Contemporary Music
MUCP 4460 and 5460

Instructor:

Dr. Kirsten Broberg
kirsten.broberg@unt.edu
(940) 369-7040
Office hours: Mondays from 2-3PM, Wednesdays from 1-2PM or by appointment

Basic Information:

• Time and place—Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11-12:20 in the Merrill Ellis Intermedia Theater.

Course Overview:

This course will be a historical survey of currents in contemporary music with emphasis on repertoire composed within the past fifty years. It will include score study and analysis, listening, papers and presentations. The lectures and activities will cover a broad spectrum of contemporary musical styles, genres and techniques.

Required Materials:

• A computer and access to Blackboard
• Library reserves—various texts, scores and recordings on the fourth floor of the music library
• Selected scores, recordings, articles, chapters and reviews provided

Homework:

• All work is due on the date indicated in this syllabus. It must be turned in, printed out (not in digital form or handwritten) on or before its due date. Turning in homework late will lower the grade you earn on assignments and projects.

Listening, Score Study and Readings:

• You will be required to listen to and study an extensive list of pieces covering a wide range of contemporary repertoire and complete readings as assigned by the instructor. You are required to write journal entries based on the assigned pieces and readings for each class period and be prepared to discuss these assignments during the class period. Not completing these entries or being unprepared for class discussion will negatively impact your journal and participation grade.
Analysis Papers and Presentations:

• You will be required to write two papers and present one piece to the class during the semester. The paper will be due the first day of class presentations. Please give an overview regarding background information about the composer and how the piece fits into the composer's work list as a whole, various influences of other composers/musical styles that informed the composition and a detailed analysis of the piece itself. On the day of your presentation bring to class at least one recording and a complete, projectable score (hard copy or PDF).

Concert Review Projects:

• You are required to attend two different live concerts of contemporary music during the semester. Please write a one-page review to document your experience of the music. Be prepared to share your experiences with the class if called upon to do so. One report is due at midterm. The second one is due at the end of the semester.

Punctuality and Professionalism:

• All assignments, projects, presentations and written work are due on the dates specified below. If an assignment is late it will earn a lower grade (a 10% reduction for each class period it is late).
• All commentary and criticism of your classmates’s work must be specific, constructive and respectful.

Evaluation and Grading:

• Journal Entries 15%
• Attendance and Class Participation 15%
• Analysis Papers (2) 30%
• Presentation Project (1) 15%
• Concert Review Project (2) 25%

Grading Scale:

A: 90-100  C: 70-80
B: 80-90   D: 60-70

Office of Disability Accommodation:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may
request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at http://www.unt.edu/oda. You may also contact them by phone at 940-565-4323.

Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress:

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility. If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. Please visit http://financialaid.unt.edu/satisfactory-academic-progress-requirements for more information about financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress. It may be wise for you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course being doing so.

Academic Integrity:

Academic Integrity is defined in the UNT Policy on Student Standards for Academic Integrity. Any suspected case of Academic Dishonesty will be handled in accordance with the University Policy and procedures. Possible academic penalties range from a verbal or written admonition to a grade of “F” in the course. Further sanctions may apply to incidents involving major violations. You will find the policy and procedures at: http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm.

Student Behavior in the Classroom:

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university’s expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE):

The SETE is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to students at the end of the semester, providing a chance to evaluate this course; further instructions will be provided at that time. You are strongly encouraged to complete this online survey prior to the end of the semester.