



MUS 155: Music and Film Spring 2025

Instructor	Kenneth Steinsultz
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Course Meeting Days and Time	Monday/Wednesday 2:00-3:15pm
Required Experiential Learning Dates	TBD
Office Hours	TBD

Catalog Description:

Survey of the union of music and film from its earliest inception to the present with a focus on the American motion picture industry and its musical traditions.

Credit Hour Policy Statement:

Standard lecture:

“This class meets the federal credit hour policy of 1 hour of class with an expected 2 hours of additional student work outside of class each week for approximately 15 weeks for each hour of credit, or a total of 45-75 total hours for each credit.”

General Education Requirements:

This course meets the General Education requirements for Outcome 5 Overlay B U.S. Diversity.

Course Learning Objectives:

- Introduce basic musical concepts and terminology applicable to a variety of musical styles and apply them to film and music.
- Explore musical scoring techniques and philosophies used in the film industry from its inception to the present day and the musical/film terminology used to describe and discuss them.
- Examine a number of important films, film scores, and film music composers.
- Identify the stylistic characteristics of noted film composers and discern differences between their stylistic approaches
- Develop an appreciation for the power of music to influence and enhance the individual's perception of events in general and of the dramatic and cinematic experience in particular.
- Enrich the Harlaxton experience by exploring the music and lives of British and European film composers.

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General Education Outcome 5: Understanding of Human Aesthetic Creation or Artistic Creativity

Methods of Instructions:

Class sessions will be a mixture of lecture, discussion, listening, and viewing of films/film excerpts.

Textbooks and Required Reading:

James Buhler and David Neumeyer, *Hearing the Movies*, 2nd ed. (NY: Oxford University Press, 2016).

Course Schedule:

Tentative course schedule

HTM = *Hearing the Movies* textbook

Week 1

Class 1: Course Introduction; Sound Track and Film Narrative
HTM xxi-33

Class 2: Musicality of the Sound Track
HTM 33-55

Week 2

Class 1: Music, Sound, Space, and Time: Concepts and Terminology
HTM 56-83; **small group mini-presentations**

Class 2: **Small group mini-presentations, con't.**
Exam 1 review

Week 3

Class 1: **Exam 1**

Class 2: Exam recap; Music and Sound in Silent Film, Part I
HTM 89-108

Week 4

Class 1: Music and Sound in Silent Film, Part II
HTM 109-138

Watch portion of Silent Film, to be selected

Class 2: **Review Essay 1 due.**
In class: *The Artist* (2011)



Week 5

Class 1: - Techniques from 1926-1950, Part I
HTM 165-172 and 224-250
In class: *Spellbound* (1945)

Class 2: *Spellbound*, cont.

Week 6

Class 1: Techniques from 1926-1950, Part II
HTM 250-276
*Extra credit opportunity (more info TBA)
Exam 2 review

Class 2: **Exam 2**

Week 7

Class 1: Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho*
HTM 342-348
Watch portions of *Psycho* (1960) in class.
Class 2: *Psycho*, cont.
HTM 331-335

Week 8:

Class 1: In class: *Harry Potter* (2001)
HTM 359-377

Class 2: Th 11/2- *Harry Potter*, cont.

Week 9

Class 1: Late 20th-century, cont.: minimalism in film
HTM 377-389
In class: *Koyaanisqatsi* (1982)

Class 2: Later 20th-century Hollywood
HTM 390-408
In class: excerpts from *Platoon* (1986)

Review Essay 2 due.



Week 10

Class 1: Catch up/review/TBD

Class 2: Catch up/review/TBD

Week 11

Class 1: Pacing and Action in recent film

HTM 408-432

In class: excerpts from *Raiders of the Lost Ark* (1981) and *Run Lola Run* (1998)

Class 2: Music in Film since 2000

HTM 475-479

Week 12

Class 1: Music in Film since 2000, cont.

HTM 479-508

In class: excerpts from *The Bourne Ultimatum* (2007)

Class 2: In class: *Lord of the Rings* (2001)

Week 13

Class 1: **Group analysis presentations**

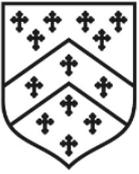
Class 2: **Group analysis presentations**

Week 14

Class 1: **Group analysis presentations**

Class 2: **Group analysis presentations**

Grading Criteria:



Daily attendance and participation 10%

- I may ask you to jot down a few points or answer a question or two about the assigned reading/viewing at the beginning of class.

Mini presentation 5%

- Short presentation in a small group (week 2)

Analysis presentation 10%

- These slightly longer, more original presentations will take place in small groups during Week 13.

Review essays 30% total (two at 15% each)

- Throughout the semester, you will write two review essays discussing the use of music in a film of your choice.

Exams 45% (three at 15% each)

Other Policies, Procedures, and Resources:

Late work

Late assignments will receive a 10% deduction for each additional day, i.e. assignments submitted up to 24 hours after the deadline will be reduced by 10%; 24-48 hours after the deadline will be reduced by 20%, etc.

Grading opportunities will be based on exams, weekly assignments/viewing, viewing reports/reviews, presentations, and class participation.

Exams will consist of a variety of question types over reading and listening assignments and classroom discussions and activities. Students are expected to keep up with assigned readings and come to class prepared to discuss contents of reading assignments. Occasional quizzes may be given as reading checks.

Withdrawal and Attendance policies:

Harlaxton College expects regular class attendance by all students. Students are considered sufficiently mature to appreciate the necessity of regular and punctual attendance, to accept this personal responsibility and to accept the consequences of failure to attend. When absences occur due to emergency or medical reasons, students are expected to notify their instructors of the absence prior to class or to seek the assistance of the College nurse or a member of the Student Experience Team for help in notifying instructors.

Instructors have the authority to grant excused absences for medical, psychological, or personal reasons upon review of appropriate documentation and professional recommendation supporting such a request. In the event of long-term illness, reasonable accommodations will be made to allow a student to complete a course. In these cases, the Dean will need to approve the long term nature of the accommodation.

The Dean of Harlaxton College has the authority to grant excused absences for medical, psychological, or personal reasons.



Each instructor is expected to maintain an attendance policy in keeping with the nature of the Harlaxton program and may consider it in evaluating performance in their courses.

Policy Governing Unexcused Absences:

Harlaxton College operates an attendance policy that is binding on all faculty and students. The number of unexcused absences that are allowed before incurring a penalty is related to the number of times a class meets each week. For courses which meet three times a week, students are allowed a maximum of three unexcused absences during the semester without attracting penalty points. For courses meeting twice a week two such absences are permitted, and for courses meeting once a week a single absence is allowed. Additional unexcused absences will attract a grade penalty. Additional unexcused absences will result in a third-letter grade (A- to B+) deduction for each unexcused absence.

Policy Governing Excused Absences.

- Excused absences are not given to facilitate student travel independent of College-sponsored travel.
- Students may be permitted to miss class because of participation in academic field trips.
- Instructors must co-ordinate and confirm academic fieldtrips with the Dean, prior to the commencement of the Semester to ensure their inclusion in the Semester timetable.

- Where authorization for an academic fieldtrip is requested after the commencement of the semester, the request must be submitted to the Dean.

The following information is required:

- Purpose and brief description of the official Harlaxton event or academic fieldtrip.
- Dates, location, and times (as applicable).
- Alphabetical list of students involved [Last Name/First Name] along with their student identification number.

If approval is granted:

- Instructors affected will be notified at least one week prior to the class period during which absence is anticipated, or as soon as possible.
- Missed class time due to student participation is to be considered an excused absence.
- The grade of a student may not be lowered in any class due to excused absences.
- It is the student's responsibility - to take the initiative by consulting with their instructors before the absence occurs, and - to do what is required by the instructor to make up all missed assignments and/or examinations.
- Instructors are required to assist students in these occasional situations of excused absences.

Honor Code:

All students at the University of Evansville agree to the University honor code: *I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid, nor will I tolerate an environment that condones the use of unauthorized aid.*



AI may be used only with prior permission or direction by the instructor.

- All work submitted in this course must be your own.
- The use of generative AI composition tools, such as those offered by ChatGPT, Google Bard etc. is prohibited in this course except for specific assignments and subject to the instructor's guidelines.
- Work generated by such tools without proper attribution is plagiarism and, thereby, a breach of the University's Plagiarism and Academic Honesty policy.

Disability Policy:

It is the policy and practice of the University of Evansville to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Students should contact Disability Services within the Office of Counseling Services by calling 812-488-2663 to seek services or accommodations for disabilities. Written notification to faculty from Disability Services is required for academic accommodations.

The University of Evansville Disability Services office will share the request for academic accommodations with the Academic Support team at Harlaxton College. Staff members at Harlaxton will meet individually with students to discuss needs and provide additional information related to examinations or other assessments.

Students from partner institutions should provide the appropriate letter of accommodation from their institution to the Academic Support team at Harlaxton College.

Non-Discrimination Statement

The University of Evansville expects all members of its community to treat each other with respect and civility. Harassing behaviors directed towards any member of our community will not be tolerated. As part of its commitment to non-discrimination, the University specifically prohibits harassment based on any other characteristics set forth in its nondiscrimination statement as follows: including race, color, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, creed or religion, national origin, age, disability, veteran status and all federally protected groups/classes. Any form of harassment undermines the mission of the University and negatively impacts the University community as a whole.



Prohibited Conduct and Confidentiality

The University of Evansville is committed to fostering an atmosphere free from harassment and discrimination. This commitment includes identifying problems that may lead to sexual harassment and misconduct, as well as other forms of harassment and discrimination, by creating an atmosphere in which the entire University community is sensitive to preventing prohibited conduct. Additionally, the University is committed to providing support and resources to individuals who have experienced prohibited conduct. This commitment includes effectively responding when a student, visitor, guest or program participant is the victim of prohibited conduct.

All campus employees, students, and guests are required to abide by the Title IX and Other Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Policy, the Harassment and Discrimination Policy, and the Consensual Sexual or Romantic Relationships Between Employees and Students Policy. Violation of these policies could result in disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion for students and termination for employees.

Faculty members at the University of Evansville are considered “Responsible Employees” under the applicable federal guidelines and the University’s policies. This means that I am unable to offer you confidentiality if you report any incidence of prohibited conduct to me as defined by Title IX statute. If I am made aware of a violation, I am required to report any known information to the Office of Institutional Equity.

You may choose to report the violation yourself the following ways:

Email: · Annie Sills, Assistant Director of Institutional Equity and Title IX Coordinator:
cs175@evansville.edu ·

Keith Gehlhausen, Executive Director of HR and Institutional Equity: kg77@evansville.edu ·
Title IX: titleix@evansville.edu
Phone: 812-288-5261
Online: <https://www.evansville.edu/safety/report.cfm>

You may also choose to speak with a Confidential Resource. Confidential Resources are required to maintain confidentiality and cannot report violations to the Office of Institutional Equity:

University of Evansville

- Counseling Services: counselingservices@evansville.edu, 812-488-2633
- Health Center Professionals: healthcenter@evansville.edu, 812-488-2033
- University Chaplain: chaplain@evansville.edu, 812-488-5262

Harlaxton College

- College Nurse: Lesley Selby, RGN, +44 01476 403027, l.selby@harlaxton.ac.uk
- Counselling Services: counselling@harlaxton.ac.uk