study in music will be surveyed. Be prepared to spend some quality time in the library.

**Attendance:**
Students are expected to attend classes. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor in advance of a legitimate absence, and to secure any assignments from instructor or other students. After 2 unexcused absences, **your final grade will be dropped by one (1) full letter grade**.

**Grading:**
Students will be evaluated on a percentage basis from the following areas:

1. Assignments: **30%** of the final semester grade.
2. Annotated Bibliography Project: **30%** of the final semester grade.
3. Final Project: Research Topic Proposal (Mini-Thesis): **40%** of the final semester grade.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to make exceptions and adjustments to the course policies on a case-by-case basis, to accommodate particular circumstances.

**Academic Dishonesty:**

This course demands a high level of scholarly behavior and academic honesty on the part of students. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: (1) turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or instructor without obtaining permission from this instructor in advance; (2) turning in another person's work, in part or in whole, as your own; (3) copying from professional works without citing them; and (4) any form of cheating on exams. **Students found to have committed academic dishonesty will automatically receive a failing grade for the course and face possible expulsion from the university.**

You are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty while pursuing your academic goal(s). The university's statement on academic honesty is found in the Texas A&M

University-Commerce Procedures, A13.12, Academic Honesty.

Academic dishonesty is defined in the following manner: "Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material."

**TENTATIVE Course Outline**

*Reading Assignments will be assigned as the course progresses.

**WEEK**

**Week 1 – 8/26**

Welcome; Introduction to the Course; Syllabus
Assignment: SCAVENGER HUNT
Brainstorm and choose Research Proposal (Mini-Thesis) Topics

**Week 2 – 9/2**

Library Introduction: Meet in Library Classroom 230
Explore Online Resources and Journal
**Scavenger Hunt DUE via email**
**Research Proposal (Mini-Thesis) topics for feedback DUE via email**

**Week 3 – 9/9**

**Finalized Research Topic DUE**
Discuss Research Proposal Topics
Introduce Parts of a Paper
Primary vs Secondary Sources
Scholarly Articles; How to find, research, and discuss
Assignment: Article Abstract #1; assign Annotated Bibliography list Part 1; Reading Assignment

**Week 4 – 9/16 (Class will NOT meet)**

Assignment: Bibliography for Research Topic Proposal; Continue Annotated Bibliography list Part 1; Reading Assignment

**Week 5 – 9/23 (Class will NOT meet)**

**Article Abstract #1 DUE; Bibliography for Research Topic Proposal DUE (via email)**
Assignment: Reading Assignment

**Week 6 - 9/30**

Discuss Article Abstracts
Annotation Format: MLA vs. APA
Finding and Inserting Musical Examples; how to use KIC scanner
Assignment: Continue Annotated Bibliography Part 1; Work on Musical Examples in Research Proposal; Reading Assignment

**Week 7 – 10/7 (Class will NOT meet)**

**Week 8 – 10/14 (Class will NOT meet)**

**First Draft Research Proposal DUE (with Musical Examples)**
Individual meetings to discuss Research Proposal
Assignment: Reading Assignment

**Week 9 – 10/21**

**Annotated Bibliography Part #1 DUE**
Assignment: Article Abstract #2; assign Annotated Bibliography, Part 2

**Week 10 – 10/28**

**Second Draft Research Topic Proposal DUE**
Peer critique day

**Week 11 – 11/4 (Class will NOT meet)**

**Article Abstract #2 DUE**
Introduce Review of Literature; Choose topic
Assignment: Review of Literature (ROL)
Continue working on Topic Proposal Mini-Thesis

**Week 12 – 11/11**

**ROL DUE**
What is the IRB?

**Week 13 – 11/18**

**Week 14 – 11/25 (Class will NOT meet)**

Topic Proposal (Mini-Thesis) Individual meetings as needed.
**Annotated Bibliography Part 2 DUE (via email)**

**Week 15 – 12/2 (Class will NOT meet)**

Work final touches on Mini-Thesis. Individual meetings as needed.

**Finals Week – 12/9 (Class will have end of the year gathering)**

**FINAL DRAFT (Final Exam) Topic Proposal (Mini-Thesis) DUE**
Please **print** a Final Draft and turn it in to myself. Please also email me a copy.