

Spring 2026: Department of Music

MUH1000-5: Introduction to Music, 2 Units

Copper Music Band Room MW. 11:00 - 11:55 a.m.

Final Exam: Wednesday, May 6, 2026, 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM



[Meet Your Professor](#)

Debbie Burton, Cooper Music Building Room 181 (Band Room)

619-602-8190, dburton@pointloma.edu

Please text me to contact me. I will respond as quickly as my schedule permits, M-F. If you need a private consultation with me, just snag a quick chat after class, or set up an electronic appointment with me

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Catalog description: Treats the development and significance of music in the Western world with emphasis on outstanding works by the world's great composers of music. Offered every fall and spring semester.

Professor's description: In the interest of building the necessary skills, appreciation, and understanding (as well as establishing the necessary behavior patterns) for a life of music patronage, the central idea of this version of MUH1000 is for the student to attend at least one of three pre-chosen "live"* performances,

having prepared to be a savvy concertgoer to those specific performances. This preparation is accomplished using interactive internet technologies that deliver course content, facilitate research projects, and foster communication and collaboration within the course community.

GENERAL EDUCATION MISSION

PLNU provides a foundational course of study in the liberal arts informed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In keeping with the Wesleyan tradition, the curriculum equips students with a broad range of knowledge and skills within and across disciplines to enrich major study, lifelong learning, and vocational service as Christ-like participants in the world's diverse societies and culture.

APPLICABLE GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOME (GELO)

Link to GE courses and corresponding GELO's:

<https://assessment.pointloma.edu/academic-assessment/general-education/assessment-plan/>

<https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/tug-catalog/general-education/>

[Links to an external site.](#)

2.b. Arts Appreciation: Students will **understand** and **appreciate** diverse forms of artistic expression.

IMPLEMENTATION: To assess students' learning in terms of GE Outcome 2.b., a required post-performance report will be assessed using a rubric based on the three shared CLOs listed in the section below.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The central goal of this course is *cultivating a community of savvy concertgoers* who show **understanding** and **appreciation** of music by demonstrating **conversance** with selected musical works. To that end, the successful student will

- Identify style **periods** of selected musical works;
- Integrate applicable music **terms** in descriptions of selected musical works;
- Synthesize relevant music **topics** in descriptions of selected musical works;
- Evaluate salient **features** heard in selected musical works.

In terms of IDEA Learning Objectives, you will be

- "gaining a basic **understanding** of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge...generalizations...)" In the process, you will be
- "gaining a broader **understanding** and **appreciation** of intellectual/cultural activity (music...)."

In terms of shared CLOs aligned with the FELO listed in the section above (your signature assignment – see below – will be assessed according to the following criteria):

- Students will be able to evaluate and articulate **personal experiences** through attending live concerts.
- Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of **historical/cultural perspectives** about the music.
- Students will be able to recognize and describe **basic music concepts** (such as form, harmony, melody, and rhythm) using correct terminology.

SIGNATURE ASSIGNMENT

NOTE: You must complete the signature assignment in order to pass this course!

The signature assignment for this course is [a well-written paper](#) about an attended musical event chosen from a short list provided by the professor.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Students are responsible for having the required course textbooks prior to the first day of class.

All supplemental materials posted on this course site (including articles, book excerpts, or other documents) are provided for your personal academic use. These materials may be protected by copyright law and should not be duplicated or distributed without permission of the copyright owner.

For this course, all course materials, other than research materials, are embedded in or linked to from this Canvas course. Although you will not need to buy text materials, you will be required to purchase a ticket and pay for parking at a music event. The total cost of these tickets and parking is expected to be in the range of an inexpensive textbook.

CREDIT UNIT INFORMATION

Extra Credit: You will earn up to 5% extra credit for participation in a PLNU choral or instrumental [ensemble](#), depending on your grade in that course. (Email me during finals week with your participation information.) After the submitting the [Performance Attendance Form](#) for each of the required 3 additional performances (beyond the one about which you write your **Post-Performance Report**), you will earn up to 3% extra credit per approved music performance for which you submit the same form.

EXPECTATIONS

What I expect from you:

Time Commitment

This course will require an average of 4 to 4.5 hours of your time on a weekly basis. It's okay to work ahead, but it's not okay to work behind. Group project assignments, especially, may require coordinated effort over the period of a few days or even weeks.

Canvas

You are expected to log in to Canvas several times (minimum of 3 times) weekly to access course material, participate in learning activities and submit assignments. Check Canvas (and/or, depending on your settings, your email) daily, M-F, for announcements. If you need to know the technical steps to complete an assignment or work within the Canvas environment, click the 'Help' link in the gold bar at the top of the course menu and choose from the options in the 'Help' menu that may best suit your needs. Always search the Canvas Guides before seeking help from me or a Canvas expert. If you require additional technical support for Canvas access, contact the PLNU Help Center at 619-849-2222 or help@pointloma.edu.

Netiquette

Observe [netiquette](#) principles in all of your online communications.

Group Work

In order to build a sense of community, to lighten your load and to provide you with the opportunity to learn from one another, some assignments for the course involve group work.

Concert Attendance

This course requires attending at least one off-campus performance. Carpooling is strongly encouraged. In addition to these off-campus concerts, you may attend

approved on-campus performances for extra credit. As an audience member on-campus or off-campus, always observe [concert etiquette](#).

What you can expect from me:

You can expect me to: work hard to facilitate your learning, be available to help you individually on an as-needed basis and be dedicated to your success. I will regularly post announcements for our class and will answer questions concerning assignments and course content. I will make best efforts to respond to your inquiries within 24 hours, M-F. Please be patient and know that I am responding to many students.

Final Examination Policy[Ⓢ]

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Traditional Undergraduate Records: Final Exam Schedules](#) site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.

Content Warning*

I acknowledge that each of you comes to PLNU with your own unique life experiences. This contributes to the way you perceive various types of information. In [class name], all of the class content, including that which may be intellectually or emotionally challenging, has been intentionally curated to achieve the learning goals for this course. The decision to include such material is not taken lightly. These topics include [list topics]. If you encounter a topic that is intellectually challenging for you, it can manifest in feelings of discomfort and upset. In response, I encourage you to come talk to me or your friends or family about it. Class topics are discussed for the sole purpose of expanding your intellectual engagement in the area of [subject/major], and I will support you throughout your learning in this course.

Trigger Warning*

I acknowledge that each of you comes to PLNU with your own unique life experiences. This contributes to the way you perceive several types of information. In [class name], we will cover a variety of topics, some of which you may find triggering. These topics include [list topics]. Each time this topic appears in a reading or unit, it is marked on the syllabus. The experience of being triggered

versus intellectually challenged are different. The main difference is that an individual must have experienced trauma to experience being triggered, whereas an intellectual challenge has nothing to do with trauma. If you are a trauma survivor and encounter a topic in this class that is triggering for you, you may feel overwhelmed or panicked and find it difficult to concentrate. In response, I encourage you to take the necessary steps for your emotional safety. This may include leaving class while the topic is discussed or talking to a therapist at the Counseling Center. Should you choose to sit out on discussion of a certain topic, know that you are still responsible for the material; but we can discuss if there are other methods for accessing that material, and for assessing your learning on that material. Class topics are discussed for the sole purpose of expanding your intellectual engagement in the area of [subject/major], and I will support you throughout your learning in this course.

Incompletes and Late Assignments

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

Spiritual Care*

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If you have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact your professor or the [Office of Spiritual Life and Formation](#).

State Authorization⊗

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

PLNU Copyright Policy⊗

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.]

PLNU Recording NotificationⓈ

In order to enhance the learning experience, please be advised that this course may be recorded by the professor for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel.

Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.

PLNU Academic Honesty PolicyⓈ

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. For all student appeals, faculty and students should follow the procedures outlined in the University Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#)

[Links to an external site.](#)

for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy*

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc) to generate ideas, but you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. If you have any doubts about using AI, please gain permission from the instructor. Please use the following sources to guide your citations when using AI.

[MLA Style Center: Citing Generative AI](#)

[Links to an external site.](#)

[APA Style: How to Cite ChatGPT](#)

[Links to an external site.](#)

[Chicago Manual of Style: Citing Content Developed or Generated by AI](#)

[Links to an external site.](#)

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy⊕

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2533). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. Professors are able to view a student's approved accommodations through Accommodate.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course. Accommodations are not retroactive so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any accommodations.

Language and Belonging*

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe and hospitable learning

environment for all students. As Christian scholars we are keenly aware of the power of language and believe in treating others with dignity. As such, it is important that our language be equitable, inclusive, and prejudice free. Inclusive/Bias-free language is the standard outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and it is the expected norm in university-level work. Good writing and speaking do not use unsubstantiated or irrelevant generalizations about personal qualities such as age, disability, economic class, ethnicity, marital status, parentage, political or religious beliefs, race, gender, sex, or sexual orientation. Inclusive language also avoids using stereotypes or terminology that demeans persons or groups based on age, disability, class, ethnicity, gender, race, language, or national origin. Respectful use of language is particularly important when referring to those outside of the religious and lifestyle commitments of those in the PLNU community. By working toward precision and clarity of language, we mark ourselves as serious and respectful scholars, and we model the Christ-like quality of hospitality.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced other forms of discrimination, you can find more information on reporting and resources at www.pointloma.edu/nondiscrimination.

Sexual Misconduct and Discrimination*

In support of a safe learning environment, if you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that accommodations and resources are available through the Title IX Office at pointloma.edu/Title-IX. Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, faculty and staff are required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Counseling Services

at counselingservices@pointloma.edu or find a list of campus pastors at pointloma.edu/title-ix.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced other forms of discrimination or bias, you can find more information on reporting and resources at www.pointloma.edu/bias

PLNU Attendance and Participation PolicyⓈ

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an “F” grade.

Note: The information below must be included under the “PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy” Section if you are teaching an Online or Hybrid course.

PLNU Course Modality Definitions*

- Online Courses: These are courses with class meetings where all instruction and interaction is fully online.
- Synchronous Courses: At least one class meeting takes place at a designated time.
- Asynchronous Courses: All class meetings are asynchronous.
- Hybrid Courses: These are courses with class meetings that take place both in the classroom and online synchronously and/or asynchronously.
- 1. In-Person Courses: These are courses that meet in person with the instructor and students in a physical classroom setting. With approval by the area dean, this may include up to 25% of qualified class interactions through a Learning Management System (such as Canvas).

In some courses, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered asynchronously and attendance will be determined by submitting the assignments by the posted due dates. See [Academic Policies](#)

[Links to an external site.](#)

in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. Instructors will determine how many asynchronous attendance days are required each week.

Use of Technology⊕

Note: Include this section if teaching an Online or Hybrid course.

In order to be successful in the online or hybrid environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers, microphone, or webcams compatible with their computer available to use. Please note that any course with online proctored exams requires a computer with a camera (tablets are not compatible nor allowable) to complete exams online.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

Loma Writing Center

The Loma Writing Center exists to help all members of the PLNU community cultivate transferable writing skills to engage their academic, professional, personal, and spiritual communities. We work toward this goal by conducting one-on-one consultation sessions, supporting writing education across the PLNU community, and participating in ongoing writing center research.

Getting feedback from the Loma Writing Center while you're in the process of working on an assignment is a great way to improve the quality of your writing and develop as a writer. You are encouraged to talk with a trained writing consultant about getting started on an assignment, organizing your ideas, finding and citing sources, revising, editing for grammar and polishing final drafts, and more. For information about how to make in-person or online appointments, see [Loma Writing Center webpage](#) or visit the Loma Writer Center on the first floor of the Ryan Library, room 221.

- Appointment Calendar: <https://plnu.mywconline.com/Links to an external site>.
- Website: <https://www.pointloma.edu/centers-institutes/loma-writing-center>
- Email: writingcenter@pointloma.edu

Assignments At-A-Glance

Course Summary:

Course Summary

| Date | Details | Due |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| <p>Mon Jan 19, 2026</p> | <p>Discussion Topic Graded Discussion #1: Listening to music - then and now</p> | <p>due by 11:59pm</p> |
| <p>Fri Jan 23, 2026</p> | <p>Quiz Quiz #1: Music Vocabulary</p> | <p>due by 11:59pm</p> |
| <p>Mon Jan 26, 2026</p> | <p>Assignment Writing Assignment #1: Listening to Music - How and Why?</p> | <p>due by 11:59pm</p> |
| <p>Wed Feb 4, 2026</p> | <p>Quiz Listening Test #1</p> | <p>due by 11:59pm</p> |
| <p>Mon Feb 9, 2026</p> | <p>Quiz Quiz #2: Opera in all it's Glory</p> | <p>due by 11:59pm</p> |
| <p>Wed Feb 11, 2026</p> | <p>Discussion Topic Graded Discussion #2: What Makes Music Lovely - Music to say, "I Love You"</p> | <p>due by 11:59pm</p> |
| <p>Mon Feb 16, 2026</p> | <p>Assignment Concert Report #1</p> | <p>due by 11:59pm</p> |
| <p>Wed Feb 18, 2026</p> | <p>Assignment Writing Assignment #2 Bach's Greatest Hits</p> | <p>due by 11:59pm</p> |
| <p>Wed Feb 25, 2026</p> | <p>Quiz Listening Test #2</p> | <p>due by 11:59pm</p> |

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| Wed Mar 4, 2026 | Quiz Mid Term Exam - Musicians and their contributions | due by 11:59pm |
| | Quiz Mid Term Exam Extra Credit Essay | due by 11:59pm |
| | Quiz Mid Term Exam: Music Vocabulary - General and Instrumental | due by 11:59pm |
| | Quiz Mid-Term Exam: Music Vocabulary - Opera, Oratorio, and Cantata | due by 11:59pm |
| Mon Mar 16, 2026 | Assignment Concert Report #2 | due by 11:59pm |
| Wed Mar 18, 2026 | Assignment Listening Test #3 | due by 11:59pm |
| Mon Mar 23, 2026 | Quiz Quiz #4: Instruments of the Orchestra | due by 11:59pm |
| Wed Apr 1, 2026 | Assignment Listening Test #4 | due by 11:59pm |
| Wed Apr 8, 2026 | Assignment Writing Assignment #4: Special Project | due by 11:59pm |
| Mon Apr 13, 2026 | Assignment Concert Report #3 | due by 11:59pm |
| Wed Apr 22, 2026 | Assignment Listening Test #5 | due by 11:59pm |

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|-------------------------|---|----------------|
| Fri Apr 24, 2026 | Discussion Topic Graded Discussion #4: Final Exam Listening Test | due by 11:59pm |
| Thu Apr 30, 2026 | Assignment BIG Concert Post-Performance Report - off campus paid event | due by 11:59pm |
| Wed May 6, 2026 | Assignment Final Exam Listening Test | due by 11:59pm |
| Thu May 7, 2026 | Assignment Final Exam Essay Question | due by 11:59pm |
| | Quiz Final Exam Vocabulary Quiz | due by 11:59pm |
| | Assignment Post-Performance Report | |
| | Quiz Quiz #3: Voices of the Opera and the Choir | |
| | Assignment Roll Call Attendance | |