



GRADUATE INDEPENDENT STUDY: Research in Music Education

MUS 589

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University Mission Statement

Texas A&M University-Commerce nurtures and educates for success through access to academic, research, and service programs of high quality.

Music Department 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.

Course Description

Independent Study in Music Education affords graduate students the opportunity to pursue special interests or research not treated in the regular curriculum. The student will conduct in-depth research on a topic pertinent in music education, and craft a final project.

Course Outcomes

The student will complete a rigorous activity with the aid of the instructor who approves the

project, directs the independent study, and evaluates the product of the study. The activity may include, but is not limited to, conducting a research project, preparing a paper for publication, crafting a series of lessons on a particular topic, participating in a unique learning opportunity, or producing a performance. All independent studies must result in some tangible product, such as a paper, a DVD, a publication, an internet resource, etc. The student will meet with the instructor regularly to discuss progress, and brainstorm ideas about revision and reorganization.

Assignments

Over the course of the semester, the student will complete each step of the process by the dates determined between instructor and student.

These steps will help the student stay on track in completing this project, but will also determine the grade at the end of the project.

Below is an example of the steps needed to submit a thesis:

1. Identify a workable, relevant, and realistic research idea.
2. Submit a PROPOSAL FOR INDEPENDENT STUDY IN MUSIC EDUCATION form.
3. Complete and submit an Internal Review Board (IRB) proposal, if needed.
4. Complete the Introduction Page.
5. Complete the Literature Review. (2-3 pages)
6. Complete the Methodology section.
7. Complete the Bibliography Page.
8. Submit the rough draft.
9. Submit the finished project.

Technology Requirements

The student will need access to the University library's electronic features, as well as to a word processor and printer.

Course Evaluation

Grades are based on individual meeting participation, timely assignment completion, and quality of work.

Students Requesting Accommodations Due to 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

Musician Health and Safety

Valuable information and resources are provided on the Music Education website to assist the musician in the prevention of injury and to provide a resource for discovering information about injury assessment and injury recovery.

For more information, go here:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/music/musicianHealthSafety.aspx>

Attendance Policy

Class meetings will be determined by the student and the instructor. Attendance is expected at every class meeting.

Classroom Expectations

All students are expected to follow the Tenets of Common Decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. These tenets are outlined in the *Student's Guide Handbook* under "Policies and Procedures: Conduct." The tenets also apply to all communication to me outside the classroom.

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Borrowing Materials

Students have free access to all my personal books, CDs, and teaching materials. Several of these items will be placed under reserve in the library. These items are for use in the library only. Simply present your student ID card at the front desk.

If you would like to borrow a resource overnight that I keep in my office, simply sign the ***Resource Checkout*** book in my office. Since other students may need the same item, please return any item you borrow the following class session.

If a resource checked out to you is lost or damaged, you are expected to replace it as soon as possible. If you fail to do so before the end of the semester, **a hold will be placed on your account and you will receive an Incomplete for this course.**

Please take care that you observe the copyright laws, and the limits of fair use.

Academic Honesty

It is expected that you will exhibit ethical behavior concerning your work in this class. Students are expected to do their own work, use their own words in papers, and to reference outside sources appropriately. Failure to uphold the standards of academic honesty will result in the appropriate disciplinary action.

