

MUS 377 - PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS OF Contemporary Christian Music Fall 2004

Instructor: Prof. Shawn Young - Room 402 LaDue Centre, 664.6567 shawn.young@greenville.edu
 Office Hours: T/Th 2-4pm
 Fall Semester, 2003
 Meeting time: Wednesday, 2:30pm Marston Hall Room 106
 Prerequisite: None

The last day to withdraw from this class is November 10!!

Greenville College Mission Statement

Greenville College transforms students for lives of character and service through a Christ-centered education in the liberating arts and sciences.

Music Department Mission Statement

The Music program purposes to help students reach their full potential as human beings and musicians. Our aim and focus is to cultivate well-prepared musicians who can integrate their faith into their professional endeavors.

Institutional Goals and Objectives

The College has committed itself to education for character and service. Therefore, through our curriculum and co-curriculum, we intend that each graduate:

- **A1 - Seek truth.** Seek it dynamically, integratively, comprehensively, biblically, and historically, with discipline and scholarship; and seek meaning in truth through recognition that it proceeds from God.
- **A2 - Learn to think critically and creatively.** Develop such thinking processes as induction; deduction; problem solving; quantitative reasoning; intuition; communication; interpretation; aesthetic discernment; creative expression; and perceptive reading, viewing, and listening.
- **B3 - Understand and value the wholeness of creation.** Integrate knowledge from many areas of study into a comprehensive point of view. Learn to discern truth, goodness, and beauty; take interest in ideas regardless of their immediate utility; and exercise stewardship over one's physical and biological environment.
- **B4 - Understand our world.** Know the basic content and processes of the physical and biological world, the human race, our civilization, our society, our technological environment, and other cultures.

- **B5 - Respect human life and understand the human condition.** Recognize humankind's best and worst capacities; affirm persons of all ethnic and racial backgrounds as creative bearers of God's image; respond to and love others, and work for reconciliation.
- **B6 - Understand and apply basic social structures and processes.** Recognize society's diverse manifestations, develop cultural sensitivity, and communicate effectively and responsibly.
- **C7 - Develop self-understanding.** Exercise integrity of character, personal expression, and stewardship of self; appreciate the value of one's own physical and psychological well-being; and recognize learning as a life-long process.
- **C8 - Value personal accomplishment.** Recognize talent as from God and accept responsibility for developing creative skills, demonstrate competence in at least one area of study, learn to make sound judgments, and develop a sense of vocation, which gives meaningful direction to one's life.
- **C9 - Respond to God's expression.** Understand the Judeo-Christian worldview as made manifest through Scripture, Tradition, and Experience; fully embrace one's role in the Body of Christ; respond to God's initiating grace; be sensitive to the Spirit of God at work in the individual, the church, and the world; affirm the values of truth, goodness, beauty, and the glory of God; express those values in responsible decisions and action; and join in God's creative and redemptive activity by becoming a servant leader.

I. Course description:

A forum of discussion through which the student will develop an understanding of the ethical responsibilities of the musician and music in the Contemporary Christian Music field. This one credit course introduces students to various philosophical and ethical issues confronting the Christian musician in the workplace. The course gives an overview of the history of contemporary Christian music.

II. Course Objectives

The goal of this course is to challenge the student to

- Begin to develop a moral and ethical approach to various dilemmas facing a Christian musician. *[Seek truth; Learn to think critically and creatively; Understand our world; Recognize society's diverse manifestations, develop cultural sensitivity, and communicate effectively and responsibly; Respond to God's expression]*
- Confront their own bias of the arts in pop-culture as related to scripture and a biblical world-view. *[Seek truth; Learn to think critically and*

creatively; Understand and value the wholeness of creation; Understand our world; Recognize society's diverse manifestations, develop cultural sensitivity, and communicate effectively and responsibly; Respond to God's expression]

- Develop a “kingdom-perspective” of culture, music, and language, and then apply these to the concept of global evangelism. *[Seek truth; Learn to think critically and creatively; Understand and value the wholeness of creation; Understand our world; Recognize society's diverse manifestations, develop cultural sensitivity, and communicate effectively and responsibly; Respond to God's expression]*

III. Required Texts

Note: These must be purchased at the music office. The office has requested cash only!

Philosophy and Ethics of Contemporary Christian Music: Faith, Music, and Explorations of Form, by Shawn D. Young

At the Crossroads, by Charlie Peacock

Additional handouts and Articles: *(possible)*

ADDICTED TO MEDIOCRITY	Frank Schaeffer
ESCAPE FROM REASON	Francis Shaeffer
MERE CHRISTIANITY	C. S. Lewis
ARTICLE ABOUT BOB BRINER'S "ROARING LAMBS"	Mark Joseph
BONO SPEAKS ON THE PSALMS	LA Times
HYMNS ON MTV	Randall Balmer
THE ANTI-FUNDAMENTALISM REBELLION OF CCM?	CCM Critics
Modern Art	Kerry Livgren
CCM Article	Rick Elias

Assigned viewing:

Easy Rider (video on reserve in library)

Portfolio Description

The student should create an ongoing folder, which will keep a record of course-work dealing with the degree program. You should be collecting your “best works” for the purpose of an achievable resource.

IV. Evaluation Policy:

Point System: 10 - participation in class, i.e. attendance and CLASSROOM DISCUSSION.

40 – Research paper

25 - Mid Term

25 - Final exam

A = 90 - 100

B = 80 - 89

C = 70 - 79

D = 60 - 69

F = 00 - 59

Assignments:

Graded *materials* will be as follows:

- ✓ Two-page paper
- ✓ Mid-term exam
- ✓ Final exam Please do not book an early flight home. Early exams will NOT be administered!

Grading procedure for essays and short answer:

The grading system for assignments involving essay or short answer will be specific. Papers receiving an A will contain the following:

- a) Specific wording detailing the appropriate answer to the question given.
- b) An avoidance of “generalizing” the subject matter.
- c) Close to exact duplication of information dealt with within the paragraph or chapter in question.

Any deviation from the above requirements will result in a diminishing letter grade.

V. Attendance Policy

Given the fact that this class only meets one time per week, attendance is paramount in your success. Due to the amount of material we must cover this attendance policy will be strictly enforced. The student will be allowed 1 free skip. Remember that the probability that you will become ill is high. Use your 1 free skip wisely! **Beyond this 1 free skip, the student will be penalized one letter grade for every unexcused absence.** Excused absence is defined as a communicable illness or a prearranged miss due to an **official** school trip. If the student wishes to have an excused absence, they must present a letter/note to the instructor from a person of authority, i.e. a medical doctor or a professor.

A sign-in sheet will be available at every class. **It is the student's responsibility to "sign in."** If you arrive to class more than 10 minutes late, you will be marked absent.

Courtesy Expectations

Students will treat their classroom obligations as they should treat any serious professional engagement. This includes:

1. Preparing thoroughly for each session in accordance with the instructor's request.
2. Arriving promptly and remaining until the end of each class meeting.
3. Participating fully and constructively in all classroom activities and discussions.
4. Displaying appropriate courtesy to all involved in the class sessions. Courteous behavior specifically entails communicating in a manner that respects, and is sensitive to, cultural, religious, sexual, and other individual differences in the Greenville College community.
5. Adhering to deadlines and timetables established by the instructor.
6. Providing constructive and courteous feedback to faculty members regarding their performance. Students should be as objective in their comments about instructors as they expect instructors to be in their evaluations of students.

Violations of any of these statements may subject the student to academic penalties.

VI. Calendar (Tentative!!)

Sept. 1 Course overview, syllabus, assigned reading.
What is "contemporary?"

Assignment:

Viewing: *Easy Rider* (on reserve in the library)

Philosophy and Ethics of Contemporary Christian Music: Faith, Music, and Explorations of Form, chapters 1-5

Sept. 8 Discuss assigned reading. What is art? Pop-Culture, language and Postmodernity. *Easy Rider*.

Assignment: *Philosophy and Ethics of Contemporary Christian Music: Faith, Music, and Explorations of Form*. Chapters 6-10.

Article: *THE ANTI-FUNDAMENTALISM REBELLION OF CCM?*

Two-page paper.

Sept 15 All college hike. No class.

Sept 22 **Research paper due!** Discussion: Culture and Biblical Connection. The Jesus Movement. Is Rock & Roll Rebellious?

Assignment: *At the Crossroads*, pages 201-210, chapters 1-2

Sept. 29 Discussion/Lecture

Student introduction of chapters:

Chapter 1 _____

Chapter 2 _____

Assignment: *At the Crossroads*, chapters 3-5

Oct. 6 Discussion/Lecture

Student introduction of chapters:

Chapter 3 _____

Chapter 4 _____

Chapter 5 _____

Assignment: *At the Crossroads*, chapters 6-8

Oct. 13 Discussion/Lecture

Student introduction of chapters:

Chapter 6 _____

Chapter 7 _____

Chapter 8 _____

“Opinion is the queen of the world.” *At the Crossroads*, page 78.

Assignment: *At the Crossroads*, chapters 9-11

Oct. 20 Student introduction of chapters:

Chapter 9_____

Chapter 10_____

Chapter 11_____

Review for midterms. Study guides.

Oct. 27 **Midterm examination**

Nov. 3 Discussion/Lecture

1 Corinthians 12: 8 - 28, Galations 6: 4

Assignment: *At the Crossroads*, chapters 12-14

Nov. 10 Discussion/Lecture

Ezra 3:12,

1 Peter 2: 9 & 10 (*A chosen and called people with an obligation*)

Student introduction of chapters:

Chapter 12_____

Chapter 13_____

Chapter 14_____

Assignment: *At the Crossroads*, 15-16

Nov. 17 Discussion/Lecture

➤ Praise and Worship (ministry or business?)

➤ Ethics, Ministry and Show Business: Embracing the Paradox.
(*The Project 86 Example*)

Student introduction of chapters:

Chapter 15_____

Chapter 16_____

Assignment: *At the Crossroads*, chapters 17-18

Nov. 24 Thanksgiving break

Dec. 1 Discussion/Lecture: Continued discussion from Nov. 17.

Student introduction of chapters:

Chapter 17 _____

Chapter 18 _____

- Creation and freedom
- What is worship?
- What is beauty?
- How many ways can we legally approach a quarter note?
- Majoring on the Minors/Entertainment and Literature
(*Mere Christianity*)

Dec 8 **Course review**

December 14 **Final exams**
(Tuesday) 2:00-3:50PM

Please do not book an early flight home. Early exams will NOT be administered!

VII. Study Time Expectation

2 hours per week

All written work must meet the standards of the “College Writing Policies” stated in the Student Handbook.

College Writing Policy:

"Greenville College is committed to helping students improve writing. The college expects all courses to contain a writing component as part of the evaluation of student progress. We expect students to produce written work that is focused, well developed, organized, and relatively free of grammatical, punctuation and spelling errors. Papers that fall short of this standard will not be accepted; the work will be returned to the student for revision within a reasonable time."

Academic Honesty Statement

(Approved by UAAC 2/12/02, by Faculty Council 2/21/02)

Students on a Christian college campus are expected to do all academic work with integrity. This means that they should practice academic honesty without exception. The College takes this so seriously we ask all incoming students to sign a statement guaranteeing that they understand the notion of academic integrity and will conform to the policies described below.

All forms of academic dishonesty, which include cheating and plagiarism, are inappropriate on our campus. Cheating and plagiarism are variations on a theme: both involve offering the work of another as one's own. Students cheat and/or plagiarize when they:

- Give or receive aid from another student or other person during a test, quiz, or homework assignment when they were told to work alone.
- Copy all or part of another student's work—an exam, worksheet, homework assignment, essay, speech, musical composition, web production, etc.—and submit it as their own work.
- Copy all or part of any published or copyrighted source such as a book, periodical article, or musical composition and submit it as their own work.
- "Cut and paste" information from a digital source such as a CD-ROM or web page and submit it as their own work.
- Steal ideas or conceptual frameworks from another source and submit them as their own without giving proper credit to the source.
- Submit other people's work as their own (e.g. a roommate's term paper or one purchased over the Internet).
- Ask someone else to complete a writing project for them and revise and edit the work in such a way that they are not really the one responsible for the final document. (Please note: GC's faculty often encourage students to share their work in progress with others, in fact the College even pays writing tutors to help students think through revising an assignment. This is simply a good habit for any scholar that we fully endorse. What we don't want students to do is let another person take over and complete an academic task that is their own responsibility.)

This list is not exhaustive, but should give a clear idea of what constitutes academic dishonesty. *In general terms, academic dishonesty occurs when people knowingly or unknowingly take credit for words or ideas that are not their own in work that is produced for a class, presentation, publication, or other public domain. All forms of cheating and plagiarism involve intellectual theft, and thou shalt not steal!*

Students are responsible to use appropriate quotation marks whenever they use words from another source. They must cite sources for ideas that originated with others. They are responsible to learn the specific documentation methods required in their chosen academic disciplines. Whenever they are in doubt about how to cite sources or use others' writings in their own, they should ask a professor.

At GC academic dishonesty has severe consequences. If instructors discover any instance of cheating or plagiarism, they are well within their rights to assign a failing grade for that assignment or for the course. Furthermore, they must report the student to the department head and the Office of Academic Affairs. This office will forward the information to the appropriate deans. If a second instance of academic dishonesty occurs, the student will receive a failing grade for the course, and the case will be forwarded to the Vice President of Academic Affairs for review and possible further disciplinary action. A student may be expelled from the institution for repeated or extreme violations of academic integrity. Appeals can be handled through the normal judicial process.

Sexual harassment policy:

See college policy on sexual harassment which is outlined in the Student Handbook.

Definitions (Webster's dictionary)

PHILOSOPHY: the critical examination of the grounds for fundamental beliefs and an analysis of the basic concepts employed in the expression of such beliefs.

- *critical
- *fundamental beliefs
- *expression

ETHICS: the principles of conduct governing an individual or a profession. The discipline dealing with what is good and bad or right and wrong.

- *principles
- *conduct
- *good and bad
- *right and wrong