

Northern Wyoming Community College District — Sheridan College

MUSC 2500 Music Portfolio (2 credits)

Spring 2012 • W • 4:00-5:40 PM

Whitney 120 • Music Department • Fine Arts Division

course site: proferickson.com/cke/musc2500

my gmail address for sharing docs: scmusictech@gmail.com

Instructor and Contact Information

Dr. Christian Erickson

Office: Whitney 107

Office hours: T/Th 3:00 (additional hours by appointment)

(307) 674-6446, extension 3050

dr.christian.erickson@gmail.com (preferred method of contact)

Course Description

This course covers the practical matters for the emerging musician including the development of a professional portfolio, resume, and other promotional materials. Areas of specialization within music are investigated. Educational and professional opportunities are explored.

Prerequisites

None

Co-requisites

None

Purpose

MUSC 2500 Music Portfolio will provide students with the opportunity to prepare a comprehensive portfolio intended to help them transfer to another college or gain employment. It is a requirement for the Certificate in Music Technology, and may be used as a general elective for music majors working toward the A.F.A. degree.

Course Format

Lecture

Grading

Letter

Texts/Materials

- Beeching, Angela Myles. *Beyond Talent: Creating a Successful Career in Music* (2nd edition). New York: Oxford University Press, 2010. ISBN-13: 978-0-19-538259-4
- Sennheiser HD 202 Headphones (available at the campus bookstore) or other over-the-ear headphones with a 3.5 mm mini-stereo plug and 1/4" adapter (or equivalent)
- Pens, pencils, erasers, notebook, etc.
- Access to a computer with an internet connection and a browser and equipped with media player software
- Storage media (CD-R or CD-RW and/or USB flash drive, 2 GB or larger)
- A Google account with Gmail and Google Docs activated

Minimum Student Outcomes

Upon completion of MUSC 2500 Music History Survey II, the student will:

- examine various areas of specialization within the field of music.
- evaluate professional and educational opportunities within the student's area of interest.
- devise a strategy for further educational and/or professional development.
- create a professional resume and/or curriculum vitae.
- design a personal professional website for promotional purposes.
- record and/or compile, edit, and master an audio portfolio of the student's current work for the purpose of applying and/or auditioning for a program of study or professional position.
- propose and execute a capstone project that will be presented as a lecture-demonstration or lecture-performance.

Course Format

This is a hands-on, interactive course. Emphasis will be placed on student-centered learning. Concepts and key information may be made available to you through traditional formats (e.g. lectures, demonstrations, textbook, etc.). However, student research, reflection and discussion is an essential element in driving the course. Much of the course will focus on the individual student's needs, abilities, interests, and learning styles with the instructor serving as a facilitator of learning and discovery.

Approximate Final Grade Evaluation

50% — Portfolio components (c.v., biography, website, etc.)

30% — Capstone project

20% — Homework assignments, attendance and participation

Descriptions of Graded Course Components

Portfolio: A professional portfolio of credentials, creative work and promotional materials will be created (or updated for those students who have these items in place already). As the scope of these components will vary from student to student based on experience, assessment will be made on an individual basis.

Capstone Project: Like a thesis, a capstone is the culmination of the creative and technical skills students have acquired during their study at Sheridan College. For a music student, the capstone project might be a performance, musical composition, or scholarly treatment of a theme related to music history or production. The project should include a written and/or recorded component, and a public presentation component is required. Cross-discipline collaboration is *highly* encouraged. Assessment will be made in part by the student via a post-project reflection.

Homework Assignments, Attendance & Participation: Typically these components are assessed separately in most courses. However, since seminar-style discussions will afford students the greatest opportunity for team learning, reflection and interaction, homework assignments will be directly linked with presentation and discussion in a roundtable format. Students are expected to complete reading, research and written assignments in a timely manner. Participation in the discussion of these assignments is also expected of all students.

Website

Our class companion website for this course is available at proferickson.com/cke. Here you'll find printable documents (such as the syllabus and other handouts), assignments, links to useful sites, and audio files.

Late and Incomplete Assignments

Students are expected to complete all assignments by prescribed due dates. The "due date" is the beginning of the meeting following an assignment unless otherwise noted on the course calendar. Assignments submitted after the due date will be assessed a flat 25% penalty. I will accept some late work up until the final day of class, so do not simply "blow off" an assignment because the due date is past and it's subject to a late penalty. Partial credit is always better than no credit at all. However, please note that assignments intended for roundtable discussion will not be accepted after the related discussion meeting has occurred.

Absences Policy

In cases of school-sponsored activities or illness resulting in an absence by the student, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor in advance of the missed class. Absences with advance notice are considered "excused." Students are responsible for all reading, listening and other homework assigned during the absence. Absences without prior notification to the instructor ("unexcused") will automatically result in forfeiture of any possible points associated with the missed class.

Course Withdrawal/Petition for Incomplete Grade

On occasion, unforeseen circumstances may interfere with a student's ability to complete a course or to accomplish a satisfactory level of personal academic achievement. If you find yourself in this situation, I encourage you to visit with me regarding your options. Rarely is a grade unsalvageable if a student is willing to take the steps necessary to rectify it. If, however, a student is ever unable to fully devote his or her energies to the coursework, withdrawal may be the best option. Consult the college's academic calendar for the withdrawal deadline. Paperwork for withdrawals can be obtained from the Office of Records and Admissions.

A temporary grade of "I" or "incomplete" is available to students who cannot finish the course due to an emergency situation that arises late in the semester. The administration of an incomplete is at the instructor's discretion. Although I can be flexible depending on the circumstances of the student, my general policy is that the student should have at least 75% of the course completed and have a current grade of C or better at the time of the request for the incomplete grade. The incomplete portion of the course must be completed by the end of the semester following the request (summer sessions excluded) or the "I" will revert to an "F."

Northern Wyoming Community College District Policies

- **Academic Honesty Statement:** Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Academic honesty means performing all academic work without lying, cheating, deceit, plagiarism, misrepresentation, or unfairly gaining advantage over any other student. Violations of academic honesty are in violation of District standards for student conduct and shall result in disciplinary action
- **Disability Statement:** Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the advising office as soon as possible to ensure such accommodations may be implemented.

Course Calendar

Subject to revision. All graded assignments are due at beginning of the next class meeting unless otherwise noted.

Meeting 1, January 18

- **Topics:** Formalities & Introduction; Capstone project brainstorming session
 - **Reading:** Chapter 1
 - **Homework:** Music Career Options Research
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Meeting 2, January 25

- **Topics:** Career options; Self-assessment
 - **Reading:** Chapter 2
 - **Homework:** Capstone Project Proposal
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Meeting 3, February 1

- **Topics:** Networking; Intro to the *curriculum vitae*
 - **Reading:** Chapter 3
 - **Homework:** Music *Curriculum Vitae*
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Meeting 4, February 8

- **Topics:** Intro to Promotional Materials; Biography Model Hunt
 - **Reading:** Chapter 4
 - **Homework:** Professional Biography
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Meeting 5, February 15

- **Topics:** Recording Issues
 - **Reading:** Chapter 5
 - **Homework:** Recording Project Plan
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Meeting 6, February 22

- **Topics:** Your Website: Structure and Design
 - **Homework:** Website Sketch
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Meeting 7, February 29

- **Topics:** Capstone Project Advising
 - **Reading:** Interlude: Five Fundamental Questions
 - **Homework:** Work on Capstone Project
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Meeting 8, March 7

- **Topics:** Five Questions Roundtable Discussion; Website Lab Time
 - **Reading:** Chapter 6
 - **Homework:** Website, v. 1 (first version due by next time)
-

Spring Break, March 12-16; No Class Meetings

Meeting 9, March 21

- **Topics:** Booking Issues
 - **Reading:** Chapter 7
 - **Homework:** Booking Script
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Meeting 10, March 28

- **Topics:** PR & Media Information Issues
 - **Reading:** Chapter 8
 - **Homework:** Press Release Exercise
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Meeting 11, April 4

- **Topics:** Audience Outreach; Website Lab Time
 - **Reading:** Chapters 9 (optional) & Chapter 10
 - **Homework:** Website, v. 2 (final version due by next time)
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Meeting 12, April 11

- **Topics:** Freelancing; Creating a Contract; Lab Time for Catch-up/Presentation
 - **Reading:** Chapters 11
 - **Homework:** Contract Template; Begin Work on Capstone Presentation
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Meeting 13, April 12

- **Topics:** Time & Money Management
 - **Reading:** Chapter 12
 - **Homework:** Time Management Exercise
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Meeting 14, April 25

- **Topics:** Fundraising Issues
 - **Reading:** Chapter 13
 - **Homework:** Grant Opportunities Research
-

Meeting 15, May 2

- **Topics:** Career Strategies
 - **Homework:** Finish Capstone Project & Presentation; Project Map & Supporter List (Optional Extra-Credit Assignment)
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Final Exam Time: Public Presentations in C-TEL—Wednesday, May 9, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM