







Music (MUSI) 267

Sound and Sense: Listening to Music (Revision 3)

Status:	Replaced with new revision, see the course listing  for the current revision 
Delivery mode:	Individualized study online 
Credits:	3
Areas of study:	Arts or Humanities
Prerequisites:	None
Precluded:	HUMN 269. This course and MUSI 268 replace HUMN 269. (MUSI 267 may not be taken for credit if credit has already been obtained for HUMN 269.)
Challenge:	MUSI 267 is not available for challenge.
Faculty:	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences 

Overview



MUSI 267 is an introductory course in music appreciation for non-musicians. It has two broad objectives: to enhance the student's aesthetic perception of music and to teach the 'tension and repose' method of listening to and understanding music. MUSI 267 examines music of all types in order to identify and explain universal features such as the organization of rhythm and pitch. Specifically, it will help students to begin an exploration of music of all cultures and historical periods, to become aware of the common features of all music, to acquire a basic music vocabulary, to identify a number of pieces aurally, and to write descriptively, analytically, and comparatively about music.

As the title of the course implies, the emphasis is upon listening. The work for each unit includes extended periods of listening to recordings as well as reading. Although any prior knowledge of music will be useful, this course is structured so that a student without a previous musical background can be successful in it. For example, although musical notation is explained, it is used only as a graphical aid to listening and you do not need to be able to read music in order to complete the course.


Outline

- Unit 1: Introduction
- Unit 2: The Instruments
- Unit 3: The Human Voice
- Unit 4: Rhythm
- Unit 5: Pitch
- Unit 6: Foreground and Background
- Unit 7: Growth and Structure
- Unit 8: Tension and Repose

Evaluation

To **receive credit**  for MUSI 267, you must achieve a course composite grade of at least **D (50 percent)**  and a grade of at least 50 percent on the final examination. The weighting of the composite grade is as follows:

Activity	Weight
2 Assignments (30% each)	60%
Final Exam	40%
Total	100%

To learn more about assignments and examinations, please refer to Athabasca University's [online Calendar](#) .

Materials

Digital course materials





Links to the following course materials will be made available in the course:

Funes, Donald J. 1992. *Musical Involvement: A Guide to Perceptive Listening*, 2nd ed. Orlando, FL: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich.

Other materials

The course materials include an online study guide and online course manual. Music content is streamed online.

Important links

- › [Academic advising](#) 
- › [Program planning](#) 
- › [Request assistance](#) 
- › [Support services](#) 

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

Opened in Revision 3, August 28, 2013

Updated January 20, 2025

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