Instructor | Dr. Leanne Merrill (call me Leanne or Dr. Merrill)

Meetings | Monday and Wednesday, 12:00pm-1:50pm, in Smith Hall 123

Contact | Email: merrill@wou.edu
         | Phone: (503) 838-9342

Find Me | Office Location: MNB (Winters Hall) Room 126
        | Office Hours:
        | Monday 10:00am-11:00am
        | Tuesday 12:00pm-2:00pm
        | Wednesday 2:00pm-3:00pm
        | Thursday 9:00am-10:00am
        | and by appointment

Materials | Textbook: This is Your Brain on Music by Daniel Levithin
         | Other: Calculator (ideally not your phone), note-taking materials

Goals | In this course, we will:

1. Apply methods of reading and analyzing text for interpretation and comprehension

2. Practice finding, evaluating, and using credible information

3. Appropriately select and responsibly use technology

4. Put into practice different and varied forms of knowledge, inquiry, and expression that frame academic and applied learning (aligns to General Education Foundations Outcome)

5. Integrate knowledge, perspectives, and strategies across disciplines to answer questions and solve problems (aligns to General Education Multidisciplinary Learning Outcome)

6. Use appropriate and relevant quantitative information/evidence to develop ideas and demonstrate understanding
Grades | Each week, 10 points will be assigned to various tasks. Your lowest scoring week will be replaced with 10/10. There are 100 possible points in the entire term.

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>60-69</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>less than 60</td>
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</tbody>
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Topics | We’ll spend time on the following subjects:

- Vibration, the overtone series, and acoustics
- Musical vocabulary
- Auditory illusions
- Intervals and scales
- The circle of fifths
- Temperaments and tunings
- Beats and rhythms
- Musical form
- Abstract algebra
- Self-Reference in math and music
- Probability and counting
- How our brains process sound

This list may grow according to the interests of the class!

My Hope | By the end of this class, I hope you

- Gain confidence in your ability to learn new things
- Become more curious and reflective
- Develop a sense of community in the class and at WOU
- Begin to see yourself as a scholar
- Notice and appreciate more beauty in our world
Policies

Absences

If you know you are going to miss class due to a previously scheduled activity, you must notify me before the absence in order to be excused. Except in the case of WOU-sanctioned activities, I reserve the right to not allow make-up work. If you miss class due to an unforeseen emergency, please notify me as soon as possible, and submit a report by going to www.wou.edu/advising/absence.

Late Work

The late penalties on each assignment will be specified within the assignment.

Incompletes

An Incomplete can only be granted for a student who is passing a class and has a documented emergency that prevents them from completing the course.

Student Success

If I am concerned about your academic progress and ability to succeed in the course, I may make a referral to Student Success and Advising through the Wolf Connection System (WCS). If a referral is created, an Academic Success Advisor from SSA will connect with you via email or telephone to discuss challenges you may be facing and your plan to overcome those obstacles and achieve success. This referral process is in place as a way to support you in this class and not a punishment. If you want to discuss strategies for academic success, you may schedule an appointment with an Academic Success Advisor by calling 503-838-8428, emailing studentsuccess@wou.edu, or online by logging into the Portal, selecting WCS and selecting Get Advising.

Accomodations

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Disability Services, APSC 405, or at 503-838-8250, as early as possible in the term. Students needing medical or mental health care can access the Student Health and Counseling Center by calling 503-838-8313, emailing at health@wou.edu, or by visiting the SHACC building.
Veterans and Military

Western Oregon University recognizes that those who are actively serving in the Reserves or National Guard of the United States are required by their military contract to attend mandatory training. If you will be absent due to military orders, I strongly encourage you to communicate that with me as soon as possible so we may discuss alternative arrangements.

Reporting

As an employee at Western Oregon University, I am required by federal law to report any incident of sexual misconduct. If you wish to talk with me about something that has occurred to you or another student, I must inform university personnel. Reporting this information helps the university to safeguard students and get students the help and support needed. You have the right to maintain your privacy. I will only report what you confide in me. If you would like additional information about this, please visit: wou.edu/student/sexual-misconduct-resources/sexual-assault-care/

Mental Health

If you experience overwhelming academic stress, difficult life events, or feelings of anxiety or depression, I strongly encourage you to seek support. Remember that getting help is a smart and courageous thing to do -- for yourself, for those you care about, and for those who care about you. Here are some resources available to you.

- Student Health and Counseling Center (wou.edu/health). Counseling services are free for all WOU students taking at least 6 on-campus credits.
- WOU’s Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Promotion program (wou.edu/mental-health).
- For life threatening situations, call 911 or Campus Public Safety (wou.edu/safety) at (503) 838-9000.
- I am a SafeZone (LGBTQ+) Ally, I am trained in the QPR Suicide Prevention Technique, and I serve on the Abby's House (Center for Equity and Gender Justice) Board, so I can provide support and referrals in difficult situations.
Policies

Academic Honesty

I expect you to be honest in this course. I will be clear about when you can and cannot talk to one another about assignments, and when you may use resources (such as the internet) to get help. If you are ever confused, please ask me. For more specific information about WOU’s academic misconduct policy, see the WOU Student Code of Responsibility, available from the Office of Student Conduct.

Email

Please use your WOU Gmail to send me an email; otherwise, it may be sent to my spam folder. I will respond to all emails within 48 hours, and usually much quicker. Likewise, you must check your WOU Gmail at least once per weekday while you are enrolled in this course, and you must read my emails entirely. When you are composing a message to me, please consider readability and tone. If you are asking a question about a particular math problem, it is helpful if you attach a picture of your work on that problem so far.

Moodle

At moodle.wou.edu you may access all course documents such as this syllabus, handouts, homework assignments, and keys. I may also post short videos or other resources that supplement what we've done in class and on homework. In addition, you may view your scores on previous assignments and your current course grade. I will post announcements in Moodle as well, and I will always duplicate such announcements in class.

Getting Help

Come to office hours! You do not need an appointment to attend my scheduled office hours -- just drop in when it is convenient for you. If none of my office hours times work for you, please talk to me after class or email me to set up a different time. There is also free drop-in tutoring in the Math Center on the second floor of Hamersly Library.
Classroom Norms

In this classroom, we’ll abide by the following norms of conversation:

❖ Mind conversational space
  ➢ Whose voices aren’t being heard?
  ➢ How can I invite everyone into the conversation?
  ➢ Am I sharing my own valuable ideas?

❖ Listen for understanding
  ➢ Am I letting other people finish their sentences?
  ➢ Am I paying attention to the process as well as the answer?
  ➢ Am I open to ideas other than my own?

❖ Respect everyone’s experience
  ➢ How am I honoring everyone’s different expertise and knowledge?
  ➢ What skills, strengths, and creativity can I bring to the table?
  ➢ How am I working past my assumptions about people?

❖ Critique ideas, not people
  ➢ How do my words affect the overall progress of the task?
  ➢ Can I frame my criticism or correction in a positive way?

❖ Assume positive intent
  ➢ How can I move past mistakes?
  ➢ Can I hear a criticism or a correction as an offer of help?

❖ Go for depth, not speed
  ➢ Can I discover the answer to an interesting question?
  ➢ Can I shift my focus from performance to learning?
  ➢ What is beautiful about what I’m doing?

❖ See everyone, including yourself, as capable of success
  ➢ Can I help others achieve their goals?
  ➢ Can I turn judgment into compassion towards other people?
  ➢ Can I turn judgment into compassion towards myself?