

Syllabus: MUET 3020 Popular Music in American Culture - Section 002(Spring 2007)

Section Information: Section 002(Spring 2007)

Course Name MUET 3020 Popular Music in American Culture

Course Description MUET 3020 Popular Music in American Culture

Welcome to MUET 3020 (the best course you'll ever take!)

MUET 3020 satisfies the Cross-Cultural, Diversity, and Global-Studies component of the University Core Curriculum.

Regarding this Syllabus

FACT 1: Copyright law is an ever-changing nightmare, with small but significant differences in how we may present music examples in the face-to-face environment, by internet, and via podcast.

FACT 2: "You" are liable to be fined \$750 per song for an illegal download, but these infractions result in chump-change for the record industry. MY infractions, at \$750 per song x 354 examples per semester x 800+ students per semester are worth monitoring very closely by the record industry which often has a representative enrolled as a "student" (= watchdog).

We must proceed cautiously and with very clear guidelines about how we comply with US copyright law; hence, you have a syllabus that simultaneously addresses the small but significant differences in how we present music examples our face-to-face, internet, and podcast sections.

If you are enrolled in a face-to-face section (MUET 3020-001 or -002), simply ignore those sections of the syllabus that clearly relate to the internet and podcast students; if you enrolled in an internet section (MUET 3020-200) or a podcast section (MUET 3020-300), simply ignore those sections of the syllabus that relate to "attendance" and "in-class operations."

Technical Difficulties

Make a print copy of this syllabus "now." Otherwise, you won't know what to do if you experience a problem.

Click "expand all" and then go to the bottom of the page and click "printable view" and then print this file.

If you have technical difficulty with WebCT"Vista," call the WebCTVista Helpdesk at (940) 565-2324. Course instructors cannot access the system to isolate any technical problem or provide technical assistance.

Do not accept the "quick-fix" response that "the instructor must have blocked you from the course." I never block anyone from accessing the course content, tests, or exams. If you've been blocked, you've been blocked by the Office of the Registrar or the Bursar's Office for non-payment.

Academic Mission

MUET 3020 is an examination of distinct styles of popular music – and prejudices – found in our society between the years 1880 and 2007. We will address these issues via three content units: Tin Pan Alley, Rural & Electric Blues, and Rural & Electric Country along with a healthy dose of vintage and contemporary Pop-Rock, etc.

Music and its song-texts both reflect and impact a society; by examining these recorded examples in their historical context, we can come to understand much about our culture that is omitted – for various reasons – from history textbooks.

Using music as the historical vehicle, we will discuss how prejudices are formed and perpetuated by small groups of individuals, by the entertainment industry, by the corporate industry, and by the United States government – leading us, often in subtle ways, to think "this way" or "that way."

Central to our investigation will be issues of "freedom of speech" and "artistic freedom" vs. the good of our society-at-large. Consequently, some of these song-texts and some of our text material will contain references, language, and/or content that some persons may find to be vulgar, controversial, or blasphemous; some of this material will be offensively prejudicial against minorities, contain highly explicit sexual references, or advocate rape, the killing of police officers, etc. Please note that ALL of these song-texts have been freely broadcast on public radio stations.

Mandatory Log-In Confirmation

You MUST confirm your initial log-in via completion of "Sample Test One." This test will be posted no later than 8:00 a.m. on Monday, 22 January; you must complete Sample Test One no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, 29 January. If you do not complete Sample Test One by this time and you do not drop the class by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, 23 February, you will be dropped from the class with a grade of WF on Monday, 26 February.

Completion of the Sample Test indicates that you have read and understand the syllabus; all of the questions on the Sample Test are based on material from the syllabus.

You will be given five (5) attempts to score an "A" on this Sample Test; only the highest grade will be recorded. Questions will be selected automatically from a pool of questions, so READ THE SYLLABUS (again) before your second attempt.

Be sure, also, that you know how to find your on-line e-mail (icon) and your on-line gradebook (icon).

Mandatory Cultural-Diversity Pre-Test

You MUST confirm that you are a participating member in the class and that you have acquired a new (no photocopies!) workbook via the completion of the "Cultural-Diversity Pre-Test."

This pre-test is in your workbook; you must complete and mail your pre-test so that I receive it no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, 29 January. If I do not receive your pre-test by this time and you do not drop the class by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, 23 February, you will be dropped from the class with a grade of WF on Monday, 26 February.

Mailing information is in the workbook; you will know that we've received your pre-test by checking the appropriate column in your on-line gradebook on 5 February (by which time we hope to have all of these entered).

Class Format

The class format is interactive-lecture with audio and video examples, supplemented by an on-line textbook.

Because of the size of the class and because this class will be podcast "live" to other sections of MUET 3020, "live" class interaction is not within our format.

In addition to in-class presentations, supplemental internet text will be posted, in segments, to parallel our in-class progress; links to music examples will be disabled. Due to copyright law, you'll be able to hear the music only "in class," but you will continue have full access to the text, throughout the semester, in an on-line version.

The content on this website will remind you of the VH1 pop-up videos – text, and then extra-information boxes in tan. Links to more in-depth information appear in blue and with underline, "books" are in script type, "movies" are preceded by a small box (like a movie screen), and "television shows" are preceded by a little box of three horizontal lines. As you might expect, "music" examples are preceded by an icon of music notes.

Note that MUET 3020 will be under massive reconstruction during Spring 07, and that some of the music examples may not be accessible. These examples will be preceded by "[UPLOAD]."

**** STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE INTERNET & PODCAST SECTIONS ****

INTERNET SECTIONS: Internet text, with active music links, will be posted, in segments, to parallel our in-class progress. Once we complete that content unit, the text will remain posted but the links to music examples will be disabled, and then we'll begin posting internet text and active music links for the next content unit. Due to copyright law, you will be able to hear the music only "within that content unit," but you will continue to have full access to the text, throughout the semester, in an on-line version.

PODCAST SECTIONS: In addition to my in-class presentations (which you will hear via "podcast") . . . supplemental internet text will be posted, in segments, to parallel our in-class progress; links to music examples have been disabled. Due to copyright law, you will be able to hear the music only "via podcast" and "within that content unit." Once we complete that content unit, these podcasts will be disabled, and then we'll begin posting the next series of podcasts for the next content unit. You will, however, continue to have full access to the text, throughout the semester, in an on-line version. Note that our "podcasts" can NOT be downloaded to your IPOD or to your computer.

PODCAST SECTIONS: Copyright law requires that each of you be assigned individual passwords to access the podcast. Via the e-mail system on this website, on Monday, 22 January I will send you your password and information about how to log on to the podcast.

My Responsibilities

I hope that you will leave this course knowing a LOT of "stuff" about which you never thought you had an interest.

Whether you learn much about "music" is of relatively little concern to me. A university education is not about memorizing facts, but about teaching you how to QUESTION . . . to THINK . . . to REASON . . . and to WONDER.

Your Responsibilities

You will not be permitted to come to class and snore through the lectures; to skim through the internet text only to see "what's on the test" shows that you don't belong in college.

To read all of the supplementary text-boxes, to listen to all of the music, and to open all of my links is the BAREST MINIMUM of what I expect.

To follow all of the links on those new pages, and then to wonder enough about "this" or "that" to follow all of THOSE links is what it means to be taking responsibility for your own "education."

(Unfortunately, I can't beat it into you. You have to want to do it . . . not for me, but for yourself.)

Audits & Observers

We do not provide free or reduced-rate instruction; each student must enroll as a regular member of the class.

Attendance

Regular attendance is expected. Three class absences (i.e., three 50-minute class periods) may be taken without penalty; a 4th absence automatically lowers the final grade by one letter; a 5th absence automatically lowers the final grade by an additional letter. You fail at the 6th absence regardless of your "point" standing in the class or your score on the final.

If you are not sitting in your assigned seat once I begin speaking – you are absent.

Attendance is taken at the beginning of each class session via a sign-in sheet. The sheet will come from your right; sign it IMMEDIATELY and then IMMEDIATELY pass it to your left.

If you do not sign the sign-in sheet – you are absent. There is no exception; there is no appeal.

N.B., except in the case of an official university-excused absence (university team travel, class observation in the public school, etc.) . . . if you e-mail (or telephone) to say that you were absent / will be absent you will be marked with a DOUBLE absence!

Be aware that "illness" is NOT a university-excused absence (see below).

All items related to attendance should be directed to Mr. Hodges (see below).

Note that your future employment is like Popular Music in American Culture – don't take the job if you don't like the company policy.

Note that your future employment is like Popular Music in American Culture – you don't get paid unless you show up.

Note that your future employment is like Popular Music in American – no one is interested in your excuses.

**** STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE INTERNET & PODCAST SECTIONS ****

There are NO face-to-face meetings for students enrolled in the internet and podcast sections of MUET 3020. This does not mean, however, that you're on "flex time." Log on to check the homepage for announcements and to read my e-mails AT LEAST once per week. "I didn't know" = "I didn't bother to log on."

Late Entrance

Tuition, much like a bus ticket, guarantees only that a seat will be available; tuition does not guarantee that the bus will wait for you. The bus leaves at the beginning of the hour; BE ON IT!

You are expected to be in class for the duration of each class; each partial class is considered a full absence. There is no exception; there is no appeal.

Although you are absent (i.e., not permitted to sign the roll sheet), you may enter and attend class (i.e., learn something) if the door remains open. Enter from the back, and then sit at the back of the lecture hall. Do not disrupt the class by moving to your regular seat.

N.B., once class has begun (i.e., once I begin speaking), if you enter through the lower (front) doors of the lecture hall you will be marked with a DOUBLE absence!

The pencil sharpener is "off limits" once the course instructor has arrived.

The drinking fountain is "off limits" once the course instructor has arrived.

Blocked Entrance

The door to the classroom may be secured at the beginning of the session; in this case, for safety reasons (darkened room), students are not permitted to enter once the class has begun (i.e., once I begin speaking).

Do not disturb an in-session class by knocking on the door that has been secured. You will not be admitted. If you persist, you will be removed by UNT police and referred to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action.

Early Departure

Although you are absent (i.e., signature crossed off the roll sheet), you may leave class early (i.e., learn less) by exiting through the upper (back) doors.

You must, however, show your student ID to the teaching assistant upon departing the room and, once you leave don't come back.

Failure to follow this procedure will be considered academic misconduct and will be addressed with penalties of (a) automatic failure in the course and (b) referral to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action.

Use the restroom before you come to class (because once you leave don't come back). If you need an exception to this policy, you must provide – in advance – a letter from your physician; in this case, we will seat you by the exit for your personal safety and so that you will not disturb other class members.

Required Textbook & Clicker

A required MUET 3020 workbook, shrink-wrapped with a Turning Point clicker, is available at the UNT Bookstore. If you do not have a clicker and a new copy (no photocopies!) of this workbook by Friday, 19 January – you are absent.

Please note that Mr. Hodges will often take "attendance" by (a) having you submit a particular page from your workbook or (b) via a clicker response.

**** STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE INTERNET & PODCAST SECTIONS ****

Buy the workbook WITHOUT the clicker!

Class Expectations

You are expected to be prepared and to participate in class activity (= active note-taking related to THIS class) by completing a workbook – the only material on your desk – as the lecture progresses. If you are ill-prepared for this activity – you are absent.

You are expected to bring your clicker, your workbook, and a working pen or sharpened pencil to every class. If you arrive without these materials – you are absent.

If you are not actively taking notes in your workbook – you are absent.

Do not bring other materials to class if you might be tempted to focus on something other than my lectures or videos about the history of popular music, because . . . if you are not actively participating in this class – you are absent.

Do not bring the North Texas Daily, similar reading material, your CD player, your MP3 or IPOD, or your laptop to class. If you have an open laptop, are reading a newspaper or magazine, working on another class assignment, wearing headphones, sending wireless e-mails to your mom, sleeping, etc. – you are absent.

If you are gabbing with your neighbor – you are absent.

No hats, hoods, ballcaps, doo-rags, sunglasses etc. are permitted; we study at the university, not "in the hood." See the instructor if you need a religious (hijab, etc. = perfectly acceptable) or medical exception, because . . . if you are wearing any of the above during class – you are absent.

To ensure that we adhere to fire code, do not bring your instrument (get a locker) or your bicycle etc. to class; do not leave anything, including backpacks, sitting in the aisle.

Turn your cell phone OFF (not merely to "silent" or "vibrate"). If you are using your cell phone or text-messaging during class – you are absent.

N.B., if your cell phone rings during a lecture or video presentation you will be marked with a DOUBLE absence!

Web Tests & Exams

Not all course content can be presented "live" in the face-to-face experience. Read the website.

All tests and exams in MUET 3020 are completed "on-line," through WebCTVista.

Unit exam dates and times are announced in class and on the homepage of MUET 3020 (the first thing that you see when you log on) at least one week in advance; exam will be available from Friday noon until midnight the following Monday. "I didn't know" is NOT an excuse. If you "didn't know" it's because you "didn't listen" and "didn't read."

Yes, class still meets during the days that testing is in progress.

Many of the exam questions are taken from the workbook, but not all exam questions come from the workbook; do not expect to see these questions in the exact format or wording.

It is imperative that you pay attention to the lectures, read the posted material, use your fill-in-the-blank workbook, read the links, and listen to the music BEFORE attempting the exam. Bear in mind that you will NOT have time to flip back through the screens or through your workbook to "find the answer."

Not all students receive the same exam. Questions for a specific exam are randomly selected by the system from a bank of questions related to the particular content unit.

DO NOT BE ALARMED if you see "68"(?) questions on a "60"-question exam; this is merely the system selecting 60 questions from a databank. The system WILL select "60" questions for a "60"-question exam, but the numbering might be off.

Each unit exam is comprehensive, over the material in that content unit. Exams consist of 60 multiple-choice questions "timed" at one minute per question, and must be completed within a particular time frame.

Please be aware that if you do not save and submit your answers within the time frame, these answers are not scored. Watch the timer!

To preclude unscrupulous students from printing off and selling copies of the exams to other unscrupulous students, a "corrected version" will not be available for on-line viewing after you submit your answers. If you would like to schedule a post-exam consultation to review your answers, please make an appointment with Mr. Huff (see below).

Technical Failure

In fairness to other students, I cannot separate legitimate excuses from the patently ridiculous, and I can't tell who might have logged on, printed off the exam, spent two days looking up the answers, and who now wants to take a re-test after experiencing "technical difficulties."

There is NO excuse for failure to complete your exam(s).

There can be NO resetting or extension of any exam for any reason short of WebCTVista experiencing a university-wide system failure (not just "your" computer).

I can NOT accept e-mailed cut-and-paste submissions; a "note from a lab monitor" (or your electric company) can NOT be accepted as an excuse.

When you enter WebCTVista you will be instructed to run a browser check and to

disable pop-up blockers; failure to do so will result in "crash and burn." Do not assume that the unit you used in the computer lab "last week" (the one that worked "just fine") hasn't been reset by someone since your last visit.

The system DOES work extremely well. 99.98% of all "technical failures" are due to the student not taking the time to run the browser check or disable pop-up blockers.

All is not lost if you "crash-and-burn" on one of the unit exams due to a "technical failure"; you can still score an "A" in this class via the (optional) final exam.

Smoking

Stop.

University policy prohibits smoking within the building.

Consumption of Food & Beverage

College of Music policy permits the consumption of food and/or beverage at the discretion of the course instructor.

Please deposit all trash in the appropriate receptacle at the end of each class session.

Special Needs

The College of Music complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodation for qualified students with disability. If you have an established disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act and would like to request accommodation, please discuss this with the course instructor no later than Friday, 19 January.

Illness

Illness is NOT a university-excused absence!

You are permitted three "vacation days"; use them wisely. These days are for illness, personal or family emergencies (e.g., death in the family), car trouble, etc. If you experience an extended absence from the class, it is only logical that you would withdraw from the class.

N.B., if you bring a note from the UNT Health Center you will be marked with a DOUBLE absence!

There are NO MAKE-UPS for illness, personal or family emergencies, car breakdowns, etc. DO NOT ASK! As explained above, you are permitted three "vacation days." THESE are the days you should save for illness, personal or family emergencies (e.g., death in the family), car trouble, etc.

Do not take your three "vacation days" and then be upset when you can't get "more" even for a legitimate emergency.

Do not blame the instructor when you can't get "more." This shows only that you don't belong in college.

Extra Credit

Each long semester, MUET 3020 hosts a College of Music "block party" at the Dallas Hard Rock Café. We typically hire three bands; just over 1000 students and friends from the UNT popular music classes attended the Fall 06 event. There is no cover charge; you are not required to purchase any food or drink.

Hard Rock Spring 2007: 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. Monday, 23 April (tentative).

Part 1A: You will be provided with a list of questions – in the form of a "scavenger hunt" – related to the people and events that are discussed in MUET 3020. You must complete all questions on this worksheet in order to receive credit; visitors, roommates, and significant others (see below) are welcome to assist you. You will receive two absence credits for completing this packet

(or)

If you have "perfect attendance," 10 points will be added to your pre-final point tally; however, the two absence credits you receive for attending the HR Party will not, however, give you "perfect attendance" if you have already missed class.

Part 2: Visitors, roommates, and significant others are welcome. You will receive two points credit for each visitor (maximum of 20 points added to your pre-final tally) that you bring to this event.

Part 3: You (personally) will be awarded 5 additional points to your pre-final tally if your composition of a "blues text" is selected as one of the winners. If you (personally) perform your blues text with the band, each person in your class section will have 5 additional points awarded to his or her pre-final tally.

** STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE INTERNET & PODCAST SECTIONS **

You will receive 10 points added to your pre-final tally for attending the HR Party; you will receive two additional points for each visitor (maximum of 20 points) that you bring to this event; you will receive 5 additional points if we get a student from any of the face-to-face sections to volunteer to sing.

If you (a) live 51 miles or more from Denton and (b) are not enrolled in any face-to-face class on the UNT Denton campus, and (c) cannot attend our party at the HR – you will automatically receive 10 extra points added to your pre-final tally.

Notification of Conflict w/ Hard Rock Party

Later – NOT NOW! – I will ask you to inform Mr. Hodges about any situation that would allow us to give you the extra credit without your being in attendance.

Note that there will be a deadline to inform Mr. Hodges, in advance, of this conflict.

Please note that this is NOT "now."

Additional Extra Credit

No other extra-credit opportunity is available. Simply do the work that you're supposed to be doing.

Grades

Grades are automatically entered into your on-line gradebook as you progress through the course; be aware that your gradebook records your accumulated "points," NOT "percentages." To calculate your percentage on a 60-point exam, multiply $\times 90\% = A$, $80\% = B$, etc.

The pre-final point tally is based on a percentage of points accumulated on the Sample Test (10 points), the Pre-Test and the Post-Test (10 points; must complete both), and the three unit exams (Tin Pan Alley, Blues, & Country; each worth 60 points) + extra credit.

You will see your pre-final point tally – as well as the corresponding pre-final letter grade – in your on-line gradebook.

Your pre-final letter grade is based on the percentage of points accumulated TOWARD A SEMESTER TOTAL. You will see an "F" in this column until nearly the end of the semester.

N.B., if you ask – prior to completing the Country exam – why your pre-final letter grade still shows an "F," I will lower your final grade by one letter.

Following this pre-final letter grade will be a column for "bad attendance." If you see a "4," your final grade will be lowered by one letter; "5" will lower the grade by two letters; you will automatically fail the course at "6" absences.

Early Completion of MUET 3020

I expect to complete the three main content units – Tin Pan Alley, Blues, and Country (as well as their unit exams) – prior to Dead Week. After this, we will continue with "Rhythm & Blues to Rock & Roll" and "Manipulation & Prejudice" in the face-to-face sections, with mandatory attendance; the internet sections and the podcast sections, however, will be "done" as of this point except for the (optional) final exam.

Optional Final Exam

If your pre-final grade is less than your grade on the comprehensive 100-question / 100-minute final exam, you receive the grade you score on that final exam as your final grade in MUET 3020 (completely disregarding your pre-final points).

If your pre-final grade is greater than your grade on the comprehensive final exam, you receive your pre-final grade as your final grade (completely disregarding the final examination). Unless you are already receiving an "A" in the class, you would be foolish skip the final exam.

In other words, the grade you receive on the final exam can raise – but not lower – your final grade in MUET 3020. But remember! If you see a "4," your final grade will be lowered by one letter; "5" will lower the grade by two letters; you will automatically fail the course at "6" absences.

Your pre-final grade and your grade on the final exam are NOT "added together," but are completely separate from one another. You receive either the former, or the latter.

Please remember that the final exam is a "Hail Mary" exam – an exam that you would take ONLY if you had (a) not completed the earlier semester exams as assigned (or scored less well than you had hoped, due to lack of preparation) or had an earlier "technical failure" (did not run the browser check or turn off pop-

up blockers as instructed, etc.).

If you have "technical difficulties" during the optional final exam, you will receive your pre-final grade as your final class grade.

The (optional) final exam will be available from 8:00 a.m. on Monday, 7 May until 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, 10 May. If you plan on taking advantage of this opportunity to raise your grade, don't forget to come back!

Academic Misconduct (1)

The UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline provides penalties for misconduct by students, including academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty includes all forms of cheating and plagiarism, including any attempt to circumvent attendance procedures.

The term cheating includes, but is not limited to, (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; or (3) the acquisition, without permission, of tests of other academic material belonging to a faculty member or staff of the university.

The term plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials. (Source: Code of Conduct and Discipline at the University of North Texas.)

Penalties: If you engage in academic dishonesty related to this class, you will receive a failing grade in the course. In addition, the case will be referred to the Dean of Students for appropriate disciplinary action.

This policy is intended to protect the honest student from unfair competition with unscrupulous individuals who might attempt to gain an advantage through cheating. Students who become aware of suspicious activities on the part of others are asked to promptly notify the professor so that immediate corrective action can be taken.

Academic Misconduct (2)

One of the central themes of MUET 3020 is the study of "fair and equitable" treatment – and how, in many instances, those who cry that they are being treated "unfairly" are, in fact, crying to be given some special consideration that is not afforded to others.

N.B., in keeping with a policy of treating all students fairly and equally, if you ask (or even suggest) that the instructor "give" you one, or two, or ten points etc. to raise you to a grade that you didn't "earn" – because you are on academic probation, because you will lose your scholarship, because you need a particular GPA to graduate, etc. – I will consider this to be academic misconduct and I will lower your final grade by one letter.

This policy protects the honest student from unfair competition with unscrupulous individuals who might attempt to gain an advantage through playing to the sympathies of the instructor.

There is no other class at the University of North Texas that is more fairly graded

than MUET 3020. All students are given the same number of "vacation days" all students do the same work and take the same tests and exams and then those tests and exams are graded by computer. Please refer back to the first paragraph.

Copyright

Lectures and the fair-use playing of musical examples are protected by state common law as well as federal copyright law.

Whereas you are authorized to take notes in class – thereby creating a derivative work from these lectures – this authorization extends only to making one set of notes for your own personal use and no other use.

You are NOT authorized to record my lectures, to provide your notes to anyone else, or to make a commercial or non-profit (e.g., posting on the internet) use of these notes without prior, written permission from the course instructor.

Due to copyright restrictions, audio or video recording in this class is not permitted under any circumstance! There is no exception. If you are found to be recording any portion of this class, you will receive an automatic "F" in the course and will be referred to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action.

Incompletes

A request for an "incomplete" must be approved, in advance, by the course instructor. Simply "missing" the final exam is not cause for an incomplete; in this case, your final grade will be assigned based on your pre-final tally.

Posting of Grades

Grades are submitted automatically, electronically.

You will see your grades continually updated in your on-line gradebook (be sure to print off a copy in case you receive an incorrect final grade).

Official grade notification is carried out by the Office of the Registrar.

Links, Typos, and Errors

Alas, I already live in front of a computer screen. Please do not place me on your "buddy list," do not send me "instant messages," and thanks – but "no thanks" – for forwarding the millions of jokes, pictures, and sound-bytes that you can find on the internet.

Do, however, send an e-mail to Ms. Ward (see below) if you find a broken link (except when you see "[UPLOAD]"), a typo, or factual error on the website.

Messages

DO e-mail (or telephone) if it's important. Messages requesting commonly available information ("what's the last day to drop?") will, however, be deleted.

DO check for announcements, by individual e-mail, on your WebCTVista website.

DO check for "back-up" and secondary announcements (i.e., system failure, no

class) at www.thomassovik.com.

Unless there is a university-wide system failure, all e-mails related to MUET 3020 – in-coming and out-going – will be sent through the WEBCTVista website. Do NOT write to me through the www.thomassovik.com website (unless you'd like to travel to Europe) . . . or through my university address . . . or through Eaglemail.

DO NOT inconvenience the course instructor, the teaching assistants, or the College of Music secretaries with attendance messages.

N.B., if you e-mail (or telephone) to say that you were absent (or) will be absent, you will be marked with DOUBLE absence!

Conferences

Please feel free to stop by during my office hours (when I'll actually be there) or to contact me by either e-mail (strongly recommended) or telephone.

Do not come to my office during non-office hour times and then be upset that "he's never there." This shows only that you don't belong in college.

If you absolutely must leave a voice message – leave your name and phone number, get to the point, and then get off. You have 30 seconds! I will not return your phone call just to find out "what you want."

If you do leave a message (this applies to "life," not just MUET 3020), do not speak on "speed-dial." If I am to return your call, I need to understand what you're saying and I need to be able to understand the numbers! Speak clearly and slowly!

Instructor Information

Name: Dr. Thomas Sovik

Note: "Sova" = "owl" in Czech, a figure representing intelligence; "Sovik" = "small owl"; either a small bird of intelligence, or a bird of small intelligence.

Note: "Sovik" is NOT "Slovik"; Private Eddie Slovik was the only US soldier shot for desertion during WWII.

Email: through THIS WebCTVista website. Use THIS method whenever you need to contact the instructor.

Website: www.thomassovik.com. Check it now and bookmark this site; check it every day. Use it to check the status of WebCTVista if you're unable to log on, and as a secondary avenue (only!) to contact the instructor.

Office location: Main Music Bldg, room 305

Office hours: MWF 8:00 - 8:50 & 11:00 – 11:50

Phone: 940-369-7689

Teaching Assistants

Please contact the appropriate teaching assistant if you (a) have a question about your attendance or extra-credit record, (b) would like to set an appointment to review your exam answers, or (c) find a typo etc. on the website.

Attendance & Extra Credit – Mr. Jeff Hodges – jeff.hodges@verizon.net

Podcasting & Post-Exam Consultation – Mr. David Huff – music_nihilist@yahoo.com

Web Formatting, Typos, & Factual Errors – Ms. Pamela Ward – PopChick3020@yahoo.com

Everything else – contact the course instructor through THIS website